



Shop St. Thomas More

Photo by Susan Mc Kinsey

Parents visiting St. Thomas More School's walk-through find themselves waiting in line to shop in the third grade store. Supervising, left background is Miss Gail Blanchard, while Mrs. William Howe (left) and Mrs. Lloyd Berardi (right) wait to make their purchases.

Parish Council Underway

By Mary Ann Ginnerty

Cayuga — A spirit of renewal was evident at the St. Joseph's parish meeting February 27 as the parish, the oldest in the diocese, undertook initial steps towards the formation of a parish council with the nominations to fill 11 positions.

St. Joseph's, nestled on the shores of Cayuga Lake, has 102 families registered and 120 children enrolled in the CCD program. It had been a mission of St. Aloysius Church in Auburn until the recent appointment of Father Ronald Gaesser as administrator. Father Gaesser also serves as chaplain at Eisenhower College and Auburn Community College.

Ballots mailed to parishioners will be returned by March 10, and the elected parish representatives will join the current church trustees and officers on the council. The representatives, along with other parishioners, will then be appointed to standing committees on education, finance, human development, liturgy and program and resources.

It was recommended by those in attendance that there be two general parish council meetings each year open to all parishioners to invite fuller Christian involvement and to foster a sense of community.

The need for a residence for the pastor and adequate CCD

classroom space will be immediate problems facing the new parish council as well as renovation of the existing St. Joseph's building.

The general tone of the open meeting under the chairmanship of Father Ronald Gaesser was in keeping with the Year of Renewal effort to foster the unity and purpose of the church through parish councils as avenues of shared responsibility, especially in the areas of human development, liturgy and education.

Aquinas Band March Concerts Announced

The March schedule of the award winning Aquinas Institute Concert Band was recently announced by Helen L. Stotz, of the Aquinas Band Boosters.

Under the baton of Alfred M. Fabrizio Jr., the group will perform at Aquinas for seventh and eighth grade parochial school students, March 9.

On March 14, the band will go to Geneva for an afternoon concert at DeSales High School. An afternoon and an evening concert will be given in Watkins Glen on March 15, and on March 16 they will appear at Interlaken Central School.

The final appearance of the month will be at the Aquinas Auditorium in a Spring concert commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Basilian Fathers. The concert is slated for 8 p.m.

North Region Sets Conference

The Monroe County North Region of the diocese will hold its first regional conference tomorrow night, March 8, at St. Ann's Home.

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan will be the principal speaker, with Joseph Mercier of the Pastoral Council Formation Committee sharing the keynote platform.

All the leadership of the Region — priests, Brothers, Sisters, regional committee and subcommittee members, parish council members and religious education coordinators are invited.

Each regional committee chairman will briefly outline the progress and goals of his committee in order to keep everyone up to date on regional activities. Father Douglas Hoffman is coordinator of the North Region.

The Conference will begin at 7:40 p.m., with refreshments afterward.

Wednesday, March 7, 1973

Gananda Religious Planners Make 'Open Door' Policy

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

The Gananda Religious Planning Council (GRPC) decided last week on an open door policy in dealing with denominations that want to function in Gananda but are not now included in the council.

Seven clergymen and one representative of New Wayne Communities, Inc., the developer of the new town to be built in Wayne county, decided that it would be impossible to inform every denomination individually about the religious planning now going on for Gananda.

Instead, they will "take action as requests arise." The policy of the developers, the Rev. Richard Johnson of East Penfield Baptist Church explained, "is to

negotiate with no one about the sale of land for religious purposes until they have negotiated with GRPC."

At last Wednesday's meeting at Colgate Rochester Divinity School, the planning council, which is made up of nine Genesee Ecumenical Ministry member denominations, also accepted preliminary steps for action submitted by the task force.

The task force includes Rabbi Harvey Goldman, Rev. John Beeg, Lutheran representative, and Rev. Edward Schlossmacher, for the Rochester Ministers Fellowship. Rev. Mr. Johnson is chairman of the group.

Father Robert G. Kreckel has been appointed to represent the diocese.

Daily Masses
SS. Peter & Paul
720 W. Main St.
11:20 A.M., 12:10 P.M., 5 P.M.

