



**OUR PARISH COUNCIL**  
Bernard Lyons

If your older parishioners are typical of the elderly around the country, nearly one out of two of them is suffering from malnutrition.

There is now something very specific that you can do about it: You can help them to be healthier and stronger and to lead more productive and independent lives through a local nutrition program.

President Nixon signed into law in March, 1972, the bills that created the National Nutrition Program for the Elderly.

The federal agency which must implement this act is the Administration of Aging (AOA) of the U.S. Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare.

"The purpose of this program is to provide older Americans, particularly those with low incomes, with low cost, nutritionally sound meals served in strategically located centers, such as schools, churches, community centers, senior citizen centers, and other public or private facilities where they can obtain other social and rehabilitative services," say the regulations for the program.

"Besides promoting better health among the older segment of the population through improved nutrition, such a program is aimed at reducing the isolation

of old age, offering older Americans an opportunity to live their remaining years in dignity."

Persons 60 years of age and older may take part in the nutrition program. And people over 60 should be trained and hired to help run the nutrition program.

If a parish or community group decided to start a nutrition program, they would generally be required to serve one meal daily, five days a week. Exceptions will be made for sparsely populated rural areas covering a large geographic area.

The sponsoring group is also expected to do more than just feed people. Recreation, social services, nutrition education, and shopping assistance are some of the additional projects recommended.

Nutrition programs must make every effort to provide transportation for the persons attending the serving sites, and homebound meals for those persons incapacitated by illness or accident.

If your parish council, or a committee, is interested in working out a nutrition program, you should contact your Office on Aging in your state capitol. Ask for an application and the state guidelines for the program.

**School Administrators To Meet in Batavia**

Administrators of Catholic elementary and secondary schools in the Rochester and Buffalo dioceses will meet at Notre Dame High School, Batavia, on Saturday, March 31.

They will attend various workshops arranged by the Catholic School Administrators of

New York State. Speakers will include the chairman of that organization's executive board, Father Charles Eckermann, principal of Bishop Ludden High School in Syracuse; Father Daniel Brent, Rochester diocesan superintendent of schools; state education department representatives.

**Father Ronald Gaesser**

**Activism Gone, Chaplain Says**

By MARY ANN GINNERTY

Seneca Falls — "Activism among students is out right now, and students are tending more towards the mystical and prayer in search of themselves," commented Father Ronald Gaesser, Catholic chaplain at Eisenhower College and member of the Eisenhower Interfaith Council. "We are finding students today are more apt to turn out for a scripture reading than for a demonstration."

Father Gaesser attributes the renewed interest by students in prayer and scripture to the fact students are not finding the answers to society for the problems they face now and are seeking purpose and strength through their faith.

Father observed that 1971 marked a change in student values. He indicated that while students are as serious as they were before, the students of the 70's are more like their parents. They are more conservative and generally speaking more apathetic and indifferent to what is going on around them. They still have social concerns, but see themselves contributing more on an individual level and are not prone to join groups. The students of the late 60's were more centered on political movements.

"The students today tend to build a life within themselves and around themselves," observed Father Gaesser. "Turning inward can result in selfishness, or one can turn inward to regroup and get one's self together and then turn outward, renewed, and contribute to society as a more fulfilled person."

Father feels there is hope in the sense that students are not authoritarian, ask questions, and are not as easily regimented as before. In the 60's, activists overlooked the fact that social theology leads to social change.



**FATHER RONALD GAESSER**

"Faith taken seriously can make activists and the Gospel taken literally calls for social revolution," he pointed out.

His chaplaincy on the Eisenhower campus departs from the traditional Newman Club role. Eisenhower, a new college, has encouraged the ecumenical approach since its inception. While fulfilling the traditional needs of the Catholic student, he also participates with four other clergymen in the developing religious program with emphasis on one's own tradition while functioning as an ecumenical community.

"Generally people think ecumenism is a 'watered-down' Church, but the true ecumenical Church will be like a rich mosaic with each tradition woven in, emphasizing what is true in each."

"Unity does not mean uniformity, but one needs to be strong in one's tradition to have something to contribute. I spend

a lot of time knocking down false images of the Catholic Church. Many of the difficulties arise from poor education of the Catholic student in his faith, poor understanding of theology, scripture and sacraments."

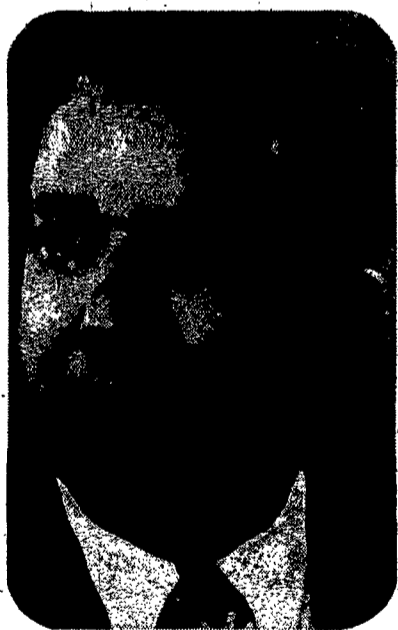
Clergymen serving Eisenhower include Rabbi Morris Greenfield of Geneva, Rev. Charles Marks, Methodist, Rev. William Knox, Presbyterian and Rev. Charles Feilor, Baptist.

Eisenhower does not yet have a chapel, but there is a meditation room in the library.

Father Gaesser enjoys the challenge by youth to make a solid presentation. He feels first of all a pastor in the traditional sense, concerned with the people of God as in any parish, except he meets the needs of a certain age group at a particular time in their development.

Father Gaesser is also chaplain at Auburn Community College and administrator of St. Joseph's parish in Cayuga.

**Business In The Diocese**



Gerard R. Dennis, Sr., has been named special services representative at Rochester Savings Bank. Dennis's duties will include calling on businesses and other organizations as a representative for the bank in areas such as payroll savings and other special services.

Prior to joining Rochester Savings Bank, Dennis was with A.B. Dick Company where he was in sales and marketing. He has also held sales positions locally with Itek, Photostat, Ditto and Rochester Stationery.

Dennis is a graduate of Aquinas Institute. He is a member of Sacred Heart Men's Club. He is a licensed health and accident insurance agent.

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**FOUR CHAPLAINS MEMORIAL**

Shown above is a typical section of White Haven, featuring a memorial to Four Chaplains who gave their lives so others might be saved. These devoted men were of three different faiths: Roman Catholic - Hebrew - and Protestant.

**WHITE HAVEN Memorial Park**

WHERE ALL FAITHS ARE NOW PERMITTED