

Thanks 'Flood' In

By DICK BAUMBACH

Corning — Parishioners and religious at St. Mary's Church here have received expressions of thanks from four organizations for the work the parish did during and after the June 23 flood disaster.

The National Red Cross, in a letter to St. Mary's pastor Father Thomas F. Brennan, said it was grateful for being permitted the use of St. Mary's school, convent and rectory during the weeks immediately following the floods.

Another expression of thanks came from Father Peter Bayer, director of the Office of Human Development in Corning.

Home-School New Officers

Horseheads — New officers have been appointed to head up the St. Mary Our Mother Home-School Association here for the 1972-73 school year.

Appointed president is William Hulbert, and vice-president is Mrs. Darwin Horton. Other officers are Mrs. Basile Denisoff, secretary; John deBlecourt, treasurer, and Darwin Horton, sergeant-at-arms.

Forty Hours Scheduled

West Elmira — Forty Hours Devotion will be held at Our Lady of Lourdes Church here beginning Sunday and ending Tuesday. The special service will be conducted by the Discalced Carmelite Fathers from Waverly.

Special Eucharistic talks will be given at holy hour services and at the 11:15 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Masses on Monday and Tuesday. The talks will also be given on Sunday following Benediction and a holy hour service.

COMMUNITY THANKS

Apalachin — An ecumenical Thanksgiving service will be held at St. Margaret Mary Church at 8 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19, with the combined choirs and the clergy from area churches taking part in the liturgy.

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Polish Bishops Visit Pontiff

Vatican City (RNS) — A top-echelon delegation of the Polish hierarchy came here to thank Pope Paul for recognizing Poland's sovereignty over lands seized by Nazi Germany during World War II.

The visit is seen here as still another major step in the improving relationship between the Holy See and the Communist government of Poland.

"We have come to Rome to thank the Supreme Pontiff for his decrees reorganizing dioceses in Poland," said the delegation leader, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński.

Among the visiting delegation were Bishop Karol Wojtyła and five of the six prelates Pope Paul selected last June to oversee the territories recognized by the Vatican.

These territories lie east of the Oder-Neisse territories.

The papal official recognition of the territories as part of Poland removed a major stumbling block to possible full-scale diplomatic relations between Poland and the Holy See.

The visit here, sparked reports that the pontiff might soon be invited to visit Poland, one of the world's most heavily Catholic nations.

Father Bayer said "Even though the flood took place over three months ago, its effects are still evident and will continue to be with us for some time in the greater Corning area. At this time we would like to express our thanks to you and the people of your parish for extending their kindness in allowing us to use St. Mary's School as our headquarters."

A third thank you came from the Corning YMCA. The "Y" recently donated a series of special books to the church for the hospitality the parish provided the organization during the flood disaster.

The Corning Girl Scouts also presented a special book to the church. The Scouts were allowed the use of a room to hold their meetings during the weeks after the disaster.

Father Brennan said, "There is no need to enlarge on this report. It is our belief that whatever St. Mary's parish was able to do our people expected us to do. We did just that."



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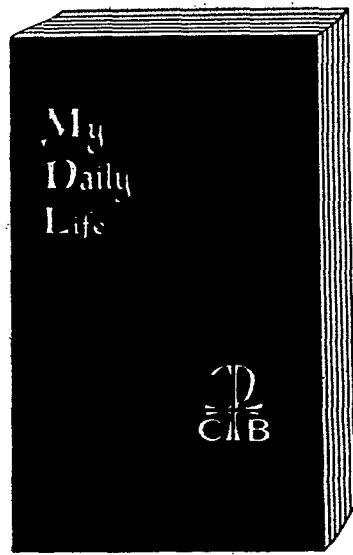
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