

# A New CYO...Basketball Plus

## LAST IN A SERIES

The Catholic Youth Organization, in line with the re-evaluation suggested by the diocesan Year of Renewal, is rechanneling its directions to provide more than recreational activities.

"Mainly," said Paul Schmidt, CYO executive director, "we plan new thrusts to operate programs on a regional basis. We hope to establish youth coordinators in each region to meet the needs of younger people within that region. We hope to develop teen-age leadership programs and to involve adults in working with youth."

"Hopefully, this will lead to formation of a youth council, truly representative of young people, that can be influential on a diocesan level. The Church needs youth input, not merely adults talking about youth."

The CYO office, which covers Monroe County, already has representatives working in the five regions of Monroe County "to explore with regional coordinators, pastors and parish councils what can be done to meet needs of youth we serve."

But changes are not planned in structure alone; the CYO, without abandoning its recreational programs, is taking on new dimension in programs.

As an example, at the recent statewide convention held in Rochester, workshops took place on abortion, pollution, politics and war.

Questions considered were:

Can the Christian support the destruction of life, any life? From the viewpoint of Christ as a pacifist "what can I and my youth group do about the war?" Man is slowly killing himself, destroying the support-systems of life. What can I do? What can a young non-voter do to influence the direction our nation moves? And what good does it do to vote?

Schmidt explained that these four areas were decided upon from about 15 considered. He pointed out that such problems could be the basis for workshops on the parish and regional levels.

"Ninety per cent of the time was devoted to organization," said Schmidt, "but it was strongly felt that more statewide conventions should be held and that the directions taken in Rochester would chart the course for future annual meetings."

The convention involved the outside services of such organizations as the League of Women Voters, Delta Laboratories, the Right to Life Committee, and representatives of major political parties.

Schmidt feels that this convention points the way to local youth

symposiums either on the same topics or on other issues such as racism, venereal disease, drug abuse, identity, the family, the aged.

"Simply we just want to get youth more involved in Church life and the Church more involved with youth," said Schmidt. "I would like to see youth participation on parish, regional and even the pastoral council. Certainly every parish council should have a youth committee."

"All this is not in the future. Right now the CYO is able to provide the basis for youth programs to any parish seeking them. Programs can be geared to every month and season of the year."

The director of Catholic Charities, Father Joseph D'Aurizio, in a Courier-Journal article last week spoke of the spiritual dimension of Catholic Charities agencies (of which CYO is one).

He said that "our dedication to Christ and His mission in the world is a unique contribution we at Charities make in the field of social welfare."

Speaking of the CYO, Father D'Aurizio said:

"Because the youth of today are the adults of tomorrow, the Church and Catholic Charities are interested in one of our largest agencies — the CYO. It has a new thrust, a new direction to develop total youth — not only recreationally and socially but in a true, Christian life-style that will make him a tremendous asset to community and to his Church."

The CYO has Community Chest support.

## Council Organized At St. Boniface

The St. Boniface parish council completed organization Nov. 30 with the election of these officers: Dr. Gerard Guerinot, president; George Peter Klee, vice president; Margaret Nordbye, recording secretary, and Catherine Nowaski, corresponding secretary.

Dr. Guerinot named Clem Bayer parliamentarian and appointed these committee heads: Sister Ronald, education; John Schmitt, finance; Jack Duffy, human development, and Susan Brown-yard, liturgy and worship.

## AUDITIONS SET

The Opera Theatre of Rochester will hold auditions for the opera La Tosca to be given at the Eastman Theatre on January 26, 1973 with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. Opera Theatre will also audition for its spring production to be given on May 31, 1973. Auditions will be held Saturday, Dec. 16, 1972, 1-6 p.m. at Monroe Community College, Room 118, by appointment only. For an appointment, please call 544-3429 from 1-3 in the afternoon or 6-7 in the evening.

fective pastoral council. Bishop Borders pointed out some parallel developments in his diocese that are contributing to the establishment of the diocesan council.

