

# Time to Pray for Vocations

This Sunday, Sept. 16, when 72 seminarians and sisters-in-formation visit parishes in the Diocese of Rochester as guest homilists, they will ask the people to make a special spiritual sacrifice for the sake of those pursuing religious vocations.

The first diocesan Prayer Campaign for Vocations will then officially begin. The campaign was kicked off last Sunday, Sept. 9, with the reading in all parishes of Bishop Joseph L. Hogan's pastoral letter on vocations.

In the past, the third Sunday of September was annually set aside

for a diocesan "seminary collection." The practice was dropped seven years ago.

This year the same Sunday was chosen as the launch date of the campaign to collect people's prayers for vocations.

Sunday's guest speakers will ask the people to make in writing a specific commitment of prayer and/or sacrifice for vocations. The following Sunday, Sept. 23, people will be asked to submit their letters as gifts to be presented during the Offertory.

The pledges will be sent to Father Gerald Connor, diocesan

vocations director, who will pass them on for seminarians and sisters-in-formation to read.

The Sunday liturgy on the 16th will be developed around the theme of prayer for vocations.

Fliers describing the campaign will be handed out to those at Mass. Sample letters are included in the fliers.

As part of the prayer campaign, students will give the responses on Msgr. Joseph Cirrincione's Rosary for Peace show over WSAY at 7 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 16. One of the students will give a homily concerning vocations.

My dear Friends,

I believe it is safe to say that there is no one in the Church today who is not aware of the critical shortage of religious personnel. The problem is almost universal and has been the subject of much analysis aimed at finding the 'why' of the crisis.

I rest with the conviction that it is high time that we end the discussion and begin a practical program of doing something to better the situation. There is **nothing** to be gained by continuing to bemoan the crisis; there is **everything** to be gained by beginning to pray for its resolution and to enforce our prayers by a commitment of personal sacrifice.

We need to begin to develop a climate in which our young men and women can find God's will, be attentive to His voice and be generous and courageous enough to say 'yes' to His call. Prayer and sacrifice provide this climate for listening and responding.

I am pleased to support by word and deed a prayer campaign sponsored by the Office of the Diocesan Director of Vocations to begin on Sunday, September 16, and to ask for a personal commitment for the school year of 1973-1974. I join my own prayers and personal sacrifices to yours as together we beseech the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into the fields always ripe for that harvest. Let our intentions include not only those who are now being called by the Lord, but also those who need our prayerful support to continue to serve Him with the enthusiasm which accompanied their initial response to His call.

With my blessing, I remain

Faithfully yours in His Service,

*Joseph L. Hogan*  
Bishop of Rochester

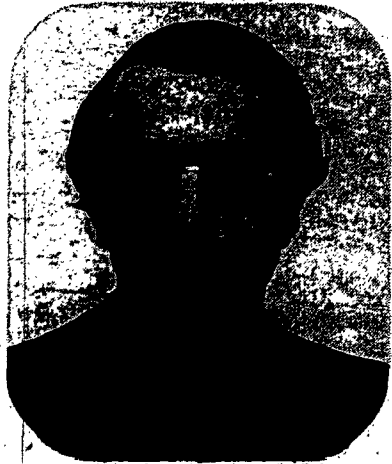
## Regional Leaders Named

Father Paul Schnacky and Father Eugene Sweeney have been named regional coordinators for the formation of a Diocesan Pastoral Council, Bishop Joseph L. Hogan announced this week. Both had been associate coordinators in their regions.

Father Schnacky, of Holy Redeemer, Rochester, has the North Region post lately vacated by Father Douglas Hoffman on his appointment as director of pastoral ministry, at the top of the regional organization.

Father Sweeney, of St. Patrick's, Corning, succeeds Father Eugene Emo as coordinator for the Livingston-Steuben Region. Father Emo, formerly of St. Mary's, Dansville, was transferred in June to St. Margaret Mary, Apalachin, in Tioga County.

Father Schnacky, a Rochesterian from St. Boniface



FR. SCHNACKY



FR. SWEENEY

parish, was ordained with the St. Bernard's Seminary Class of 1953. He has been associate pastor of Holy Redeemer since 1965, and before that served at St. Salome's, St. Peter and Paul and St. Michael's, Rochester, and at Holy

Family and St. Alphonsus, Auburn.

Father Sweeney, who was brought up in Immaculate Conception parish, Rochester, was graduated from St. Bernard's and ordained in 1960. He has served as associate pastor in Watkins Glen and Odessa and, in Rochester, at Our Lady of Good Counsel and Sacred Heart Cathedral. He was chaplain at DeSales High School in Geneva, 1969-1971, and since then has been in Corning.

## Continuing Education

Parish leaders especially are urged by the Liturgical Commission to investigate course offerings in the St. Bernard's Seminary Continuing Education program.

Opening today, the program presents a wide range of studies seen as preparation for adult education projects in the parishes. PAGE 2.

## Teens and Mass . . . Getting Them Together

"The Mass and Teenagers." Sound a bit dull? Seems like you heard it before? Don't bet on it.

In next week's Courier-Journal, Father William J. O'Malley, SJ, a teacher at McQuaid High School, will begin a three-part series on the subject which will be stimulating, provocative, perhaps even controversial, but never boring.

Teenagers will find some new perspectives on the problem. So will parents, teachers, liturgists, and priests. Not everyone will agree with Father O'Malley's views and proposed remedies. But all who read the series will be moved to fresh consideration of the topic.

"The Mass and Teenagers" begins in next week's Courier-Journal. Don't miss it.



## Picking Up the Pieces

Complaining about the heat, the cold, the humidity? Consider for a moment the plight of this woman in Orizaba, Mexico. She and her daughter, the only one of her children to survive the earthquake in central Mexico, sit in the ruins of their home. Catholic Relief Services, 350 Fifth Ave., New York City, N.Y., 10001, is channeling money and material to aid those devastated by the quake. [RNS]