

**Ithaca Youth Court**

**JUDGING THEIR PEERS**

By BONITA BALDWIN

James C. Clynes is a high school sophomore, just 15 years old, who writes official-looking letters and types "Bar Association President" beneath his signature. Jimmy, who confessed in a recent interview in Ithaca that he is an A student, has two years experience as a lawyer, serves as a judge, and is indeed president of a 30-member bar association.

Youth Court in Tompkins County is ten years old and has provided more than 180 youthful first time offenders with what Jimmy termed "a good legal break." Youth Court is an option which eliminates the stigma of a criminal record.

Cases are recommended to either of the two county districts

of Youth Court, located in Dryden and Ithaca, by Family Court, the county probation department, local magistrates, the district attorney, or city prosecutor. Defendants range from 12 to 18 years old and may be charged with any offense less than a felony. The court's paid coordinator, Guy Costello, a Cornell senior who worked in Youth Court while a high school student in Ithaca, said the most common cases involved petit larceny and criminal mischief. They handled one drug case this year.

"What we need is more good cases!" Will Carr exclaimed. Will is the second year Cornell law student who as Youth Court legal advisor teaches the six week bar course required of all Youth Court members and also advises the

young lawyers in preparing their cases. "These kids are really bright," he said.

Youth Court defendants usually plead guilty at an arraignment and then appear before a panel of three judges for sentencing. Only eight jury trials have been held in the history of Youth Court. Sentencing is zero to 50 work hours, frequently in some community organization. Guy Costello said that he tries to find constructive work for the youth. He currently has one person helping with art instruction at an activities center, another working in a greenhouse and still others helping the elderly. Jimmy Clynes said that only one individual has failed to fulfill his work hours and that that person went to reform school for another offense shortly afterwards.



Paul Weiss, 16, and Jimmy Clynes, 15, study facts of cases.

Upon completion of the work hours, a report is sent back to the referral agency, usually with a recommendation that the case be dismissed. Youth Court decisions have received strong support in the adult courts. Either Youth Court or the defendant may choose to return the case to the

referral agency at any time. Decisions may also be appealed.

What happens to Youth Court members and defendants after their court experiences? Guy Costello said that it is difficult to

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Photo by Susan McKinney

**Accident Victim Confirmed**

Donna Gunn, an 8th grade student at Holy Ghost school, has spent the past 2 1/2 weeks at Strong Memorial Hospital recuperating from an auto accident. Injuries prevented Donna's joining the class that was confirmed two weeks ago, so Bishop Dennis W. Hickey confirmed Donna March 24 in the hospital, before a group of relatives and friends.

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**Fr. McDonald Named Greece Church Pastor**

Father Elmer J. McDonald, founding pastor of St. Christopher's parish in North Chili, has been named pastor of St. John the Evangelist, Greece. The appointment is effective April 10, the Pastoral Office announced this week.

Father McDonald has been serving as coordinator of the Southwest Region, which he helped to organize about a year before the regional system was set up throughout the diocese.

He also has been active in the Supervision and Leadership Training program (SALT) and for each of the past three years has had an ordination in his church of a deacon intern. This year, he has been assisted by a priest intern, Father Louis Vasile, who will be in charge of St. Christopher's pending appointment of a new pastor.

Father McDonald was a military chaplain from 1953 until 1960. He spent 16 months with the Marines in Korea and two years with the Navy in the Aleutian Islands.

He was born in Rochester Aug. 23, 1924. He attended St. Monica's parish school, St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries, and was ordained in June, 1949. He was assistant pastor at Holy Rosary until called to the Navy, and afterward served

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FATHER McDONALD

**Liturgy Highlight Of Bishops' Meet**

But they will not ask his help unless they believe in him,  
And they will not believe in him unless they have heard of him,  
And they will not hear of him unless they get a preacher,  
And they will never have a preacher  
Unless one is sent!

These words from Romans 10 are the key to the liturgy prepared for the New York bishops' celebration April 15 at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

The Mass will top the first full day of the Region II bishops' meeting, called for consideration of the developing National Catechetical Directory. Each diocese will have a delegation of educators at the meeting, which will be opened at 9:15 Tuesday morning by Cardinal Terence Cooke.

Cardinal Cooke will be principal celebrant of the Mass, and Bishop Joseph L. Hogan will give the homily. Everyone is invited.

"You are sent" is the theme, and the "you" will be symbolized in the procession by "a representation of the Church of Rochester," Martin Palumbos explained. A large family, a group of college students, some Sisters and some senior citizens will precede the bishops into the Cathedral, moving off at 5:30 p.m. at the blast of a fanfare from the Cardinal Mooney High School brass quintet.

Religious education coordinators from the 10 regions will make up the offertory procession, and the extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist will be four catechists — Mrs. Michael Doyle

of St. Joseph's, Penfield; Joseph O'Keefe of St. Margaret Mary, Irondequoit; Mrs. Chris Pinckney of St. Alphonsus, Auburn, and Louis Bellanca of St. Ann's, Hornell.

The Prayer of the Faithful will be given by Thomas Driscoll of St. Jerome's, East Rochester, as chairman of the Association of Religious Educators.

Palumbos, youth ministry consultant in the religious education division, will be the commentator.

The Youth Choir of St. Mary's, directed by Thomas Donahue, will lead the congregation in four hymns. Banners will carry the scriptural message that sets the theme of the Mass, and the theme will be reflected in a program cover designed by Mrs. Goleen Spellacy of Geneva.

Sister Margaret Mary Mattle of the department of liturgy headed the committee that devised the program. Brother John Larrere of Moonéy was music adviser, and Father Michael Conboy took part as the Bishop's secretary. Other members, besides Palumbos, are Sister Katherine Heveron of the campus ministry at Monroe Community College; Sister Margaret Deegan of St. Bernard's Seminary, and Thomas Driscoll.

**Chrism Mass Held in Lima**

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