

## Right To Vote Entails a Duty

The following letter has been sent to pastors by Auxiliary Bishop Dennis W. Hickey, with the recommendation that its contents be called to the attention of the people in all parishes.

Dear Friends,

The right to vote, to participate in the selection of those who govern us, has been the keystone to insure to us, and to the future, the basic Freedoms which are the essence of America.

Yet in the election of 1972 in New York State only 56% of the eligible voters cast a ballot for the president, 52% cast a ballot for Congress, and a mere 49% cast a ballot for a State legislator.

It is because of this great indifference that the Roman Catholic Bishops of the State of New York renew their call to all people in the community to exercise their right to vote. Important local, state and national officials will be selected by the voters this year on Nov. 5. Each of us has the opportunity and the duty to take his part.

Over the years the importance of the electoral process has been emphasized in the passage of laws making it possible for more people to vote. In New York State it is now required only that one be a citizen of the United States, at least eighteen years old and a resident of the State and County for thirty days before the election. In order to vote this Fall, one must be registered by Oct. 10, 1974.

It is not easy to be a responsible voter. It requires that you carefully examine the candidates and their public stands on the issues of our day.

In our times special attention must be given to the positions of candidates on the fundamental issues of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

These issues, dear to our founding fathers in their celebrated phrase, today go by different names, but the issues are the same: the fundamental respect for the dignity of all — the unborn, the aged, the young, the needy, the physically and mentally handicapped, the prisoner, the friendless, the helpless and unwanted.

We urge everyone to study the candidates, hear what they have to say. Do not hesitate to take part in polls, express your beliefs. Read the diocesan newspaper and the local newspapers. Talk to your friends and neighbors. Be truly informed.

Once you are satisfied you know where the candidates stand on all the important issues, then choose. Register by Oct. 10, if you are not already registered, and vote on Nov. 5.

The kind of government we will have on Nov. 6, is only a reflection of the vote you cast on Nov. 5.

With all good wishes, I am

*Dennis W. Hickey*  
Dennis W. Hickey, D.D., V.G.  
Auxiliary Bishop of Rochester



### Papal Audience

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan pays his respects to Pope Paul VI during an audience at the pontiff's Summer residence at Castelgandolfo on Sept. 11. The Pope greeted Bishop Hogan and a contingent of 25 Rochester diocesans during the audience. Later Bishop Hogan joined with the Pope in blessing the 10,000 in attendance for the audience. In his address in six languages, Pope Paul encouraged all to remain strong in faith despite a world of rapid change. He exhorted those present to remember the promise of Christ — "I am with you!"

### Fr. Eisemann Pastor at Holy Family

Father Frederick Eisemann will become pastor of Holy Family Church Oct. 1, the Pastoral Office announced this week.

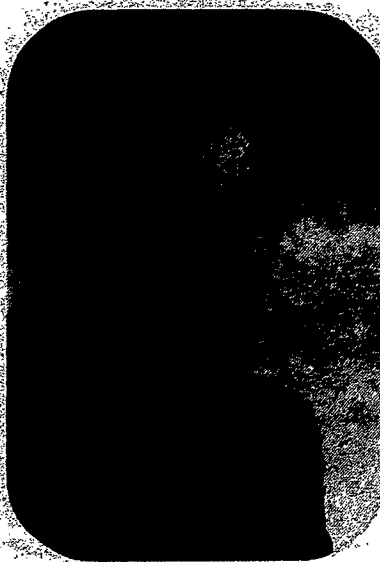
He will take over from Msgr. George A. Cocuzzi, who is taking leave for a year to work with the National Center of Urban Ethnic Affairs.

Father Eisemann, a Rochesterian, has been associate pastor of Mother of Sorrows since 1967. He was graduated from St. Bernard's Seminary and ordained in 1953 and has served at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, St. Alphonsus, Auburn; St. Ann's Hornell, and Ss. Peter and Paul, Rochester. He was business manager at the seminary, 1958-1961.



Photo by Anthony J. Costello

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan is spending a month in Rome studying at the North American College and also is making his "ad limina" visit to Pope Paul VI. A special Courier-Journal team covered his visit to Rome, the Vatican, and also to the mountain village of Licciana where the Bishop helped Father Joseph Beatini, pastor of St. Francis Xavier, celebrate his 25th anniversary as a priest in his ancestral home town. This week, the Bishop's stay at the North American College is depicted in the centerfold. The Bishop's column on Page 3 describes his studies. Other aspects of the trip will be covered in upcoming Courier editions.



FATHER EISEMANN