



Photo by Roy Brittain, Sayre Evening Times

Valley Key '73 committee kicks off local program with banner announcing theme, "Calling Our Continent to Christ." From left, they are: Rev. Joseph Gasper, Mrs. Sarah Hunsberger, Father Richard Shatzel, Fred Birdsall, Rev. Elmo Snedaker and Rev. William Watson.

## St. James Links Up With Local Key '73

Waverly — St. James church in Waverly will participate in the local Key '73 program as part of its efforts for the diocesan Year of Renewal.

Key '73 is a continent wide, year long effort of some 150 Christian churches and denominations in the United States and Canada to co-operate in publicly proclaiming and witnessing to the Gospel. Its theme is "Calling Our Continent to Christ."

St. James church will be working not only with the Protestant

churches in Waverly, but also with the Catholic and Protestant churches in Sayre and Athens, Pennsylvania. These towns, together with Waverly, form a natural, geographical unit known as the "Valley."

The churches of this area have banded together to form an ecumenical group called the Valley Key '73 committee. This local group is planning a series of "high-visibility" events in the area throughout the year 1973 to call people's attention to Christ.

These begin with the Noon-Prayer Call during the two weeks of Christmas and New Year's, when the sounding of church bells at noon reminds Christians to stop and pray wherever they happen to be, as a public witness to Christ.

On Sunday, Jan. 7, the sermon in Catholic and Protestant churches of the area will be on

Key '73 as a practical way to "manifest Christ to the world," which happens to be one of the themes of Epiphany on that Sunday.

A collection will also be taken up in the area churches to be used exclusively for the financing of local Key '73 events for the year.

A few weeks before Lent begins, St. James will co-operate with the other churches in distributing a copy of Luke's Gospel to every home in the locality with an encouragement to attend a Bible study group or class at the church of their choice during Lent.

Father Richard Shatzel, assistant pastor of St. James, is one of the vice-chairmen for the local Key '73 effort.

## Veterans Look For Members

Elmira Heights — The annual membership drive by the Feshoh-Macekur Catholic War Veterans Post 1178 here is underway with members seeking to enroll Catholic veterans living in the Chemung County area.

Veterans interested in joining the organization, which has as its motto "Service to God and Country", can do so by stopping by the post's club, located at 100 McCauley Ave., Elmira Heights, or by contacting one of the club officers.

In a related topic the post recently held elections for 1973 officers. The new officers are: George R. Bobby, third vice commander; Frank C. Pesesky, adjutant; George Tallman, treasurer; Gerald Donahue, welfare officer; Walter Chorney, historian; Peter Bonyak, officer of the day and Stanley J. Smolos and Francis Dombroski, trustees.

## Altar Boys Installed

West Elmira — Twelve new altar servers at Our Lady of Lourdes Church here were installed during special ceremonies last week.

The new servers are: Thomas Tatro, Francis J. Mack III, Paul Sofia, Robert Slade, James Matthew, Donald Michalko, James Lapple, David Riordan, Timothy Ladd, James Bramble, Matthew Fennell, James Burns, Matthew Pautz and Joseph DeMare.

They received their training under the direction of Father Gerald T. O'Connor, associate pastor at Our Lady of Lourdes.

# Senior Citizens Schedule Party

By DICK BAUMBACH

Elmira — Elderly flood victims who have been housed at the Mark Twain Hotel since August will be able to smile at Christmas this year thanks to the generosity of area residents.

Sister Juliana O'Hara, coordinator of aging programs at the hotel for the Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP) said a special Christmas Party is scheduled for 5 p.m. Thursday for the senior citizens.

The party will be complete with presents, a musical program and a buffet dinner.

The 50 flood victims plus 70 "alumni" residents of the facility who have since moved back to their homes or to new permanent residences will be feted.

In addition to providing food for the affair, Metz Associates, the organization which caters for the flood victims at the hotel, will also have a Santa Claus on hand plus a cash donation for extraordinary expenses.

The gifts are being provided by an anonymous donor and the Girl Scouts of Seven Lakes Girl Scouts Council. Music for carols will be provided by Miss Eleanor O'Hanlon and Mrs. Putnam Drake.

Staff work on arrangements is headed by Mrs. Cynthia Roy and is financed in part by a grant from the New York State Office for the Aging in cooperation with St. Joseph's Hospital and the United Community Services.

Finally the Christmas tree has been donated by the hotel management.

The elderly residents are allowed to live at the hotel for up to one year rent free. While they are living at the hotel efforts are being made by the federal government's Department of Housing and Urban Development to find them permanent housing.

The Southern Tier of the diocese was devastated in June of this year by Tropical Storm Agnes and subsequent heavy flooding.



## REJOICE

This is the reality we celebrate at Christmas; this is why we give, because God first gave Himself to us. This is what it means to be a missionary... to be a sign of Christ's love present among the poorest of the poor. Enclosed is my sacrifice of \$\_\_\_\_\_ that the world may know that the Lord has come and that He loves us! REMEMBER THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH IN YOUR WILL

CJ-12/20

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