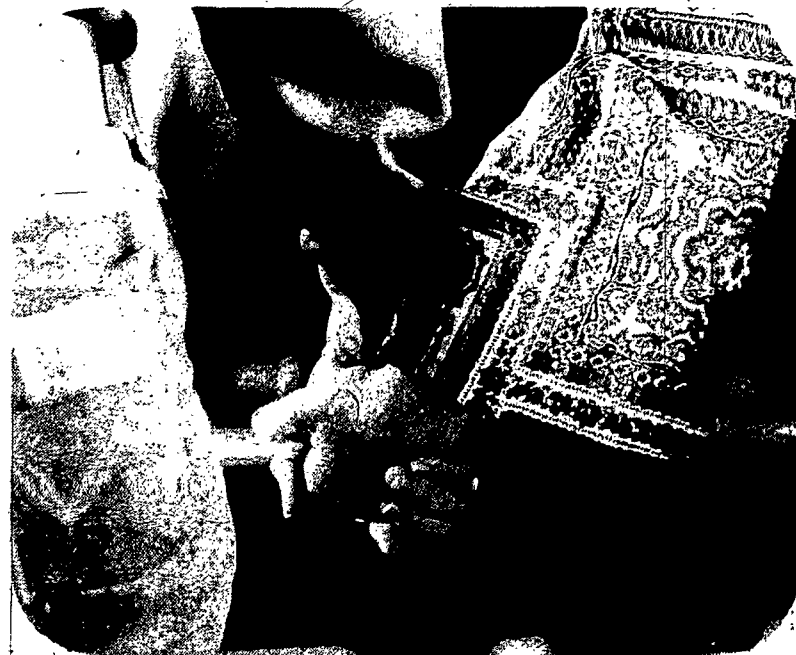




Shared meditation concludes the talk in one of the small discussion groups.

TEEN SEMINAR

# Something For Youth



TEXT AND PHOTOS BY LAURENCE E. KEEFE

"Word of mouth only," said Father Robert Hammond when he was asked about how he gets publicity for his Christian Seminars. "We don't have room enough for any more as it is."

The Christian Seminars draw teenagers from, at present, 18 parishes scattered throughout the diocese for two and a half days of intensive encounter with each other and the theology of four sacraments.

"We deal with Baptism, Confirmation, Penance and Communion — the four sacraments they have received," explained Father Hammond.

More than 2,000 teens have come to the seminars since 1970, he said. Always held at Notre Dame Retreat House in Canandaigua, the sessions usually run from Monday night through Wednesday.

Although nobody who has made Seminar once can make a second unless there are exceptional circumstances a follow-up program called Reality keeps alumni in touch with each other.

At the final session, after Mass, those who have just completed the Seminar are joined by those who went to previous ones for a talk by Father Hammond.

