

JOURNAL

Bishops Open Talks on Directory



Cardinal Terence Cooke welcomes delegates to the Region II bishops' meeting at the Americana Hotel. With him are Bishop Joseph L. Hogan and Father Alfred McBride, main speaker.

By MARGARET CONNOLLY

The proposed National Catechetical Directory is the object of detailed study this week at a Rochester meeting of New York State's bishops.

In daily sessions with educators from the Archdiocese of New York and the seven dioceses of the state, the bishops are listening and responding to Father Alfred McBride, O. Praem., general editor of the directory, who is hoping for an "explicit critique" of the developing document.

The meeting of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, Region II, was opened Tuesday morning by Cardinal Terence Cooke in the Americana Hotel. It will run through Thursday, concluding with an executive session.

Concurrently, the Priests' Councils of New York are meeting at the same hotel, Father James Marvin, president of the Rochester Priests' Council, presides over the state organization also. It will make a

report to the bishops on Thursday morning.

NCCB regional consultations, now taking place throughout the United States, will be finished by April 30, and the first draft of the catechetical directory will be modified on the basis of their findings. Another round of discussions will begin in the Fall.

The directory is intended to become "a pastoral and practical document containing norms and guidelines for teaching religion to all U.S. Catholics of all ages and circumstances."

The diocesan liturgy department chose "You Are Sent" as the theme for Tuesday evening's Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral, directing the attention of the people to their function in the teaching of the truths of the Faith.

The Rochester assembly comprises about 30 bishops and 70 educators — priests, religious and lay people — from the dioceses of Albany, Brooklyn, Buffalo, Ogdensburg, Rochester, Rockville Centre and Syracuse, and the archdiocese.

Bishop Asks Prayers For New Vocations

My dear People,

Each day, the Church throughout the world struggles to serve the needs of mankind. The Good News of Jesus Christ tells each person he is important. All members of the Church must give themselves daily to make this a reality.

It is my task, as well as that of my fellow bishops, to give leadership to that part of the Kingdom that is entrusted to me. This is an awesome task. I lean heavily on the cooperation of all but, in a special way, I need the dedication of those men and women who have consecrated their lives to the priesthood and religious life. Their leadership gives unity of action to the local communities.

Our Divine Lord continually calls individuals to this dedication but, ever respectful of their freedom, He calls softly. And so, the decision to respond to this vocation often is a difficult one.

Because the response has such obvious implications for the whole Church, all of us should pray in a special way for those who are struggling with this decision.

Our Holy Father, Pope Paul, has set aside next Sunday, April 20, as the Annual World Day of Prayer for Vocations. I urge you to join the Church throughout the world in making this day one of prayer and sacrifice for those whom Jesus is calling to a religious vocation.

With a blessing, I remain.

Joseph L. Hogan

Devotedly yours in Christ,

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Regions Elect DPC Members

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The first 18 members of the Diocesan Pastoral Council (DPC) have been elected with six of the ten regions recording their votes last week. The other four regions will announce their selections by next week.

Each region is electing three members, one to be the official liaison person between the region and the council, and two other representatives. The DPC will convene for the first time June 13-15.

In addition to the 30 elected by the regions, the council will have between 23 and 28 additional members. The Priests and Sisters councils are electing five members each this week and Bishop Joseph L. Hogan will make five appointees. He also is

empowered to appoint between five and ten other members representing special groups. In addition, the ordinary, the director of Pastoral Ministry and the executive secretary, soon to be named, will serve on the council.

Elected to the council by their regions are:

