

Important Business In Relaxed Atmosphere

By SHARON DARNIEDER

The last meeting for the Priests Council before the Summer recess turned out to be more fun than work.

Held at Bishop Joseph L. Hogan's residence in Victor, the meeting was shortened to an afternoon session and concluded with an outdoor buffet. Because of the nice weather the meeting also took place outdoors.

Still, official business took place. Members accepted a Common Policy for Marriage Preparation presented by Father Robert Collins, director of the Office of Family Life.

The policy was first brought to the council by Father Collins in January, and since that time members have discussed it with their blocks and submitted their recommendations and revisions.

According to the document, the policy includes a process applicable for all marriages and is "an attempt to clarify the role of the parish priest or deacon, the Pre-Cana Conference and the social service agency in preparing engaged for the Sacrament of Matrimony."

The document states that it's

not meant to be a summary of the theology, canon law or liturgy of matrimony, but rather wishes to establish procedures through which the parish priests or deacon may become aware of the couple's life style and beliefs and then share insights to assure their continued growth as a couple.

The council also accepted a report from the diocesan Nursing Home and Liturgy Task Forces (see box below for motions the council passed on the subject.)

Presented at the May meeting by Bishop Dennis W. Hickey and some task force members, it included recommendations and proposed alternatives for parish nursing home ministry, suggestions for liturgies and facts and figures on nursing and domiciliary homes in the 10 diocesan regions.

Progress reports were given on the Long Range Ministerial Needs, Pastoral Council Formation, Social Action and Council Constitution committees. A progress report was also given on the issue of pastoral assistant guidelines.

The Long Range Ministerial Needs Committee report, presented by Father James Schwartz, told the council that Study

B1, which examines personnel based in parish or quasi-parish ministry, has been completed. The committee has yet to compile and interpret the results.

A high priority item for the next council meeting in September will be the new Priests Council Constitution which has been composed and presented to members. It will be discussed and voted on in the Fall and then will be sent to the rest of the priests for their acceptance.

In a report on his recent trip to the Rochester mission in LaPaz, Bolivia, Father James Marvin, council president, told members about contract negotiations involving the transfer of the parish (San Jose Obrero) to competent lay leadership.

Father Marvin said that he felt "overall" the council had "accomplished a great deal" not only during this term but since it has existed.

"We've tried to address ourselves to the bigger, pastoral concerns of the Church," he said, "not just to the band aid type of thing."

"We've had many frustrations and disappointments, but we've come a long way and grown, and we've really begun to realize who we really are," he continued.

"We know we don't have all the answers," he added, "but at least we're trying."



Photo by Susan McKinney

Father Raymond G. Heisel of St. Margaret Mary's, pours lemonade during the outdoor council meeting. At right is Father Geoge S. Wood of Our Mother of Sorrows Church.

Diocesan Appointments

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Father Robert Kanka, to St. Patrick, Seneca Falls, from pastor, St. Patrick, Mt. Morris.

Father James Lawlor, to St. Charles Borromeo, Greece, from campus ministry, University of Rochester.

Father John Lynch, to St. Jerome, East Rochester, from Officialis, Diocesan Tribunal.

Father John T. Reif, to Mother of Sorrows, from St. Michael, Rochester.

Father Robert Rice, to St. Alphonsus, Auburn, from St. Jerome, East Rochester.

Father Eugene Weis, to St. John the Evangelist, Greece, from St. Salome, Irondequoit.

Father Bernard Carges, to Our Lady of Lourdes, Rochester, from Sacred Heart Cathedral, Rochester.

FIRST ASSIGNMENTS OF NEWLY ORDAINED PRIESTS AS INTERN ASSISTANT PASTORS

Father Ronald Antinarelli, St. Stephen's, Geneva.

Father Francis Blighton, St. Salome's, Irondequoit.

Father Robert Gaudio, Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Brockport.

Father James Hewes, St. Mary of the Lake, Watkins Glen, and St. Benedict, Odesa.

Father Robert Kennedy, St. Mary's, Canandaigua.

Father William Leone, St. Francis, Geneva.

Father Jeremiah Moynihan, St. Vincent de Paul, Corning.

Father Dennis Shaw, Blessed Sacrament, Rochester.

Father William V. Spilly, St. Ann's, Hornell.

Father Louis Sirianni, Sacred Heart, Auburn.

RETIREMENTS

Father Benedict Ehmann, from pastor, St. Michael's, Rochester.

Msgr. Arthur E. Ratigan, from associate pastor, St. John the Evangelist, Greece.

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

Father Charles J. Latus, to director, Diocesan Commission on Ecumenical and Inter-religious Affairs, from associate pastor, Blessed Sacrament, Rochester.

