



Photos by Susan McKinney

# Cleaning Up!

In a special project eighth graders at St. Thomas More in cooperation with the Rochester City Council dressed up Anderson Park at University and Main downtown. At left, Charles Grande of the Parks Dept. supervises as Mary Bastian, Tricia Sullivan, Lynn Christiansen and John Howe

plant flowers. Center, Jane Craver and Barb Gilbert give the glass bus stop a cleaning. At right, John McGraw, Kathy O'Connor, Terry Ryan, Martha O'Connor and Joanne Brock spread wood chips. Mrs. Francis is the class teacher. They also edged grass, swept sidewalks, pruned and trimmed trees.

## TOWARD TOMORROW

Father Henry Abuell

A Synod of Bishops representing the Catholic Church of all five continents is currently meeting in Rome. The bishops at the Synod have been elected by their bishops back home to be somewhat of a 143-member advisory board to the Pope.

Pope Paul instituted the Synod to be a continuation of the Vatican Council which was held ten years ago. Previous Synods met in 1967, 1969 and 1971. Besides the 143 bishops elected to the Synod, an additional 53 prelates are either ex officio or appointed Synod members.

Topic for this year's Synod is evangelization — making converts.

Evangelization has never been an easy task. In what we used to call "mission" countries, evangelization carries bitter memories of colonialism. There was, and to some extent there still is, also the sad spectacle of different Christian sects competing for native members. The attempt of wiser minds to end this rivalry resulted in the present day ecumenical or cooperative movement. And the cure is itself the source of yet a new problem.

### Group Action Workshop Held

The Genesee Conference of Senior Citizens, Inc. sponsored an all-day training conference Sept. 23 for members of senior citizen clubs and professional staff, at the Unitarian Church on South Winton.

The 185 participants were instructed in techniques of group action at their own community level by Laurence Feasel, professor of Political Science and History at Monroe Community College. A panel of Seniors told members of the various clubs how they had been involved in group action in their own neighborhoods. Sister Kathleen Kohl, a counsellor for the aging at Catholic Family Center, had charge of this workshop.

How are you to be evangelical in an ecumenical era? Why try to change the other fellow's religion if you already admit he's really not so wrong after all?

The topic, although difficult, is nonetheless apt.

While the bishops are discussing the topic in Rome, the world's population continues to increase at the rate of a million people a week. People are born much faster than the bishops can hope to baptize them.

It is, therefore, more than obvious that the older and time-consuming methods of convert making are woefully inadequate to the present situation.

Further complicating the whole problem, according to U.S. Archbishop Joseph Bernardin, is the "widespread confusion" resulting from changes called for by the Vatican Council and by previous Synods. He said even trying to evangelize the next generation in areas where the faith has long been strong is a problem. There is, he said, "a continuing perplexity among parents and the professional educators within the church about how to transmit the faith to a younger generation seemingly open to transcendent values and moral ideals but often neutral, indifferent or even repulsed by organized and institutional religion."

Father Hans Kung, the noted and often controversial Swiss theologian, in his famous book "The Council and Reunion," published in 1961, said of the Vatican Council on the eve of its first session, "The Council will be either the fulfillment of a great hope or else a great disappointment. The fulfillment of a small hope would — given the grave world situation and the needs of Christendom — be in fact a great disappointment."

His prediction was, of course, verified, and his words now hold true concerning the Synod. Bishops assuredly have no enviable responsibility.

## Dream Becomes Reality In Church Dedication

Auburn — Sacred Heart's dream becomes a reality with the dedication of the new church slated for Sunday, Oct. 20. Bishop Joseph L. Hogan will officiate at the 11:30 a.m. Mass.

Concelebrating will be the former associate pastors of the parish, priests ordained from the parish, and the pastors of Auburn. Special music, both contemporary and traditional, will be used for the Liturgy, according to the plans of the parish worship committee.

Built by the Haynor-Hoyt firm of Syracuse at a cost of \$112,000, ground was broken Sept. 19, 1973, and work completed earlier this spring.

The church interior, designed by Les Bennetts of Bennetts and Turner of Syracuse, is hexagonal and features laminated wood arches, and exposed wood plank. The decorations and the Stations of the Cross were planned and executed by Walter O'Brien of Canadaigua.

Father Raymond Wahl, pastor since the parish's inception in 1956, indicated the original structure was built in 1957 as an all-purpose building which housed a nine room school and accommodations for the

### Country Fair For Penfield

A country fair has been scheduled by the Association of the Penfield Presbyterian Church, 1881 Jackson Rd., Friday, Oct. 25 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Homespun Christmas and any occasion gifts, calico wreaths, chickens, craft items, and children's toys will be available. Features of the fair include an international bazaar, a country pantry and a pumpkin sale. Coffee and baked goods will be on sale in the morning with a luncheon from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. The Senior High Fellowship will serve a spaghetti dinner from 5-7 p.m.

A free infant nursery and craft workshop are available for children.

celebration of Mass and social activities.

The original plan, at the time of the parish's inception, included a complete parish plant made up of church, school, convent and rectory. When it was apparent the entire plant could not be built at once, the school was given priority as the rallying point for the parish. Subsequent years saw

the building of the rectory, then the convent.

Since Sacred Heart School merged with Holy Family and St. Alphonsus Schools to form Blessed Trinity a year ago, the building has been used for Christian formation classes and as a parish center. The new church addition is attached to the parish center.

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