Livingston-Steuben

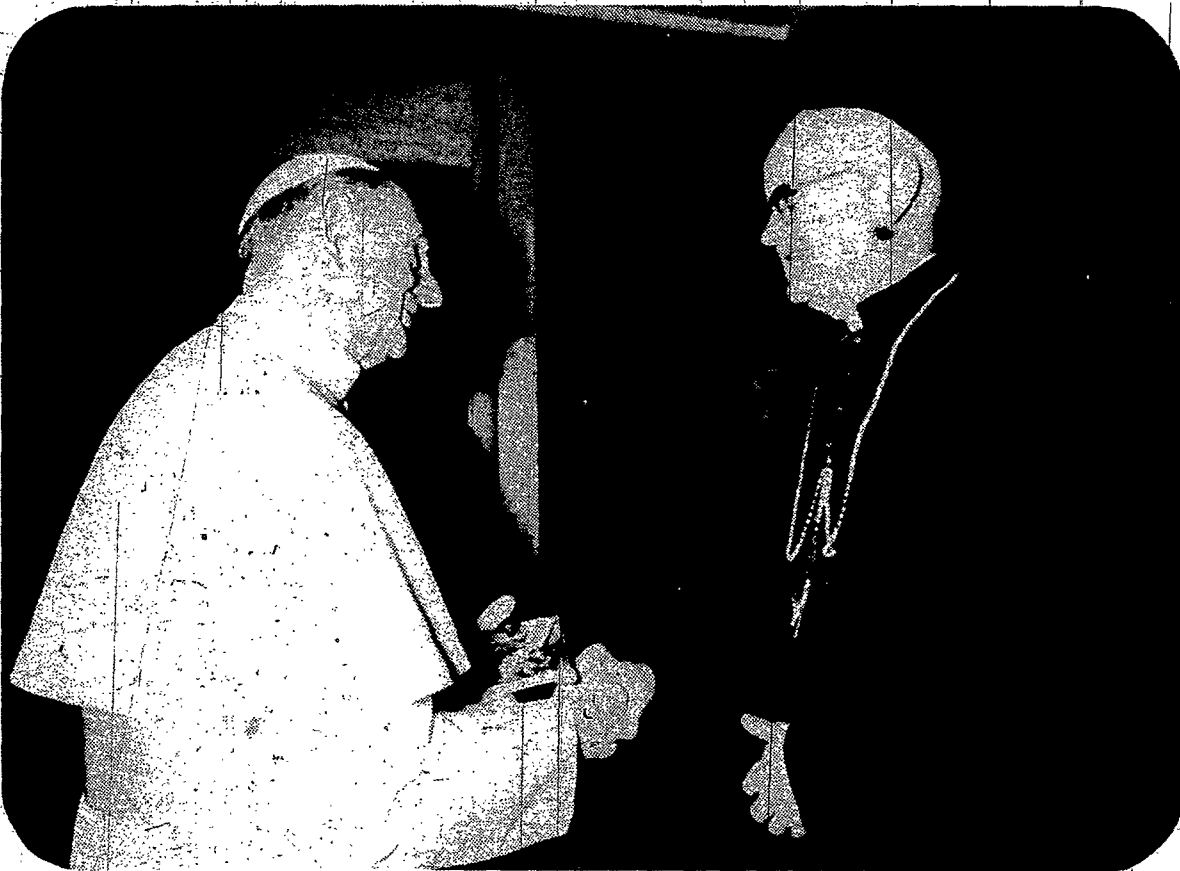
Liaison member: William Recktenwald, RD 2, Dansville, 14437. Married to Geraldine (Mark) for 17 1/2 years. Two children — Gerald William, 16 and Anne Marie, 13. Member, Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Perkinsville for 43 years. Member of Church Governing body for 10 years. Seven years as a trustee — Three years on Parish Council. Member of Steering Committee that set up Parish Council.

Employed by Division of State Police, Albany, as a trooper for 18 1/2 years, presently stationed in Wayland.

Representative: Justin Vogt, St. Joseph's, Wayland. Graduate: Sacred Heart Grammar School, Wayland High, R.I. Married to Maryanna Didas; six children. Trustee, St. Mary's, Dansville; Nocturnal Adoration Society; school board three years. Supervisor: Foster Wheeler Corp.

Representative: Mrs. Mary F. Smith, 129 E. Steuben St., Bath, 14810. Widowed. Graduate, Buffalo General Hospital — registered nurse. Was Steuben County nurse officer when Dr. Smith served as Medical Officer for County. Past president of St. Mary's Rosary & Altar Society; on

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Greeted by Pope

Bishop Dennis W. Hickey, auxiliary bishop of the Rochester Diocese, is greeted by Pope Paul VI during the pontiff's weekly audience at the Vatican recently. After the general audience, the Pope and Bishop Hickey met in private.