



Photo by Susan McKinney

Bishop Joseph Hogan listens attentively to the problems discussed by high school administrators [l. to r.] Sister Jeanine Scheg vice principal at Nazareth Academy; Father David Simon, Sister Agnes Catherine Battersby and Thomas Lavin, chaplain, principal and vice principal respectively of DeSales High School in Geneva.

High School Principals Seek Common Philosophy

By PAT PETRASKE

In an effort to boost morale among Catholic high school teachers and to define a common philosophy for the nine secondary schools in the diocese, Bishop Joseph Hogan established a standing committee which will include four members of the Association of Secondary School Administrators.

Sisters' Chorale At Celebration In Greece Church

St. Lawrence parish in Greece will be host to the Concert Chorale of the Sisters of Saint Joseph Nov. 11, when the parish celebrates a special Eucharistic Sunday. The 40-member chorale will sing at the 12:30 Mass. Members of the Parish Council and parish societies will form the Offertory procession.

The afternoon hours will be devoted to private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Families are encouraged to make a visit to the church during that time. At 5 p.m. Father Foster Rogers, associate pastor of St. John the Evangelist Church, Greece, will give a closing talk followed by Benediction.

This Sunday service is an effort of the St. Lawrence Worship Committee to reinforce the notion of a Eucharist-centered community.

Additional representatives will be selected from the Department of Education, the Office of Human Development, and the diocesan liturgy committee. Father Douglas Hoffman, director of Pastoral Ministry, will also be on the committee. Bishop Hogan stated that the committee will meet regularly and will "get beyond the oratory" to solve the problems faced by secondary schools.

"The high schools should not have a private philosophy; they are not a private organization apart from the Church's mission," added Father Daniel Brent, superintendent of schools. He believes there is a need to "verbalize what we assume everyone is subscribing to."

His remarks were in response to complaints by various administrators that there was little connection between the secondary schools and the diocese and among the schools themselves. Father Richard Allard, CSB, vice principal at Aquinas Institute, put the blame on religious communities that operate the schools "for not working more together."

The temptation of those in leadership in the past has been "to have their own little acre," Bishop Hogan interjected.

One of the major problems facing the high schools is that teaching at this level is no longer a "turned on apostolate," according to Sister Jacquelyn Reichart, vice principal at Our

Lady of Mercy High School. Bishop Hogan replied that "there is now a greater diversity of apostolates. We cannot commend a person for choosing one over the other. But too long we have been talking down schools."

Bishop Hogan added that he realizes that in announcing new apostolates he has failed to stress the old ones.

Sister Agnes Catherine Battersby, principal of DeSales High School in Geneva, feels a personal visit by the Bishop "will boost morale and will show that you really do support the schools."

Regular visits to the schools will be included on the Bishop's calendar "to reflect concern." He also plans to write articles on the subject of schools in response to a request for a "letter of commitment on the values of secondary education" by Father Albert Gaelens, principal of Aquinas Institute, who presided at the meeting.

In other matters, Warren Tessier, principal of Notre Dame High School in Elmira, reported that there has been a major shift in position by the Secondary School Administrators of New York State. They voted to support any resolution to give aid to non-public schools as long as it meets constitutional requirements. Father Brent explained that previously many of the public school administrators had opposed such aid.

First for St. Bernard's

Msgr. Burns Gets Honorary Degree

St. Bernard's Seminary last week conferred the degree of doctor of divinity upon one of its retired professors, Msgr. Francis B. Burns. The first honorary degree ever granted by the seminary, it was given in the course of the school's annual convocation, at which the degree of bachelor of divinity was bestowed on 18 under-graduates and two priests. Bishop Joseph L. Hogan presided at the convocation.

The two priest-recipients were Father William Coleman, coordinator of Christian Formation for the Diocese of Savannah, Georgia, and Father David Q. Liptak, associate editor of the Catholic Transcript, Hartford, Connecticut. Father Liptak is also president of the Alumni Association of St. Bernard's. Both priests gained the degree through a continuing education program the school offers.

The following undergraduates earned the bachelor's degree: David L. Bonin, CPPS; Richard M. Brown, CSB; James M. Cesta; Eugene A. Costa, OdeM; John J. Foley; Daniel M. Gennarelli;

William A. Hodge; Daniel V. Karl; Stephen R. Kraus; William F. Laird; Thomas J. Lemmo; Charles T. Manning; Thomas R. McKeon; Edward D. Nicolls; Timothy E. Pisik; James M. Reposkey, CPPS; Joseph P. Fanelli; Jerome P. Laubacker, OdeM.

Msgr. Burns served on the faculty of St. Bernard's from 1928 to 1968. Since that time he has continued to reside there, teaching electives, and participating in faculty deliberations. His field of instruction has been moral theology, liturgy, and such allied subjects as social action.

Meanwhile, he has played an active part in local social welfare programs. He has long served as consultant of Holy Angels Home and the Rochester Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. He was a pioneer figure in the Rochester Day Care Center.

Hailing Msgr. Burns as already a "doctor" in word and example, the faculty citation declared the Seminary's decision to "confirm by title what already exists in fact."

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