

# Holy Thursday Ecumenical Services Planned

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan has invited Catholics to a first-of-its-kind ecumenical Holy Thursday "Service of Concern" at Christ Church Episcopal Cathedral on East Avenue.

The rite is scheduled for 12:15 p.m.

The Bishop will participate with church officials of 10 denominations. The service will dramatize the "deep concern" of the churchmen over the worsening plight of poor people faced with rising prices and cutbacks in numerous government funding programs.

The Holy Thursday rite will

recall the example of Jesus who washed the disciples' feet at the Last Supper and then broke the bread for the Eucharist — both actions symbolic of service and sharing.

As a further sign of the churchmen's desire to "serve rather than be served," they will act as ushers prior to the service.

The Bishop's invitation was included in a collective statement by the ten religious leaders sent to all parishes in the eight county area of the Genesee Ecumenical Ministries.

In their statement, the Church leaders pointed out three specific

areas where people are "suffering now":

1) People who hoped to build better homes for their families through self-help and other housing projects. Many churches contributed funds to launch such projects but federal cutbacks doom these projects to failure, and thereby destroy the hopes of thousands of families.

2) Elderly people, people who are disabled, all those on fixed incomes. They are so helpless in the face of today's sky-rocketing costs. Added to this burden are cutbacks in mental health and rural health services.

3) Children who need day-care supervision because their parents must work, and youngsters anxious to work during the summer to earn costs for education, clothing and other needs. All these programs are now threatened by cutbacks in funding.

"We ask our people this week to speak up to our federal, state and local government officials, to those in industry and finance, to do all in their power to restore these needed services of compassion and assistance," the statement continued.

In addition to Bishop Hogan, they following signed the statement:

Rev. Gordon H. Curtis, Reformed Church in America; Rev. Murphy Greer, president, Rochester Area Ministers Conference; Rev. Dan Kuhn Jr., pastor, Community Christian Church (Disciples of Christ); Rev. Hugh O. Morton, executive, Monroe Baptist Association; Rev. A. Claire Potter, Genesee Valley Association, United Church of Christ; Rev. Robert Rowsam, Rochester District superintendent, United Methodist Church; Rev. Carl R. Smith, executive, Presbytery of Genesee Valley; Rev. Robert R. Spears Jr., Episcopal bishop of Rochester; Rev. Paul M. Young Jr., dean, Genesee Valley District, Lutheran Church in America.



Easter Panorama

Jerusalem in the time of Jesus is the center of an animated and electronic Easter Panorama, which went on display for the fourth year at St. Charles Borromeo School Hall, April 15. The creation of Bernard "Bud" Miller took more than nine years of planning and execution. Miller is also responsible for the Church's famed Christmas Panorama. Viewing hours are 2-9 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, and 6:30-9 p.m.

## Right to Life Campaign Keyed to Easter Services

A taped message from Bishop Joseph L. Hogan will highlight Right to Life Sunday to be noted in Catholic churches throughout Monroe County on Easter Sunday.

The Bishop's message will urge parishioners to sign and circulate the petitions advocating a constitutional amendment to overturn the Supreme Court decision declaring that no state could interfere with a decision for abortion during the first three months of pregnancy.

The drive is sponsored by the Rochester Area Right to Life Committee and its chairman, William P. Polito, stresses that it will not be limited to Catholic churches.

"Many places of worship of other faiths will observe the day and circulate the petitions," said Polito. "The response in this respect has been most gratifying."

## Ecumenist to Be Speaker at Christ Church

A special Service of the Passion of Our Lord led by a nationally known ecumenist will highlight the observances of Holy Week at Christ Church Episcopal Cathedral on Good Friday, April 20, from noon to 3 p.m.

The Very Rev. Elton O. Smith Jr., dean of St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral in Buffalo, will conduct the service based on the Seven Last Words spoken from the Cross.

While a pastor in Kansas City, Mo., during the late 60s, Dean Smith was responsible for the admission of the Roman Catholic community into the area Council of Churches.

In discussing the reason for the petition and the general pro-life campaign, Polito said, "the fact that some doctors and women continue to engage in such senseless killings, whether under the guise of law or in the back alleys, does not make it right, nor does it diminish our social responsibility to do all in our power to prevent such wanton destruction of life.

"Our sincere concern for the unborn children does not lessen our compassion for the sometimes anguished mother, but, rather, heightens it. However, the individual solution of the mother to her specific problem should be and can be consistent with the well-being of the unborn as well as her born children. It is only when the mother refuses or fails to assume her primary responsibility of her infant's protection that society not only has a right but an obligation to the infant to step in for its protection."

