

## Labor Day Statement

# Chavez Cause Just, Says USCC Bishop

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Washington, D.C. [RNS] — A leading spokesman for the U.S. Catholic bishops asserted here that the farm worker movement, headed by Cesar Chavez, is "receiving unprecedented support" from Protestant and Catholic church groups because "the cause is just... the manner is Christian..."

Preaching during a special concelebrated Mass at U.S. Catholic Conference headquarters here, Bishop James S. Rausch, general secretary of the conference, said "the conference's own Committee on Farm Labor... the state Catholic conferences, the conferences of religious superiors, and other Catholic organizations have made this cause their own."

Meanwhile Msgr. George G. Higgins, a specialist in labor problems for the USCC and head of its Farm Labor Committee, predicted that the UFW cause will be victorious.

He also urged agricultural leaders to develop a "mutual system" of worker-grower relations based on "mutual trust and confidence."

In his annual Labor Day statement for the conference, the priest predicted that eventually the farm workers' union will prevail.

"Sooner or later — and the sooner the better — they will win their struggle for survival and

then go on to organize the rest of the agricultural industry," he affirmed.

Keying his message on the California grape and lettuce strikes, Msgr. Higgins said his prediction is not a "mere exercise in wishful thinking," but "reflects the overriding consensus of those who have studied the farm worker problem at close range and have kept abreast of recent developments in the Teamster-UFW controversy."

"There is widespread agreement... that time and public opinion are definitely on the side of the farm workers," he said.

Bishop Rausch echoed that sentiment:

"Time is on the side of the United Farm Workers," he said. "There is hope because there is faith — belief in men and the rights of man. There is hope because there is commitment — commitment to spend all time and energy in a cause that is so right."

The prelate went on to praise Chavez and his United Farm Workers Union for their commitment to non-violence throughout the current dispute with California growers and the Teamsters Union.

Bishop Rausch announced during the liturgy — offered for two slain UFW members — that the USCC Committee on Social Development and World Peace

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# Theme: Pray for Vocations

By CHARLES RANDISI

A first-of-its-kind Prayer Campaign for Vocations will be introduced to the people of the Diocese of Rochester this Sunday, Sept. 9, via Bishop Joseph L. Hogan's pastoral letter which will be read at Masses throughout the diocese.

Bishop Hogan's pastoral will stress the need for encouragement of young men and women who are struggling with a decision to dedicate themselves to the life of a priest, brother, or nun.

On Sept. 16, the third Sunday of the month, the campaign will officially get under way, when seminarians, and those in religious formation appear as guest homilists in parishes, to ask the people of the diocese to make a pledge of prayer and sacrifice on a regular basis for the school year 1973-74.

The speakers will ask that everyone in the diocese write a letter to Father Gerald Connor, diocesan vocations director, promising that a specific prayer or sacrifice will be made for vocations.

The people will be asked to bring their letters to Mass Sept. 23, as gifts to be presented during the offertory.

From there the letters will go directly to Father Connor, who will pass them along to seminarians and sisters in formation for their perusal.

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Terry Salamone... time to relax

# Whew!

By CARMEN VIGLUCCI

You probably heard it this morning. Whew!

It was the sound of thousands of mothers throughout the diocese as they sent even more thousands of children back to school. It was mingled here and there with a tear quickly brushed aside at the sight of young kindergartners boldly off to life.

Thus was formally ended months of coping with everything from frogs to popsicles and provided was the ultimate answer to that dogged question of summer: "What can I do now, Mom?"

Many mothers have been looking forward to hobbies, volunteer work, projects, resuming acquaintance with favorite television programs or to the pure rapture of having someone else worrying about little Gus for a change.

Terry Salamone of Christ the King parish, perhaps typical of many mothers, has mixed emotions about this day. She has five good reasons why, ranging from K to 9, with nursery school for an extra. Their names are Rick (ninth grade), Paul (sixth), Bobby (fourth), Jay (kindergarten) and Kim (nursery school).

Mrs. Salamone is a private nurse. But contrary to what one may expect, she'll get less chance to work now that school is open. She has lost babysitter Rick to the ninth grade.

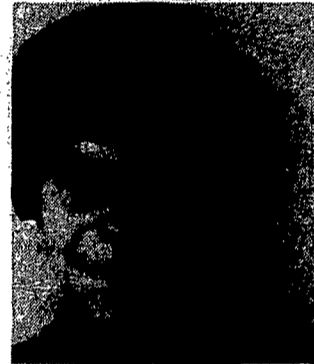
Mrs. Salamone, whose husband Richard is a health sanitarian with the Monroe County Health Department and president of Christ the King Men's Club, has no particular plans for her "free" hours beyond "getting in some more reading."

As for the kids. Well, they're predictable. If there is any hidden joy at the prospect of returning to another year of pencils, books, and teachers' dirty looks, it is just that, hidden.

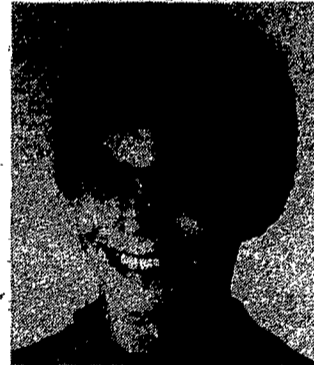
Kim Salamone, 3, typifies the emotions of many of our junior citizens. "One day she is all excited about it," says her mother, "and the next she has her doubts."

So for a few hours each day they will belong to the school bus drivers and the teachers and the nurses and the guidance counselors who take their turns at developing the future of America.

As for the mothers. As we said before, "Whew!"



Rick



Paul



Bobby



Jay



Kim



Chavez eulogizes Juan de la Cruz during a funeral Mass for the slain farm worker in Arvin, Calif. De la Cruz was the second worker to be killed since the UFW began its strike against grape growers July 31.

## Bishop on Radio

On Saturday, Sept. 8, at 11:10 p.m., Bishop Joseph L. Hogan will be the guest commentator on the diocesan radio call-in show, "Call for Renewal," on WROC. Bishop Hogan will discuss "The Catholic Church Today" with Father William Graf, the program's host.

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