



Photo by Laurence E. Keefe

**Sisters  
Presiding**

President of the Diocesan Sisters' Council, Sister Louise Weber, a member of Nazareth College's business department, presides over the first meeting of the new year with vice president, Sister Ann Miller, principal of St. John the Evangelist, Humboldt St. at her side.

**Youth Speaks out for Life**

**Pro-Life Group Formed**

By CHARLES RANDISI

A new anti-abortion group linked with the local Right to Life organization has been formed. The fledgling group, Youth Speaks Out for Life, chaired by a freshman at Gates Chili High School is only in the formative stages; but its parent organization is hopeful that it will succeed.

Chairman Steve Schmitt said that the group started when he and a number of friends picketed Strong Memorial Hospital during the last election campaign, and met Sue Bastyr, collegian head of Save Our Unwanted Lives, a Minnesota-based pro-life group. Miss Bastyr is a prominent pro-life organizer in the Midwest.

After the demonstration, Schmitt and his friends decided

**Key '73 Crusade  
Begins in Owego**

Owego — An evangelical crusade, Key '73, which has received the backing of the Diocese of Rochester, recently released a schedule of January activities in the Owego area.

St. Patrick's Church is engaged in the endeavor, according to Father Thomas Watts, an associate pastor of the parish.

A television program will be shown this weekend over two area broadcasting stations. Area residents have been invited into private homes to view the film and to discuss its implications.

As preparation for all of the programs in Key '73 there were Noon Prayer Calls last week at the Owego Methodist Church. All of the participants were lay people, and average attendance was 75.

On Sunday afternoon, Jan. 14, volunteers from all of the churches in Owego will meet at 2 p.m. at St. Patrick's to go out to every home in the area presenting each with the Gospel of St. Luke. At the same time a

that they wanted to continue being active and "get a group together."

They sent letters to the principals of all the Catholic High schools and grammar schools in Monroe County and received a response from 80 to 100 students of eight schools who shared their concerns.

A disappointing organizational meeting and Mass was held recently at St. Jude's Church, Gates. George Goodwin, board member of Rochester Area Right to Life, Inc., blamed the poor attendance at the meeting on the fact that it was scheduled during school vacation time.

Nevertheless, Goodwin, who is also chairman of the Gates chapter of Right to Life, said he hopes

brief census of each home will be taken. About 300 persons from the churches of the area will take part.

Each family will be invited to take part in Bible study groups as a follow up to the Bible distribution.

On Unity Sunday, Jan. 21, two families and two teenagers from each church (Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopal, Baptist and Catholic) will visit one other church in Owego for Sunday services. A reception is held after services in each Church so that visitors and members of each church might meet informally.

The Key '73 Program Committee is also planning a series of Youth happenings for spring and summer. This will include plays, musical presentations and Youth Prayer services.

Arrangements and planning for Key '73 in Owego are handled by the Owego Ministerial Association. Father Watts is president of this group.

to eventually see Schmitt's group become a supportive and complementary arm of Right to Life. He trusts the students' judgment and is by-and-large "willing to let them run their own affairs."

He said that the organizers deserve much credit because of the leg work they put into forming the group.

Schmitt also hopes to continue successfully with Youth Speaks Out for Life. He will send out more letters and plan a future meeting.

He has obtained the use of a slide show presentation on abortion, prepared by Dr. and Mrs. J. C. Wilke, well-known pro-life proponents. He is willing to take the show to elementary schools for instructional purposes.

"We want to inform kids about abortion, and let them make their own decisions," he said.

Youth Speaks Out for Life is open to all junior and senior high school students, both from Catholic and public schools.

Its officers are Steve Schmitt, chairman; Janet Herzog, vice-chairman; Sue Colwell, recording secretary; and Tim Herzog, corresponding secretary.

Anyone interested in joining the group may contact Schmitt at 247-1969.

**St. Jude's Hospital  
Raises \$10,000 Here**

More than \$10,000 was raised in Monroe County last year for the St. Jude's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. The amount was announced last week by Mrs. Carol Rogers who heads the annual local drive.

A feature of last year's drive was a work-a-thon during which

**Sisters Take Vote  
To Protest Viet War  
To Congressmen**

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

The Diocesan Sisters' Council started off the new year with a decision to protest the recent bombing of North Vietnam by sending a letter to legislative representatives in Washington, D.C.

The 33 member Council decided to write to Representative Frank Horton, Barber Conable and Howard Robinson, and Senators Jacob Javits and James Buckley to "decry the unnecessary killing in Viet Nam."

Sister Esther Cockburn MHSB, Religious Education Coordinator of the Southern Tier,

moved the protest letter be sent explaining that "on this moral issue we represent the Church and we must speak out."

The motion was prompted by a report from Sister Elizabeth Ann LaValle, chairman of the Council's New and Pastoral Ministries committee, that the Sisters of Mercy Social Justice Commission sent a letter of protest to the legislators urging them to "publicly speak out against the continued bombing, vote for legislation which would end the war by cutting off funds, and publicly urge President Nixon to sign the cease-fire agreement without further delay."

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Photo by Laurence E. Keefe

**Angelic Brothers**

Jacob Pabon, 3, and his older brother, Adrian, 5, on right, made adorable angels in the nativity scene at the Puerto Rican Arts and Cultural Center last Saturday, as part of the Three Kings fete.

**Coordinator Sought  
For Diaconate Program**

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

The diocese is looking for a coordinator to plan and implement the permanent diaconate program here.

Since the Priests' Council's unanimous vote, last August, to establish a permanent diaconate,

a committee of 11 priests, nuns and lay people have been exploring other dioceses' programs to investigate the costs in personnel, resources and sample training programs.

According to a report submitted to the U.S. bishops at their annual meeting in November, there are currently 178 permanent deacons in this country, with 808 candidates in 29 diocesan training programs.

The committee, headed by Father Edwin B. Metzger, director of field education at St. Bernard Seminary, hopes that the first training here will begin in the Fall.

The coordinator may be a man or woman, religious or lay, willing to volunteer at least ten hours per week during this year, and stay with the program as it develops, the announcement from

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