Referring to the proposed amendment he said, "The antithesis of this proposition is seen today not only in the destruction and experimentation upon living fetuses but also in the assault upon the very being of the defective, the aged, and the suicidal, whose lives may very soon also be declared 'meaningless' by society."

The petition, addressed to the United States Senate and House of Representatives and to the State Senate and Assembly, calls for "appropriate legislative action to propose, ratify, and implement the necessary amendment to the Constitution of our beloved United States, in order to protect the lives of all human beings, including our innocent unborn children so that we may once again raise our heads among civilized mankind, free of the shame of this disgraceful decision of the Supreme Court."

## Holy Week Schedule At Sacred Heart

Auxiliary Bishop John E. McCafferty and the staff of Sacred Heart Cathedral will concelebrate the Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper, which highlights Holy Thursday events, at the Cathedral, at 7:30 p.m.

Also on Holy Thursday, low Masses will be celebrated at 8 a.m. and at 12:10 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will follow the liturgy until midnight.

On Good Friday, April 20, Bishop Joseph L. Hogan will preside over the Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion. The service will start at 1:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross and the Solemn Veneration of the Relic of the True Cross will be held at 7:45 p.m.

The celebration of the Easter Vigil and the Mass of the Resurrection will be concelebrated by Bishop McCafferty and the Cathedral staff on Holy Saturday, April 21, at 7:30 p.m. It is noted that attendance at this Mass satisfies the Easter obligation.

On Easter Sunday, Mass with spoken participation will be celebrated at 7 a.m. and Mass with sung participation will be celebrated at 8:30 a.m. A Folk Mass will be held at 10 a.m.

Bishop Hogan will be the principle concelebrant and homilist at the 11:15 a.m. Solemn Mass of the Resurrection.

Mass with sung participation will be held at 12:30 p.m. and again at 5 p.m.



KENNY SMITH  
St. Bridget's



JUDY SHERKUS  
Holy Redeemer



LAURIE RUSSELL  
Immaculate Conception

## Youngsters View Merger

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

When pre-teens are planning a new inner city junior high school, their deliberations can be called anything but childish.

Reasons given pro and con on uniforms, homework, smoking in school and discipline by 18 sixth and seventh graders gave a raw view of their perception of city life.

The Student Planning Committee is made up of representatives elected by each sixth and seventh grade class in the six Catholic schools that will be consolidated into four elementary schools and one central junior high beginning in September.

The committee was organized to promote unity, says Ken Sarkis, who teaches at St. Michael's and serves as faculty advisor to the young planners.

"The purpose of the committee is to break the ice before next year when students from six parish schools will be thrown together," explained the young teacher, who is very popular with the committee members.

Social activities also are planned for the whole student population of the schools involved.

After one skating party and two committee meetings, Sarkis reported, "Now the kids' apprehension is turning to excitement."

One Holy Redeemer representative, Judy Sherkus, seemed to agree with this observation when she talked of the skating party.

Some teachers and students thought that the students had not tried hard enough to meet new friends, that some felt they should not have to skate with strangers. But Judy Sherkus said, "I don't foresee any fights among students. People started out on the defensive at the party, but they ended up making friends."

When Sarkis read the list of topics to be discussed, uniforms got an OK as long as no ties were required for the boys and no "ugly" dresses for the girls.

Smoking got a general no vote, gum and candy, rousing approval; homework, equally strong yes and no vote.

Homework was the most controversial subject. The representatives reported "boos" from their constituents. But Laurie Russell of Immaculate

Conception and Cheryl Sheperdsen of Holy Redeemer strongly favored homework.

They explained, and others agreed, that it is needed as extra learning time and as a chance to do a lesson without the teacher's help.

But it was Kenny Smith of St. Bridget's who shed a different light on the subject that no one laughed at or disagreed with.

He said, "Maybe if you stay in and do homework it will keep you out of trouble. If someone drives down your street and shoots out his car window and kills somebody, it won't be you. You'll be safely doing your homework."

The possibility of killing and rape, the fear and mistrust of others were underlying considerations of much of their planning.

When the question of discipline came up, they agreed that the impossibility of guaranteeing safety on the way home is the biggest reason against being kept after school as punishment.

One girl from Holy Redeemer went as far as to say, "If I had to stay after school, I'd stay over night at school rather than walk in this neighborhood."