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Bishop Invites Everyone To Chrism Mass

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan today invites everyone in the diocese to attend the annual celebration of the Chrism Mass, to be held this year in his hometown parish, St. Rose in Lima, on March 25 at 8 p.m.

The invitation is extended in the Bishop's weekly column, Pastoral Perspective, which appears on Page Three of the Courier-Journal.

The Chrism Mass is an ancient rite which celebrates the healing and consecrating ministries of the Church, and during which oils and Chrism are prepared for use in Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders and the Anointing of the Sick.

The ritual this year has "a special personal significance,"

the bishop said, because it is to be celebrated in Lima, his hometown; and it has a broader significance, he also noted, because it carries the message that diocesans "must share my responsibility or the Church of Rochester will not fulfill its mission to be Christ's presence in the world."

"It fills me with an indescribable sense of strength," the bishop said, "when I know you support me and are willing to share the responsibility and the burdens of consecration for the Church's mission."

Calling for shared responsibility has in the diocese become Bishop Hogan's hallmark since his consecration. To this end he has initiated several programs, most notably the Diocesan

Pastoral Council which will convene this summer.

This is the third time in three years Bishop Hogan has urged participation by the entire diocese in the Chrism Mass rites. In 1973 the Mass, ordinarily celebrated on Holy Thursday at the Cathedral, took place in St. Mary's Church, Canandaigua, on Tuesday of Holy Week. The following year, St. Stephen's in Geneva hosted the diocese. On both occasions the churches were filled to capacity.

Concelebrating with the bishop will be Auxiliary Bishops Dennis W. Hickey and John E. McCafferty; Father Douglas Hoffman, director of the Office of Pastoral Ministry; Fathers Conrad Sundholm, Thomas Burr, William Amann, Roy Kiggins, Neil Miller,

Joseph Gefell, Albert Cason, Michael Reagan, Eugene Sweeney and Richard Tormey, coordinators of the 10 diocesan regions.

Deacon John Turner of St. Margaret Parish will serve as deacon for the Mass and Deacon Theodore Auble of Mother of Sorrows Parish will proclaim the Gospel.

Father Michael Conboy, the bishop's secretary, will be Master of Ceremonies, and will be assisted by John Firpo and John Reinhardt.

Presenting the oils to the Bishop will be Deacons Thomas Valente, James Thomas, Peter Clifford and Thomas Mull.

Students at St. Bernard's Seminary will serve the Mass.

The theme of the Mass is Many Gifts in One Spirit, according to Father Robert Kennedy, who is heading up the liturgy committee planning the celebration.

He said he expects the "liturgy to be a real celebration, to demonstrate the power of sharing our gifts with one another. The different roles that people take in the Mass, and the different style in each of the rites of the Mass, show the variety of gifts and moods in the life of the Church."

Speaking of the "moods", Father Kennedy noted that the opening rites would be done in the spirit of Lent and Holy Week. A litany of penitence would be the entrance song. At the other end of the spectrum, the greeting of peace, would be done in a spirit of enthusiasm, joy and reconciliation.



Photo by Susan McKinney

New Diocesan Map

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, right, looks over new color map showing the diocese in its 10 regions. Preparation of the map was directed by Courier-Journal General Manager Anthony J. Costello, left, and Father Peter Bayer, center, diocesan director of planning, along with Anthony J. Malone of the engineering firm of Hershey Malone and Associates. The map is available from the Courier-Journal. See coupon, Page 20.

Hearings Are Scheduled On Obstetrical Units

By MOLLY JUDGE

The Monroe County Health Council's Hospital Committee has announced the times and locations of the public hearings to help them determine by this April which obstetrical unit or units in the county should be consolidated.