He told about the work of the liturgical, education, social services and financial commissions, the migrant ministry program, and the coordinated work of the parish education boards and high school boards.

The diocesan paper also plays an important role in developing the pastoral council.

"Fortunately," Bishop Borders said about The Florida Catholic, "we have a diocesan newspaper that has served us well in projecting so many of our programs. Communication is so vital."

Another innovative step toward a pastoral council was the joining of the diocesan consultants and the priests' senate into a consultative process called the presbyterate.

"Through the presbyterate," the Bishop explained, "the priests of the diocese will work very closely with the bishop in decision-making, and jointly, with the bishop, accept responsibilities other than the responsibilities they have in their own parishes."

The presbyterate, the sisters' council, and the senate of parish councils will provide the elected representatives for the pastoral council.

Bishop Borders said the pastoral council "will work in relationship with the bishop as the parish council works with the pastor." And it will "serve as the basic unit to assure a wide participation of everyone in the diocese who works for Holy Mother Church."

How do parish councils fit in with the diocese and the pastoral council? Here is the way one bishop sees it.

Bishop William D. Borders, of Orlando, writing in The Florida Catholic, outlined the development of the diocesan pastoral council and soon-to-be organized senate of parish councils this way:

"We consider parish councils in all of our parishes a necessity. Through these councils it would be possible for priests, religious and laity to share, in depth, the work and responsibility that Christ has given us to Christianize the world."

Saying that the response to parish councils has been good, Bishop Borders also admitted that "progress has not been necessarily smooth or even." About three out of four parishes in this diocese have councils.

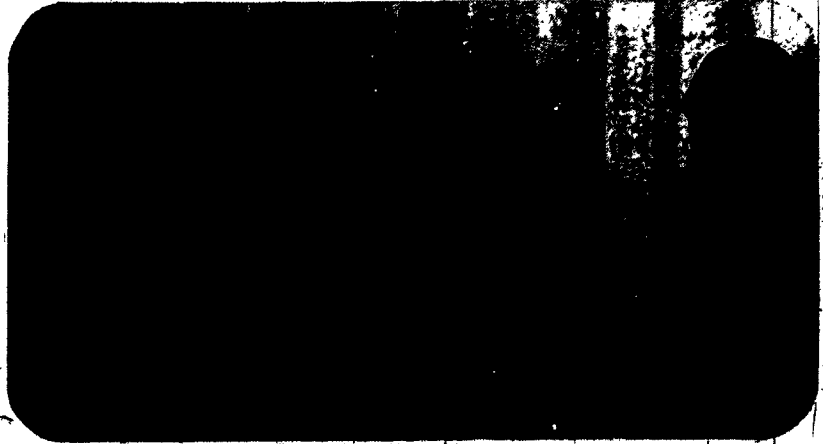
"Layman have been encouraged to take active part in the Church in Orlando since the founding of the diocese," the Bishop said. "To further that participation the diocese is researching the establishment of a senate of parish councils. This senate of councils would bring each parish more closely into the long range planning of the apostolic work in the diocese."

"Since we are growing so rapidly in central Florida and have so many competent people in the Church it is essential that we have the thinking of the people in each parish. The exchange of ideas, the challenge, and sometimes the tension that comes from exchange, are good. Hopefully, the senate of parish councils will be formed within the next six months."

The formation of parish councils alone cannot assure an ef-

# Our Parish COUNCIL

by Bernard Lyons



New CYO state leaders pose with party symbols at workshop on Politics. From left they are Kathy Benware, president, Ogdensburg; Helen Vyskočil, vice president, New York City; Maureen Donahue, secretary, Buffalo; and Peter Gioia, regional coordinator, Rochester.



Auxiliary Bishop Dennis W. Hickey is surprised with birthday cake by Rochester delegation to state CYO convention.

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