

# Diocese Hosts Renewal Show

By CHARLES RANDISI

At 11 o'clock on Saturday nights, it doesn't much matter that the radio broadcast booth at station WROC is relatively soundproof, for the noisiest things going are tapes whirring and switches flicking.

The booth itself is a pale green cubicle, 20 by 20 (or thereabouts), with a high ceiling contoured for acoustics. A large rectangular window on one wall separates the booth from the control room, where Harold Sharland, the engineer, operates countless gadgets with jet pilot precision.

After Ron Houston's news delivery, and a maritime weather report, a song begins, "Tell it all, brothers and sisters."

It is exactly 11:10 p.m. Sharland points a finger. "Good evening," says a voice from the booth. "I'm Father Bill Graf, and this is Call for Renewal."

So begins the Diocese of Rochester's new weekly radio call-in show. Father Graf, a faculty member of St. Bernard's Seminary, plays host to various people with various discussion topics, and invites listeners to call 482-7080 and ask questions of the guest about the topic.

Father Graf explained that the Saturday night spot was formerly occupied by "Night Call," a Genesee Ecumenical Ministries production. GEM, after two years, turned the show over to the diocese, and Father Graf was chosen emcee.

His previous broadcasting experience includes a weekly viewpoint show over WICB, during his days as chaplain of Ithaca College, as well as some hosting and guesting on other radio and television programs.

The purpose of the show, said Father Graf, is not only to present topics of diocesan interest over the airwaves, but also to provide

"the chance for the pews to talk back to the pulpit."

Father Graf admitted that the Saturday night time slot is a "very difficult time to work in, since most people are either in bed or out on a date." Another difficulty is that "Call for Renewal" follows two other talk shows, one by William Buckley, and a show about mental health.

Nevertheless, he estimates "a minimum of 2,000 listeners," and described audience reaction as "very good and getting better." The show is currently averaging a dozen calls an hour.

The entire program is done live, except for a diocesan news summary and Father Henry Atwell's ecumenical report, which come on right before signoff time, about 12:30 a.m. Taped "meditations" on the Time of Renewal are played during the station breaks every half hour.

An eight-second delay is employed to screen callers who might use abusive language, but, said Father Graf, "We haven't had to cut anybody off yet."

In preparing for the broadcast, Father Graf likes to meet with his guest for lunch sometime during the week, and again about a half hour before air time, to discuss possible directions for conversation. He also tries to get in some background reading on the subjects, and has made use of the diocesan Time of Renewal survey for statistics.

Father Graf is interested in finding out what people think of the show, and said that suggestions and comments may be sent to him in care of the Office of Communications at the Pastoral Center, 1150 Buffalo Rd.

For the next six weeks, "Call for Renewal" will have a guest host, Father John Hempel, while Father Graf is away to study both in Washington, D.C., and at Notre Dame University.



### ALL IN THE FAMILY Sarah Child

Our daughter in a thoughtful mood brought me some reading material from her elementary school library. The book, a new one, was a copy of "Poor Richard's Almanack" which I think tells something about the light in which my eight-year-old views me.

Wanting to show my appreciation nevertheless I picked it up and discovered a note to "Courteous Reader" which began "It is hardly necessary to state, that (Benjamin) Franklin did not originate all the Sayings of Poor Richard. . . . Yet, with but few exceptions these Maxims and Aphorisms had been filter'd through Franklin's Brain, and were ting'd with that Mother Wit, which so strongly and individually marks so Much that he said and wrote."

#### COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

"This Is Our Story" is the theme of the Maplewood Community Festival being held on June 23 and 24. Festivities begin Saturday, June 23, with a parade forming at Aquinas Institute at 10 a.m. Outdoor activities will follow at lower Maplewood Park. An old-fashioned street dance Saturday evening at lower Maplewood Park will feature Len Hawley's Band. Sunday, June 24 will bring an ecumenical service in the Rose Gardens at Driving Park and Lake Ave. beginning at 12:30 p.m., followed by a band concert by the Monroe County Parks Band.

The slim volume from Peter Pauper Press was interesting mainly because I'd never read many of the sayings. For example we are all familiar with such goldies as "God helps them who helps themselves" and "To err is human, to repent divine; to persist devilish" particularly if you are a reader of "Bartlett's Quotations."

But, who is familiar with "He that would have a short Lent, let him borrow money to be repaid at Easter." or "Monkeys, warm with envious spite, their most obliging friends will bite."

Or "Visit your Aunt, but not every Day; and call at your Brother's, but not every night."

I found several which would seem to apply to current events including "When Knaves fall out, honest men get their goods: When Priests dispute, we come at the Truth," and "Clean Your finger before you point at my Spots." Obviously Watergate was anticipated.

The eight year old going through the book picked out one maxim she found amusing: "There are More old Drunkards than Old Doctors" although I don't think she understood the significance.

My own favorite is: "One good Husband is worth two good Wives: for the scarcer things are, the more they're valued."

## Pope Lauds Parish Housekeepers

Vatican City [RNS] — Pope Paul VI has praised parish housekeepers for the "incomparable" support they bring to the priestly apostolate.

Speaking directly to a group of Italian parish housekeepers at the

close of his June 13 general audience, the Pope said:

"You are called to participate so closely in the life of priests and to share so much in his labors, his anxieties, and his crosses, that

you represent a support of incomparable value to the priestly apostolate."

At the same time, the pontiff took note of the difficulty of ministering to the domestic needs of priests.

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