Father Robert Hammond, to direct Teen Seminar, Family Retreat and other programs, from St. Michael, Newark.

Father Robert F. O'Neill, to Officialis, Diocesan Tribunal, from secretary.

Father Thomas J. Hctor, to chaplain, University of Rochester, from faculty, St. John Fisher College.

Father R. Richard Brickler, to Diocesan Tribunal as secretary, from associate pastor, Holy Family, Rochester.

Father William Gall, to Diocesan Office of Communications.

Father Frank Lioi, to faculty, St. Bernard's Seminary, from Annunciation, Rochester.

Priests Council Action

PASSED BY THE MAJORITY
Social Action Committee

Motion: That the PC of Rochester unanimously support and endorse the United Farm Workers consumer boycott of head lettuce and table grapes until such time as free elections are held.

Personnel Finance Committee

Motion: That the PC approve the PC Finance Committee's recommendation concerning the requested increase for religious priests who assist at parishes (during the week, weekends, etc.).

On the Nursing Home and Liturgy Task Force Report

Motion: That ministers to the nursing home apostolate participate where possible on the basis of their own interest and ability rather than by assignment. Work with the elderly and sick persons in nursing/domiciliary homes calls for special concern and skills. Though most clergy and lay persons readily see the importance of such work, they do not all have the same aptitude for relating to sick and older persons.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY
On the Nursing Home and Liturgy Task Force Report

Motion: That the PC accept the guidelines as proposed by the Nursing Home and Liturgy Task Force and that the guidelines be given to each regional co-ordinator and implemented on a regional basis.

Motion: That a clergy conference be held at a future date, taking into consideration the care of the sick and the elderly. The planners of this conference should include those actively engaged in health care (e.g. hospital chaplains as well as the diocesan Nursing Home Task Force).

DIVIDED MOTIONS

Motion: 1. That the PC recommends to the Bishop that the Common Policy for Marriage preparation be endorsed as an obligatory procedure for all the priests and deacons in the diocese. (PASSED UNANIMOUSLY)

2. That after a period of six months the guidelines and regulations be reviewed by the committee (not yet established) which will report back to the PC with its evaluation concerning implementation and effectiveness of these guidelines and regulations during that period of time. (PASSED BY THE MAJORITY)

Father Simpson Notes 65th Anniversary

Today, June 12, is the 65th anniversary of Father Edward Simpson's ordination to the priesthood. He will celebrate his Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Ann's Home.

Father Simpson, former pastor of St. Francis, Phelps, retired in 1967 at the age of 82, after one of the longest pastorates in diocesan history. He went to Phelps in 1919 and stayed 48 years, building the present St. Francis Church in 1931. The Phelps Lions Club dubbed him "Citizen of the Year" in 1965.

Now in his 89th year, Father Simpson is reported to read the New York Times daily and to take care of his correspondence on a manual typewriter.

He was born in Rochester Oct. 15, 1885, attended Holy Apostles School and the diocesan seminaries, attained the Ph. B. degree and was ordained in St. Patrick's Cathedral June 12, 1909. For most of the following decade,



FATHER SIMPSON

he taught at St. Andrew's Seminary.

The late Dr. Leo Simpson, a surgeon for many years at St. Mary's Hospital, was Father Simpson's brother.

New Pastors

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Mercy High School and present associate pastor of St. Mary's, Auburn, took time off last year to improve his Italian through study at Middlebury College in Vermont. Father Freemesser, who now works at St. Francis Xavier, Bay Street, spent years with the diocesan mission in La Paz, Bolivia, where the language is Spanish. Father Freemesser's experience has included service as an Army Reserve chaplain and also temporary duty as chaplain at Rochester General Hospital.

Father Whalen, ordained in 1939, served as a Navy chaplain in the Pacific theaters of World War II. Having worked as an assistant in various parishes, he was made pastor of Our Lady of Mercy when the founder, Father John O'Brien, died unexpectedly in 1958. Father Whalen directed the building of church, school, rectory, convent and hall for the new parish.

As its original pastor, Father Jankowiak directed a similar development program at the Apalachin church, St. Margaret Mary's, previously a mission of St. Patrick, Owego, was made a parish in 1959, when Father Jankowiak was assigned there. A onetime resident of St. Stanislaus parish in Rochester, he attended Polish schools and seminaries in this country, in addition to St. Bernard's, and was ordained at Poznam Cathedral in Poland in 1938. His new parish has been administered by the pastor of St. Peter and Paul, Father Edward Foy.

The Apalachin post will be Father Schmidt's first pastorate. He served as associate at Holy Family and St. Anne's, Rochester, and Assumption, Fairport, before going to Corning seven years ago. He went to school at Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish in Rochester, studied at the diocesan seminaries and was ordained in 1956.