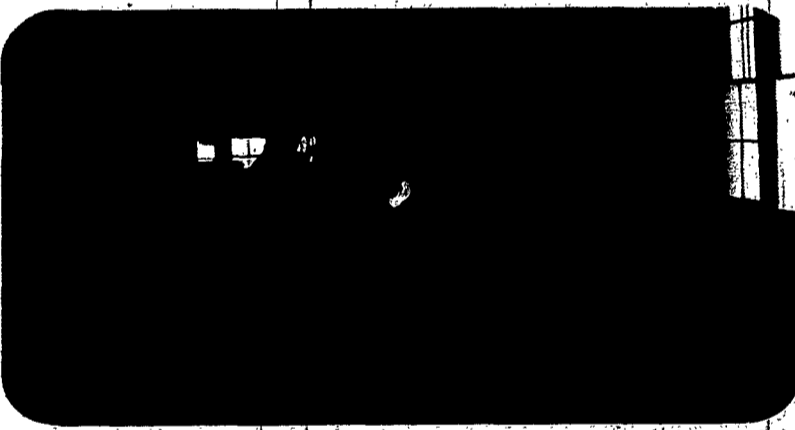




Holy Smoke!

Above, a fireman crouches and runs from the fire he just started in the old church building of St. Theodore's, as the frame structure explodes in flames. The combination school and church was built in 1925, but the Gates parish has since erected new brick structures. Burning done last Sunday by the Gates-Chili Fire Department as a training exercise, saved the parish the expense of demolition. From left top, firemen pour gasoline on debris . . . one fireman lights flare, throws it . . . stands a moment in front of fire . . . before running from flame-engulfed building. Photos by Laurence E. Keefe.



Courier-Journal

Southeast Sets Programs in Adult Religion

The Southeast Region has set a series of adult religious education programs for Lent. With an emphasis on scripture and basic concepts in theology, the programs are designed for all adults. The Religious Education Coordinators of the Southeast Region have planned the courses also as training and enrichment courses for all teachers of religion.

The director of education for the Southeast Region, Father Paul McCabe, has announced the following Lenten courses:

1. "How to Read Sacred Scripture" — Very Rev. Sebastian Falcone, OFM Cap., will offer this course Wednesday evenings, beginning Ash Wednesday, March 7, at St. Anne's school hall, 1640 Mt. Hope Ave. Father Falcone, professor of Sacred Scripture at St. Bernard's Seminary, will offer a general introduction to Bible study, with special emphasis on the Acts of the Apostles. The class will be from 8 to 10 p.m.

2. On Thursdays in Lent, Father William Donnelly, chaplain at Monroe Community College, will teach a course entitled "God and Man: Basics in Theology." Classes will be held at Blessed Sacrament School, 546 Oxford St., from 8 to 10 p.m. Thursdays beginning, March 8.

3. Our Lady of Lourdes School on Varinna Drive will be the center for a Sunday evening series on the sacraments. This course begins the first Sunday in Lent, March 11, from 7 to 9 p.m. Sister M. Gratia, R.S.M., diocesan Director of Adult Education, will conduct the series entitled "The Sacraments: Christ Meets Men."

Wednesday, February 28, 1973

Year of Renewal

Mass of Chrism Planned April 17 In Canandaigua

The developing regional character of the Diocese of Rochester will be symbolized by two departures from the norm in this year's Mass of Chrism and blessing of the holy oils.

Ordinarily the rites are conducted at the Cathedral on Holy Thursday. This year, however, they will take place at St. Mary's Church, Canandaigua, at 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 17.

Concelebrating with Bishops Joseph L. Hogan, Dennis W. Hickey and John E. McCafferty will be Father Daniel Holland, diocesan director of the Year of Renewal, Msgr. Donald Mulcahy, executive secretary of the Pastoral Council Formation Committee and regional coordinators.

Father Michael Conboy, Bishop Hogan's secretary, indicated that the changes were made "as a gesture to show more concern for people in the outlying

regions" and to make the rites more accessible, especially for the laity.

He also said that plans are progressing to identify sections of St. Mary's Church for regional groups attending the Mass.

Following a pattern established last year, the laity have been invited to the ceremonies, especially representatives of parish councils and their liturgical committees.

The rites will follow a provisional text of the Roman Pontifical published last year by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Chrism is a mixture of oil and perfumes which figures in the rite of confirmation. Two other oils are also prepared in the rites, the oil of catechumens, which is used in baptism, and the oil of the sick, which is used for anointing invalids.

Hope Village Given Jolt by Moratorium

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

Getting housing constructed for the rural poor is a lot like Sisyphus getting that rock securely atop that hill.

At least that is the experience of one Wayne County citizen group, the Committee for Cooperative Housing, that has been trying for five years to build 25 housing units on 28 acres in the Town of Huron.

Mrs. Maud Weeks of North Rose and Father Raymond J. Wahl, pastor of Sacred Heart, Auburn, are two who persevered against local opposition, as well as state and federal resistance and "stalling," thinly disguised as legal regulations and technicalities, according to Mrs. Weeks.

Last June they had an option on the land. In January their application for an interim loan of \$106,887 was approved by the Housing Assistance Council (HAC). The money would have enabled them to buy the land and begin development of it.

HAC was established in 1971 with funds from the Office of Economic Opportunity, to develop a national housing delivery system for the rural poor. It provides technical assistance, training and loans for local rural housing organizations.

HAC's loan was to be repaid

when Farmers Home Association funding came through. The Committee for Cooperative Housing wanted to purchase the land as soon as possible since the costs of developing it had risen 53.3 per cent in the last five years.

Then, what Father Wahl calls the "awful housing moratorium" was announced and Hope Village was again as far from being a reality as it ever was.

The moratorium on construction of low and moderate income housing became effective just as the committee was scheduled for its final visit with Farmers Home officials.

Twenty-one families had applied for housing in Hope Village, and some had received verbal acceptance. Ten others were about to apply to live in the cooperative community. But instead of families excited about a ground breaking, "we've got 25 families still living in the cold," said Mrs. Weeks.

Father Wahl said, "We are sorry that when cutbacks come it is always at the cost of the poor."

Since HAC operates on loans from OEO, which as of this writing is not included in the President's budget, the future of the organization established to create a national housing system for the rural poor is uncertain.

Moratorium Scored

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

The Bishop Sheen Housing Foundation took a critical stand on the 18-month moratorium on construction of low and moderate income housing.

The six members of the executive board that met at Becket Hall last week voted to participate in the Regional Committee on Housing's conference Feb. 23, by sending a comment on the housing freeze.

Their comment expressed concern about the cuts in federal funds for low and moderate in-

come housing explaining that, "We support the need for evaluation of existing programs but not at the expense of people who will be forced to survive in poor housing for 18 months."

"Although there are fiscal problems in HUD programs it is unfair to force those in need to suffer while the government bureaucracies figure out the difficulties they have created," they maintained. "Those most affected continue to live in inadequate housing and now few of us can even offer them realistic hope for improvement."

(Continued on Page 8)