

continue to receive explanation of the new forms of worship as they look for new ways to express their "Catholic identity" within the framework of the formal Church.

As far as the social and moral sides of religion are concerned, the survey reports that most Catholics in the Rochester Diocese say they understand the position of the Church on such issues as birth control, abortion, war, racism and divorce. They do not, however, completely accept all of them. Catholics say they

1973, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Rochester, N.Y.

1929, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Rochester, N.Y.

A combination of factors such as upbringing, age, economic condition and environment go into the formation of the moral opinions of area Catholics. These factors, the survey shows, are not always

changes in Church ceremonies. On the moral side, they are seeking a clearer explanation of the teachings of the "new" Church. And they want to know how they can make these teachings mean something in their daily lives.

They are seeking guidance from the Church, but they recognize that in the end they are free men and women, who must make their own decisions on what is right and wrong in their own lives.

influence the attitudes and behavior that we live by each day. It should. Church teaching—echoing the Bible—is only one factor in influencing a person's values. Other factors conflict with this teaching. And the Christian is constantly torn between the standards of Christ and those of a post-Christian world. Providing supportive help to Catholic adults as they "sort out" why they feel the way they do, and what values they wish to live by, is clearly a prominent unmet need of many in the Diocese.

uniformity is gone. Gospel and Church values are clear. There is much room within the Catholic Church for a variety of ways of teaching and living these values and of worshipping their Author.

Time of Renewal

