

# His Job: Make Renewal Come to Life

By MARY ANN GINNERTY

Auburn — "Parochialism is dead and there has to be cooperative efforts on a broader base than the parish. We need to combine our voices and resources if the Church is going to be heard or seen in the community," commented Father John Mulligan, associate pastor at St. Mary's in Auburn, and media director for the regional Year of Renewal coordinating team.

Last in the series introducing personnel involved in the Year of Renewal efforts in the Auburn Region.



Father Mulligan pointed out the Year of Renewal efforts in the Cayuga-Seneca region are still in the organizational stages with coordinators still developing staff in the target areas of human development, Christian education, and liturgy. He indicated that such organization must be accompanied by the discipline of setting some practical goals and priorities and then going out to meet them. Simultaneously parish councils need to evolve to improve communications within parishes and to facilitate lay involvement in carrying out the missions of the church.

to be developed. While there have been some pockets of activity since the opening of the Year of Renewal in September, such as liturgical experiences, prayer sessions for the clergy and Sisters, to date most of the activities in the Cayuga-Seneca region have involved specific interests and have not been open to the general public.

"We are striving to issue an invitation to the Christian community to join with us in renewal. We are asking them to share their spirit with us, but first more opportunities for participation will have to be developed."

As media director for the Auburn Region, Father Mulligan will be dealing strictly with local undertakings, utilizing the local

### SPORTS BANQUET

Seneca Falls — St. Patrick's Parish is holding its eighth annual sports banquet on Dec. 10 in the school auditorium with Steve Blass, pitcher for the Pittsburgh Pirates, the main speaker. Tickets are available from Angelo Suffredini, John Pannucci or St. Patrick's Rectory.

media, radio and newspapers for coverage.

Father Mulligan summarized the objectives of such publicity as letting people know what is happening in their Church and stimulating interest in becoming involved by showing the Churches actually moving toward specific pre-determined goals.

"Renewal is a dynamic concept, but we have to specify it locally if we expect people to get excited," he emphasized. "I hope that as people learn of the happenings, they will begin

to ask why they can't be involved and why it couldn't happen in their own parish and lives," concluded Father Mulligan.

## Unity House Sets Penance

Auburn — The penance service at Unity House on Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m. is open to all interested persons, according to Barbara Schmucker and Theresa Bigley, chairmen for the services sponsored by the Better World Movement Group. Unity House is located in the former Carmelite Monastery on South St.

"We would be very pleased to have others join us in this occasion as this penance service affords opportunity for people to get together and pray in a special way," explained Miss Bigley. "Prayer sessions are different from the services we are used to. It is difficult to describe the sharing, unless one experiences it.

Miss Schmucker said "We will be able to reflect on scripture and how it relates to our own times. There will be a formal prayer service and opportunity for individual confessions."

### Auburn Area Notes

Auburn — A reception will be held for Father Lewis Brown, former associate pastor at St. Alphonsus, on Sunday, Dec. 10 from 2 — 4 p.m. at St. Alphonsus school. Father Brown was recently transferred to St. Ann's in Hornell.

Auburn — The Mercy Hospital Auxiliary will hold its Christmas Bazaar in the convent basement, Wednesday, Dec. 6, from 10 a.m. — 9 p.m. and Thursday, Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Auburn — An evening of prayer for catechists from the area has been planned for Wednesday evening, Dec. 13 at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Family Convent. Reservations should be telephoned in to the CEPAR office by noon on Dec. 13.

"Pastors moving on parish councils is essential to any effective renewal," Father Mulligan observed.

"As the committees concerned with human development, liturgy, and Christian education begin to function, it will be my role as media director to coordinate the news from the various chairmen to make the public aware of the Year of Renewal as more than a catchy phrase, reporting activities as they happen, and presenting local renewal efforts as a cohesive unit to the general public," explained Father Mulligan.

"It will be my responsibility to make happenings relative to the life of the Church, as not all clergy, religious and laity are directly or equally involved in renewal efforts right now."

Father Mulligan admitted the organizational task is a difficult one because personnel committed to furthering renewal efforts in the region have assumed this responsibility in addition to their current responsibilities.

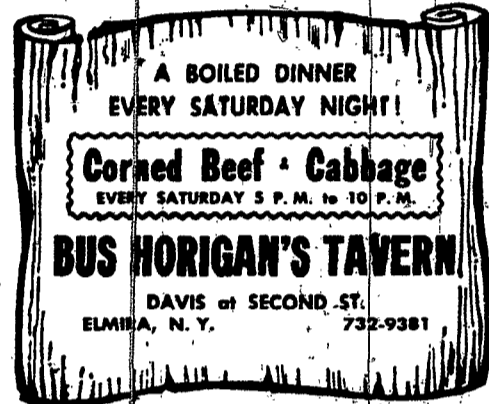
He indicated overall plans need

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