

# Laity's Role Advocated For Year of Renewal

By MARY ANN GINNERTY

Auburn — "It is essential that lay people exercise their full role in the mission of the church, for their spiritual good, for the spiritual good of the community in which they reside, and for the good of the Church so that they may assume with competence some activities formerly exercised almost exclusively by the priests or religious," commented Father Leo Lynch, pastor of St. Patrick's in Seneca Falls. He also is assistant coordinator representing Seneca County for the Year of Renewal efforts in the Auburn Region which includes Seneca and Cayuga counties.

"Regionalism can provide another avenue for increased lay participation. As coordinator representing a territory, it is my hope and intention to help make the laity of Seneca County responsible members of the Seneca/Cayuga Region, cooperating in all programs, and making the experience and expertise of our people available to the entire region."

Father Lynch pointed out while Seneca County is interested in following the diocesan efforts of renewal and regionalism by joining with Cayuga County as part of the Auburn Region, it does mean a shift in emphasis as Seneca County could more easily be aligned with another region based on proximity.

As coordinator representing Seneca County, Father Lynch sees his role as encouraging co-

Fifth article in a series explaining the goals of the Year of Renewal in Seneca and Cayuga Counties and introducing personnel involved.



operation between the two counties in achieving the goals of the Year of Renewal and to assure that the needs of Seneca County will be recognized and included in planning.

Father Lynch explained, "St. Patrick's parish in Seneca Falls has had a fully active parish council since February 1970 and thus lay people are no strangers to the work of the Church, thus relieving the pastor from many secular activities which are better performed by the lay people. We have had

parish committees already concerned with the three areas of human development, liturgy, and education and trust we can share our experiences."

Father Lynch will be working with area pastors and recommendations to the various regional committees will be forthcoming.

Parishes in Seneca County include St. Francis Solanus in Interlaken, Holy Cross in Ovid and its mission, Sacred Heart in Romulus, St. Patrick's in Seneca Falls and St. Mary's in Waterloo.

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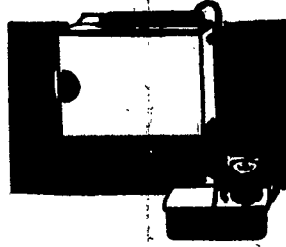
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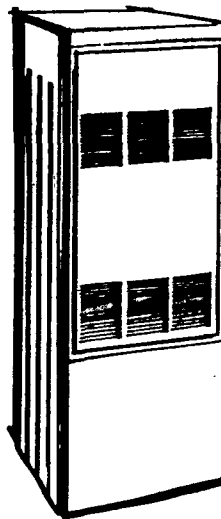
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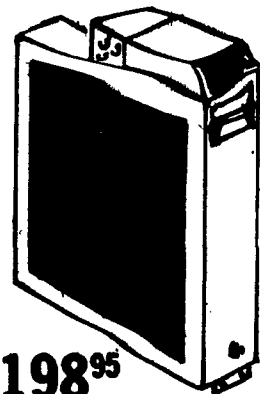
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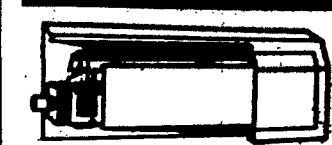
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### Auburn Area Notes

Montezuma — St. Michael's Christmas Bazaar will be held Saturday, Nov. 18, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Montezuma Town Hall.

Auburn — St. Mary's Annual Harvest Dance will be Saturday, Nov. 18 at St. Mary's Lyceum Hall, sponsored by the Men's Club and Rosary and Scapular Society. \$5 per couple.

Auburn — A "Poverty Supper" with a Thanksgiving Prayer Service will take place at St. Alphonsus School at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 17.

Waterloo — St. Mary's Harvest Moon Dance will be Saturday, Nov. 18, from 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at \$2.50 per person. For reservations call Nancy Grillone.

### Deaths

#### Fr. Sullivan, Ohio Priest

Father Leo A. Sullivan, a Rochester man who spent the 22 years of his priesthood in Ohio, died Nov. 4, 1972, at St. Ann's Home at the age of 51.

He was a brother of Msgr. Joseph J. Sullivan, pastor of Holy Family, Auburn.

Mass of the Resurrection was offered last Wednesday at St. Joseph's Church, Penfield.

Father Sullivan most recently had been pastor of St. Paul's, Westerville, Ohio. He was ordained in the Diocese of Columbus in 1950. He was a 1939 graduate of Aquinas Institute, where he played football, and in the course of his parish work he coached several school football teams.

Survivors include, his mother, Mrs. John J. Sullivan, and a sister, Mrs. Richard (Mary) Carey, both of Penfield; three brothers, George, of Greece, John, of Olean, and Bernard, of Syracuse, and several nieces and nephews.

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