



New officers of the Diocesan Sisters Council for 1974-75 are Sister Kathleen Kircher, SSJ, [left] treasurer and corresponding secretary, Sister Alice McLaughlin, SSJ, vice president, Sister Mary Beatrice Curran, RSM, president, and Sister Florian Reichart, SSJ, recording secretary.

Sisters Wind Up Productive Year

By SHARON DARNIEDER

The last meeting of the Diocesan Sisters Council (DSC) June 16 at Nazareth College ended nine months of success for the group which acted authoritatively and decisively on matters concerning women's religious orders as well as those pertaining to the diocese. Monthly meetings will resume in September.

Saturday's meeting, although shorter than usual, included a normal agenda of business as well as election of officers and a 3 p.m. Mass and installation ceremony with Bishop Joseph L. Hogan.

Members voted that the Vicar for Religious Service Proposal for all religious women in the diocese presented to the council on April 25, be accepted as proposed for one year.

The proposal states that instead of instituting a fulltime position under that title, the council could have the guidance of a Vicar Service which would be provided by one of the three bishops in the diocese, the DSC president and the Sisters' 10 regional representatives.

In a separate motion, the council voted to include Bishop Dennis W. Hickey as a member of the Vicar for Religious Service Team, subject to his acceptance.

Sister Ann Miller, RSM, who spoke on behalf on the council committee set up to study the subject, noted that the committee's recommendation that the council accept the proposal was based on several points.

She said the committee agreed with the need expressed but felt that religious congregations search out their own canon law experts and/or theologians whenever the necessity arises.

She also said problems that in the past were referred to the Vicar for Religious, are now resolved through improved communications between Sisters, congregational and diocesan authorities.

A third point was that the choice of auxiliary bishop as vicar seemed appropriate, since the committee sees the role of the vicar as relating primarily with Sisters and their ministry within the diocese.

The committee also recommended that the DSC publish a personnel directory listing the names of individuals within the diocese who have expertise in the field of canon law, psychology, pastoral theology, counseling and any other area where consultative services are sought.

The Vicar for Religious Service

Team proposal will now go to Bishop Hogan.

In other council business, the Sisters voted to give a donation to the Interfaith Community Coalition in support of farm workers at the service June 25 at Immaculate Conception Church when Cesar Chavez will be in Rochester.

A progress report on the DSC Summer program for clergy and laity, The Responding Church, was given by Sister Eileen Conheady. The opening session will be held July 1 at St. Ambrose school and is free and open to everyone, regardless of whether they sign up for other sessions.

Sister Florian Reichart also gave a report on the Sister's Communal Penance Services and asked for more clergy and DSC support.

The DSC representative on the Diocesan Vocation Council, Sister Judith Whalen, SSJ, notified the council of her resignation due to new job responsibilities, and also gave a brief report on what the vocation council had accomplished and what its future thrust would be.

New congregational representatives to the DSC from the Sisters of St. Joseph are Sisters Boniface Roeger, Eileen Conheady and Kathleen Kircher. They replace Sisters Carol Proia, Louise Weber and Mary Louise Heffernan.

Sisters of Mercy representative, Sister Mary Beatrice Curran was re-elected. Sister Clarisse Correia, DC, replaces Sister Margaret Tuley, and Sister Joan Fitzgibbon, RC, replaces Sister Mary Walsh.

Livingston-Steuben Meeting

Parish Councils Called Key to Diocesan Board

Wayland — A viable Diocesan Pastoral Council will depend on the growth of strong parish councils and regional conferences, Bishop Joseph L. Hogan told the second General Assembly of the Livingston-Steuben region last Sunday night.

"I want the region developed so that the whole diocese can be represented on the Pastoral Council," the Bishop said.

Seventy-five delegates from approximately half of the parishes in the two-county region attended the meeting in St. Joseph School hall, Livingston-Steuben has approximately 50,000 Catholics in an extensive area, from Avon, south to Addison; from Nunda, east to Corning. Priests, Sisters and lay people from 12 parishes responded to the roll call.

The assembly was primarily a working session, with workshops for parish council chairmen and representatives of the major parish committees — on liturgy, human development and education. Presiding was the regional coordinator, Father Eugene Sweeney of St. Patrick, Corning.

Father Lewis Brown of St. Ann, Hornell, led the education

CAYUGA OH D ANNOUNCES GRANTS

Auburn — The Cayuga County Task Force for Human Development has announced that five grants totaling \$2,300 have been authorized to five programs furthering community projects for the underprivileged locally.

Grants of \$500 each went to Cayuga Bail Program, which makes funds available to post bond for individuals awaiting trial who are unable to provide the necessary bond; FISH (Friends in Service Here), a volunteer organization responding to a multitude of needs especially for transportation for the elderly; the Hospitality Center which provides waiting facilities for visitors to the Auburn Correctional Facility and aids families and friends of inmates confined to the institution; Welfare Rights Organization watches the administration of the welfare law to see that those entitled to benefits receive them.

A \$300 grant went to the Minority Construction Coalition which seeks grants to train people in construction work and trades.

workshop. Later, he gave a 15-minute slide presentation, with music, that he had made to depict the spiritual and natural resources of the region "from the bread of Pliffard's Trappist monks to the wine from the Hammondsport vineyards."

The liturgy workshop was steered by Miss Cathy Cain, Sister Margaret Mary Mattle and Father William Darling. Father George Gauthier and Sister Mary Kruckow handled the human development session. Father

Sweeney and Father Douglas Hoffman, director of pastoral ministry, took the council chairmen's workshop.

Despite a schedule that had taken him earlier to Elmira for a Mass marking Msgr. Leo's Schwab's 80th birthday, and for graduation ceremonies at St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing, Bishop Hogan entered fully into the regional assembly, sitting in on the various workshops besides giving the main address.

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