



Photo by Lawrence E. Keel

## 'Thank You'

A delegation from the Lithuanian community in Rochester presents Bishop Joseph L. Hogan with an inscribed parchment thanking him for proclaiming July 16 a day of prayer for the "persecuted Church in Lithuania. The inscription cites

the Bishop's "deep sympathy with the suffering Lithuanian Catholics." From left, are Father Augustine Simanavicius, OFM, St. George's parish; Romanas Sedlickas, the scribe; Bishop Hogan; Jurate Krokys; Valerian Vitkus; & Peter Pikunas.

*Msgr. John Albert*

## Former General Maps Strategy For Religious Life in New Town

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

For 27 years, Msgr. (Brig. Gen.) John Albert has been looking forward to being back in Rochester, but now that he's here he is finding it very difficult to readjust to the slow paced life.

Msgr. Albert returned to Rochester two months ago after retiring from his post as deputy chief of chaplains in the US Air Force. He is now Catholic religious planning director for "new towns" in the diocese.

He spent several years with the Strategic Air Command at Offut AFB, Nebraska and earlier served in the Philippines, Puerto Rico, Alaska, England, Okinawa and various continental bases. He entered the service as a first lieutenant March 1945. Previously he had been assistant pastor at St. Mary's in Corning.

"It's good to get reacquainted with friends and family. I know people all over the world better than I know my own family," the retired officer said, adding wistfully, "I miss the Air Force."

For the past two years, as deputy chief of chaplains, Msgr. Albert has lived in Washington, D.C. and traveled frequently to military bases.

After leaving Washington, Msgr. Albert visited Columbia, the 10-year-old planned "new town" in Maryland to see how its religious programs and facilities work.

"Columbia's interfaith center is a tremendous operation. It is a center for all religious activity similar to what we have in the military. And the result is an ecumenical effort to achieve common goals," he reported.

But the director of religious planning, speaking from his new office at the Riverton site in Henrietta, emphasized that Riverton is not like Columbia.

"This is not a 'new town' as such, it is a part of an established suburban community," he said. Scott Carlson, vice president in charge of social programs for Riverton, added "We are not starting from scratch, nor are we a self-contained thing here, we will draw from the existing community, and we are using a mature metropolitan approach in our planning."

One lesson Msgr. Albert brought from his job as deputy chief of chaplains is the ecumenical spirit of cooperation.

He feels the concept of planned communities provides a great opportunity to develop religious church programs in the spirit of ecumenism taking into account the needs of the people already in the area as well as those that will move into Riverton.

Such needs are being considered by a team of religious planners, made up of concerned clergy of the Henrietta-Scottsville area, headed by the Rev. Larry Hickle of South Presby-

terian Church in Henrietta.

"The team through a workshop will come up with a plan for how they can best set up religion here," Carlson explained, pointing out that "Riverton's staff sees its role as being a catalyst to the clergy."

Msgr. Albert believes that no one knows what will develop in Riverton. "It is up to the churches in the area to determine their needs and to act accordingly. Nothing is locked in here."

## Clergy Continue Study Of Their Gananda Role

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

Area clergy participating in religious planning for Gananda are facing the question, "Do we want to do something experimental and new?"

New Wayne Communities Inc., Gananda's developers, plan a multi-use community facility, on a time lease basis, for any ecumenical, denominational or congregational group interested in becoming involved there.

Baptist, Presbyterian, Methodist, Episcopalian, Catholic, the Jewish community and the Reformed Church in America were represented at last week's priority setting meeting.

The clergy know the philosophy of Gananda, the new community planned for 10,500 acres of Wayne County. "The whole idea of Gananda," said the Rev. Richard N. Johnson of East Penfield Baptist Church who presided over the meeting "is to save money and duplication of programs. They are pushing a cooperative approach."

"Gananda will subsidize and encourage innovative plans for the establishment of churches," added the Rev. Carl Smith, chairman of new towns committee for the Rochester Presbytery. "And they will penalize traditional approaches."

However, four of the eight clergy present found it hard to imagine their future parishioners being happy without traditional church buildings in the new town.

Mr. Smith said he would like to see many denominations join with the Presbyterians to form a

united church.

"I'm very reluctant to put any more Presbyterian money into a Presbyterian church building," he continued, listing "our lack of dough; Gananda's philosophy and residents looking for things new and different," as his reasons.

Msgr. John Albert, diocesan religious planner for new towns, agreed with Mr. Smith calling it a "possibility for some interesting, symbiotic coalitions."

## Fr. vander Poel Slated to Speak

Father Cornelius vander Poel, national known theologian and psychologist will address a workshop on Penance, for Southeast Region Catholic teachers, Saturday, October 7, at Corpus Christi School Hall.

The afternoon session which begins at 1 p.m. will feature talks and seminars on the theology of Penance, the Come to the Father, Mine, and Benziger publications and on liturgies in preparation for the sacrament.

Speakers will be Father Patrick Logan, professor of Moral Theology at St. Bernard's Seminary; Sisters Marie Brown and Kay Heverin and Father Paul McCabe, chairman of the workshop.

Father vander Poel will head the evening session which begins at 8:15 p.m. His topic "Conscience: the devil made me do it?" will explore the ideas of conscience and sin and the means of teaching these ideas to children.



Sister Margaret Mary Mattle

## New Liturgist Ties Role To Year of Renewal

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

As the new executive secretary of liturgy commission and liturgy consultant for the diocese, Sister Margaret Mary Mattle, RSM, will have a major role in giving direction to the Year of Renewal.

Sister Margaret, director of the choir and liturgy for the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse for 10 years, says she will be working on a consultative basis to parishes, "helping them to know how they can celebrate in a meaningful way."

The small-framed nun, filled with enthusiasm for the potential of innovative liturgies feels that the Year of Renewal is a good opportunity to encourage people to rethink their liturgy.

"What has happened in the Church," Sister Margaret explained, "is that we have solidified forms to try to express a reality. And those forms and symbols don't express anything any more. They are not real now."

The Church has over-stressed the unchanging reality of God, she said. Death of God talk to

Sister Margaret means the death of a God experience, of relating to Church symbols.

The diocesan liturgist stresses that "you do not need formality to express God; people must come to trust their own holiness."

Sister Margaret feels there are other ways of celebrating than the Eucharist, and advocates weekday prayer services as a way to simplify and diversify liturgies.

"It is important to start with a small faith community, parish clubs, for example. Regionalism is an attempt in this diocese to localize things," she believes.

Sister Margaret foresees ecumenical liturgies to affirm the common Christianity we have. The more churches begin to work together in other areas the more they need to worship together, she said.

"There is something seriously wrong when we can't worship together before Christ," Sister Margaret maintains.