Hicks
Home Heating Inc.

271-7414 271-4650



HOW TO KEEP LENT

THE HOLY FATHER'S MISSION AID TO THE ORIENTAL CHURCH

GOOD WHEN IT HURTS

With the season of Lent, comes the question, "How can I best keep Lent?" The answer is we must make sacrifices on our own and nothing is a sacrifice unless it hurts. What will be your sacrifice? . . . Just think of the missionaries in our 18 emerging countries who keep Lent all year long. Sacrifice something big this year. When helping others hurts a bit, you know you've made a sacrifice.

FEED THE HUNGRY

In India, our priests and Sisters subsist on ounces of rice each day so they can share what they have with lepers and orphans. \$10 will feed a family for several weeks at least. \$50 will feed five families. \$100, ten families . . . Only \$975 gives a priest a two-acre 'model farm' to raise his own food and teach his parishioners how to raise more food. Archbishop Mar Gregorios will write to thank you.

TRAIN A SISTER

Enable a girl to become a Sister. For 41c a day (\$12.50 a month, \$150 a year, \$300 altogether) you can pay in full for her two-year training, have a Sister 'of your own.'

HELP A CHILD

For only \$14 a month (\$168 a year) you can make sure that an abandoned child has food, clothing, a blanket and love . . . We'll send you a photo of the boy or girl you 'adopt'.

MASSSES FOR LENT

Our priests will offer promptly the Masses you request. Do you wish to remember a loved one this Lent? Your Mass offerings are usually the only income our priests overseas receive.

JOIN THIS ASSOCIATION

Enroll yourself, your family and friends in this Association. You will be helping Pope Paul in one of his most ambitious and heartfelt works, while sharing in the blessings of thousands of Masses. (The offering for one year is \$2 per person, \$10 for a family; perpetual membership is \$25 per person, \$100 for a family.)

Dear Morsignor Nolan: ENCLOSED PLEASE FIND \$ _____ CH.
FOR _____
NAME _____
STREET _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

THE CATHOLIC NEAR EAST WELFARE ASSOCIATION



NEAR EAST MISSIONS

TERENCE CARDINAL COOKE, President
MSGR. JOHN G. NOLAN, National Secretary
Write: CATHOLIC NEAR EAST WELFARE ASSOC.
330 Madison Avenue • New York, N.Y. 10017
Telephone: 212/986-5840

Our Parish COUNCIL by Bernard Lyons

By BERNARD LYONS

In a large Midwest city, one parish has put a great deal of its emphasis on "little parishes."

About a year ago, the council divided the parish into 12 groups of about 25 families each. Each group elects a representative to serve on the parish council with two lay appointees, the school principal, and the two parish priests.

These "little parishes" plan Sunday liturgies, hold adult religious education programs, and get more parishioners involved in church activities.

The pastor explains that the first stages were quite a struggle. But now the "little parishes" are quite active.

"People are coming back to church who weren't involved before," the pastor observes. "They feel that the Church is really interested in them."

A nun recently joined the parish community as a full-time parish worker. Her focus will be on the "little parishes" and their operation. A seminarian, in residence this past summer, also worked with these smaller groups.

The council uses the little parish structure as a medium for many activities. A key activity of the groups is liturgical planning for the parish.

Courier-Journal

One "little parish" is responsible for each Sunday's worship. Following an evening weekday Mass the group meets to plan the weekend celebration.

They discuss Scripture readings, choose a theme, brainstorm ideas for the homily, select songs, and make a banner. The work of this session gives direction to the weekend liturgies for all the parish.

It has an added benefit, too, because it acts as a sort of religious education for the planners.

"Project Jesus" is the title for the religious education program throughout the year in which the "little parishes" share their insights and company. The groups gather, view filmstrips, and then discuss the presentations.

The "little parishes" work hard on getting all of the 300 families in the parish acquainted. One group serves coffee and rolls following the two morning Masses on the first Sunday of each month. Throughout the week group members have developed an active apostolate of visiting older parishioners.

Because of the cohesiveness on this grass roots level, the parish council is gradually assuming pastoral responsibilities.

"The people are growing to accept the notion that they are the Church," the pastor believes.