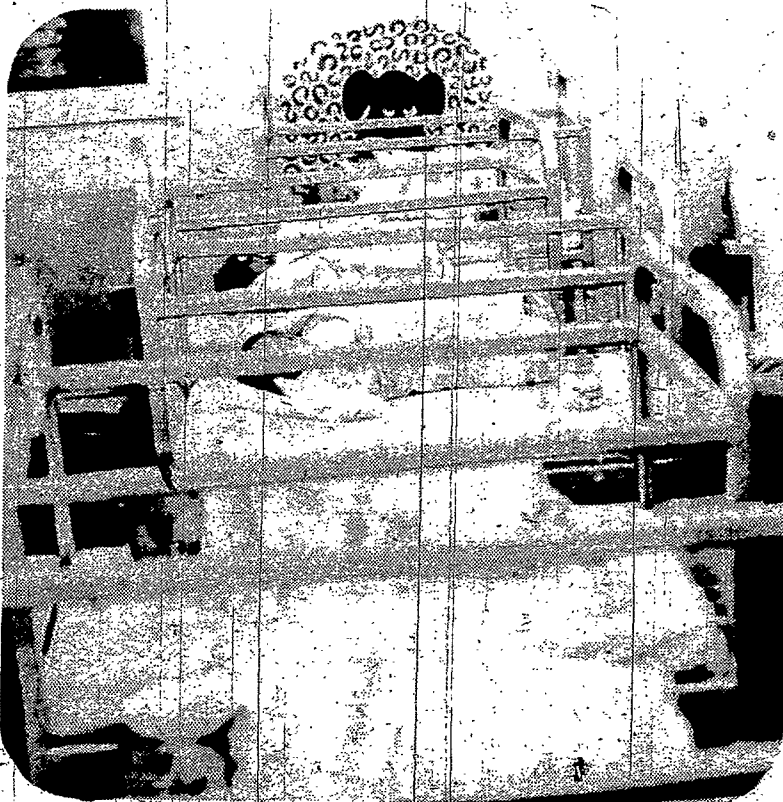
The committee's decision will be based on the recommendation of the Genesee Region Health Planning Council to close obstetrical facilities in the Rochester area that handle fewer than 1,500 live births per year. The unit designated to be closed must be in a 30-minute radius to the unit in which it will be consolidated. Hospitals affected by the recommendation are Strong Memorial with 1,793 live births in 1973; Rochester General, 2,588; Highland Hospital, 1,879; Genesee Hospital, 2,105 and St. Mary's 1,305.

According to Paul Lewis, public relations director at St. Mary's, that hospital, which delivered approximately 1,200 babies last year, is threatened by the recommendation. St. Mary's, founded by the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul in 1857, was Rochester's first hospital and is the only Catholic hospital in the city. It also is the only facility located in the inner city and geographically west of the Genesee River.

Lewis said that the OB services at St. Mary's are less expensive than the same services at the other Rochester hospitals. A



PAUL LEWIS



This nursery is part of the St. Mary's obstetrical unit that may be eliminated.

study conducted by St. Mary's recently revealed that the per diem reimbursement rates for Blue Cross and Medicaid were less at St. Mary's. Also since St. Mary's is a Catholic facility, sterilizations and abortions are not permitted. This is a major factor, Lewis said, determining the falling birth rate at the hospital. Many women opt for being sterilized directly after giving birth, he added. These women must be directed to another OB unit.

Thomas Petrillo, chairman of the committee, said, "Until the completion of the public hearing and until the committee has had the opportunity to fully analyze the statistical and technical data, no decision will be made on which obstetrical unit or units will be recommended to be consolidated and likewise, no hospital in the Rochester area, for any reason, is exempt from consideration in making this decision."

But, unlike the original American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists study which the Genesee Council based its recommendation on, cost, utilization data, technical

information on medical services and staff, and non-medical information of related social service programs will be considered.

The committee is well aware,

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Margaret Hart, head nurse in the nursery at St. Mary's, holds one of her young charges.

COURIER-JOURNAL
1975 Bride & Groom

Our Love
Should not be
Just words
and talk.
It must be
True Love.
Something
real and active.

Pull Out and Save This Section

Bride's Book

What's Pre-Cana all about anyway? Can we write our own wedding liturgy? Must we endure "Here Comes the Bride"? Find the answers that can make your wedding plans easier in this year's edition of the Courier-Journal's bridal tabloid. Learn too what marriage counselors say about early marriage problems and chuckle at the origins of some wedding traditions.