

Priests Council Opens Season

By SHARON DARNIEDER

Priests Council members discussed a variety of topics including a proposal for a Justice and Peace Commission, their new constitution and the progress of the diocesan Office of Planning, at their first meeting after the Summer recess, Sept. 10 at Becket Hall.

A condensed edition of the proposal for establishing a Justice and Peace Commission, presented by Father William Lum, asked that the "Office of Human Development (OHD) create within itself a ministry for the diocese of Rochester to deal with the issues of national and international justice and peace."

It also called for at least one full time staff person to be added to OHD to work in the ministry and asked that the diocese provide a sufficient budget.

Father Lum pointed out that such a ministry would be helpful in any diocese but that the Rochester diocese was especially appropriate because it contains many businesses and corporations that influence national and international matters.

He cited as examples such companies as Kodak, Xerox, Corning Glass, Sybron and Bausch & Lomb. He also noted the number of major educational institutions in the area.

Father Lum said that up until now the diocese had responded to such matters on a "crisis or ad hoc basis" and usually had turned to the OHD for help in matters of injustice.

"Therefore it seems most appropriate for the OHD to create within itself a ministry for the diocese to deal with the issues of national and international justice and peace," said the proposal.

"It's on a diocesan level that the church members can effectively begin to see the connections between the international and national issues and local involvement," it added.

Father Richard Tormey, council vice president and chairman of the committee set up to revise the constitution, discussed various articles with members and pointed out that he would like to have parts of the new



Photo by Susan McKinney

Priests Council members listen attentively.

constitution taken up with the blocks and their answers brought back to next month's meeting.

Several of the articles under consideration at present are those concerning membership, council officers, amendments and ratification.

During a report on the progress of the Office of Planning, Father Peter Bayer, director, broached the subject of a goal setting program that he said had been extremely helpful to the people and clergy in other dioceses.

Developed by Dr. Felix M. Lopez, an organizational psychologist and consultant, the program has been used successfully in the dioceses of Providence, R.I. and Portland, Me. Father Bayer asked the

council to issue an invitation to Dr. Lopez for next month's meeting so he could explain it in greater detail. The agenda committee will decide whether this can be scheduled.

According to Father Bayer's report, the program informs members of a church community what is expected of them and assigns accountability for the achievement of regional and local objectives. It also helps the bishop to make more comprehensive decisions, to share his authority more effectively and to make the best use of central and local resources, the report said.

Other council business included the presentation by Father John Mulligan of the final version of the Pastoral Council constitution. Unanimously approved by the Pastoral Council For-

mation Committee, the constitution is a thorough presentation of the Pastoral Council's goals, objectives and methods.

Father Mulligan said the constitution would be published in its entirety in the Oct. 2 edition of the Courier-Journal.

He also told members that the PC Social Action Committee had materials for priests on such issues as the grape and lettuce boycott by the United Farm Workers.

Father Sebastian Falcone presented an informational report on the current status of role clarification and the consultative bodies, and Bishop Dennis W. Hickey of the Personnel Board discussed performance review and sabbatical leave for priests.

Priests Council Action

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Concerning the PC Budget

Motion: That the president [Father James Marvin] be directed to appoint a three-man ad hoc committee which would attempt to prepare a budget for the PC for its next year of operation and that each PC committee chairman be requested to turn in their projected expenses for the year to that committee.

Sisters Council Also Convenes

By SHARON DARNIEDER

The Diocesan Sisters Council (DSC) held its first meeting after the Summer recess at a new location — Mercy High School. The Sept. 14 meeting dealt with a number of issues, some of which had already been presented to the Priests Council earlier in the week.

Father Peter Bayer, director of the diocesan Office of Planning, and Father Daniel Tormey, with the Office of Human Development, spoke on matters that had been outlined at the priests' meeting.

Father Bayer reported on the progress of the Planning Office and told council members of a plan for a diocesan goal setting program.

He said he would like the DSC to hear a report by Dr. Felix M. Lopez, a psychologist and consultant who has set up successful goal setting programs for other dioceses. Father Bayer said that Dr. Lopez would be in the city in October. He gave members several times when they could hear Dr. Lopez speak. In answer to a question, he said that the money for such a program was already included in his budget.



A lighter moment at the Sisters Council. From left to right are Sisters Evelyn Marie, SSND, Clare Francis, SSJ, Anna Louise, SSJ, Bonaventure, RSM, Loretta Poole, SSJ.

Father Daniel Tormey, described a peace and justice proposal that calls for the addition of a person to the Office of Human Development to deal with social issues affecting the diocese. He asked the Sisters to pass on their recommendations on the matter to the bishop.

Sister Eileen Conheady, SSJ,

reported that The Responding Church Institute sponsored by the DSC last July had been a success. She thanked the Sisters for their support and cooperation.

Sister Beatrice Curran, RSM, council president, reported on the diocesan goal setting meetings which are trying to establish lines of communication

between the bishop and the various consultative bodies.

The Sisters also noted that Bishop Joseph L. Hogan had commented on the subject of women being ordained in a Democrat & Chronicle story that morning. Because of time limitations, they tabled their discussion until next month's meeting, when they plan to take a definite stand on the subject.

Sisters Council Action

PASSED BY THE MAJORITY

Concerning the DSC Budget

Motion: That the DSC establish a budget committee to work with the DSC treasurer and that it report back to DSC members in three months on the proposed 1975-76 budget.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Concerning the responsibilities of regional representatives

Motion: That the proposal presented by Sister Alice McLaughlin, SSJ, be accepted as written. The proposal noted that regional representatives should attend monthly meetings, indicate a willingness to serve on ad hoc and/or standing committees, keep Sisters in the region informed of DSC matters, plan a specific process of regional communication, establish a group of regional volunteers willing to respond to issues on a crisis basis and solicit individual responses from Sisters in the region.

Concerning World Hunger Week

Motion: The DSC encourages the Sisters of the Diocese of Rochester to implement the suggestion from the Leadership Conference and the National Assembly of Women Religious [NAWR] in regard to observing World Hunger Week.

Birthday Party; Everyone Invited To Nazareth

An elaborate birthday party will be staged by Nazareth College on Tuesday, Sept. 24, the 50th anniversary of its founding.

Open house on campus from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. will feature concerts and theatrical performances, lectures and discussions, art exhibits and demonstrations and a college-community picnic. The public is invited, and it's all free except the picnic.

Highlights include a Charles Ives recital and lecture, commemorating the composer's birth 100 years ago; paintings of the Rochester area in the college's early years; theater productions

for children and performances from time to time by the college's many musical ensembles. At 4 p.m., ground will be broken for a community center. A brief anniversary ceremony and

reception will follow, in the Arts Center.

A complete calendar of the day's events can be obtained in advance from the college public relations department.

Sister Mary Ann On Regional Staff

Sister Mary Ann Binsack, RSM, religious education coordinator for St. John the Evangelist, Humboldt St., has been appointed the new associate coordinator for the Southeast Region, according to Father Roy Kiggins, regional coordinator.

dinator since the inception of the region.

Sister Mary Ann brings with her the background of having worked on the diocesan Pastoral Council Formation Committee and is a member from St. John's to the Regional Conference.

She replaces Sister Ruth Maier, SSJ, religious education coordinator for Blessed Sacrament, who has been associate coordinator since the inception of the region.

She will continue in her position as religious education coordinator in addition to her new post.

COURIER DEADLINE

The Courier-Journal deadline is noon Thursday for articles intended for the following Wednesday edition.