

# Yesterday's Refugee Would Welcome Today's

By BONITA BALDWIN

"There's nothing like Hungarian food. I don't think I'll ever get used to rock music!"

Speaking excellent English, Peter Steiner reminisced in a recent interview about his days as a new refugee in the U.S. Eighteen years ago he escaped from Hungary with his mother, stepfather, and two brothers. He claimed that everyone treated them most cordially when they came and exclaimed, "I'm shocked!" by the hostility of some Americans toward the Vietnamese refugees.

Peter was just 15 when his family arrived, but he and his 18-

year-old brother began work immediately, along with the task of learning English. He studied photography on his own, and attended Rochester Institute of Technology nights. He now works as a photographer for Xerox.

Other family members have also met with success. His mother ran a shop of her own for a while. His older brother is a "self-employed industrialist." His step father works as a research scientist, and his younger brother, only eight years old when the family arrived, has become "a perpetual student" in graduate school. All the sons married Americans.

The family fled from Hungary

fearing that the step father would soon be sent to a concentration camp. Peter described him as a brilliant man with two years of medical school and three years of veterinary college, from which he was expelled for political reasons. After his expulsion he was able to work only as a bartender or janitor.

Peter's own father, a Jew, died in a German concentration camp during the war. Although the boys had been baptized Catholic in hopes that would offer them some protection, they spent the war years in hiding with their mother in Budapest. They were discovered near the end of the war, but the Russians arrived before they could be sent to a concentration camp.

"Those were strange times," Peter said and empathized with the fear of the fleeing Vietnamese. He claimed that he considers their distrust of the communists very realistic.

Although Steiner said that he feels it was easy for his family to get a start in this country and wishes that "it could be as nice for others," he recognizes that it may well be more difficult for the Vietnamese refugees. "There were fewer of us, the economy was better, and we were white," Peter explained, adding that although Americans have suf-

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PETER STEINER

# Bishops Preside In Unique Rites

By MARY ANN GINNERTY

Union Springs — Bishop Joseph L. Hogan and Bishop Ned Cole, Episcopal Bishop of the Diocese of Central New York, joined together in a unique Ceremony of renewal May 11 in the former Grace Episcopal Church, now St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church.

The gracious stone building which has served Episcopalians since its first service was held Easter Sunday in 1870, had been vacant for two years since parishioners became members of the parish worship of the United Ministry. St. Michael's purchased the church last Fall to be the new home of St. Michael's congregation.

In a ceremony celebrated by both bishops and representatives from several denominations, joy was expressed for the continuation of the building as a house of worship.

Both bishops made reference to the scandal over the years of the division between Protestantism, Catholicism and Orthodoxy.

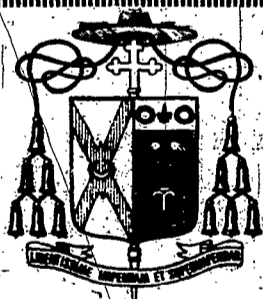
"Signs of separation within what was conceived by God as one body continue to weaken and diminish the credibility of the Church of Jesus Christ," said Bishop Cole. "Now what we are doing here today is a step in the attempt to do that which our Lord said, 'That all may be one.' It seems to me that in transferring the building to be used for the same purpose, by two different communities, in one holy, catholic, apostolic, Church, may in a small way be an attempt to bear witness to the unity which we have.

"The day may come when Episcopalians and Catholics can join together," he said.

Bishop Hogan made reference

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# Diocesan Appointments



Father Otto J. Vogt, to pastor, St. Paul of the Cross, Honeoye Falls, from pastor, St. Joachim, Canisteo, and St. Mary's, Rexville; effective June 26.

## RETIREMENTS

Msgr. Joseph E. Vogt, pastor, of Most Holy Redeemer, Rochester, retiring June 26.

Father L. Emmett Davis, pastor of St. Patrick, Corning, retiring June 26.

The first convocation of the Diocesan Pastoral Council June 13-15 will be at Becket Hall. Highlight of the first meeting will be a 4 p.m. liturgy Sunday, June 15, and a major address by Bishop Joseph L. Hogan.

The Bishop will challenge the new council to begin to chart tentative goals and directions.

The public is urged to attend the Sunday afternoon celebration, which will include the formal installation of council members. It will be held in the capacious athletic center on the St. John Fisher campus.

# Pastor Named, Two Retire

Father Otto J. Vogt, pastor of St. Joachim, Canisteo, and St. Mary's, Rexville, was named this week to the pastorate of St. Paul of the Cross, Honeoye Falls. He will take over June 26 when Father Michael Hogan moves to St. Mary's, Corning.

No pastor has been chosen for the two parishes in western Steuben County. Father Vogt has had them since 1968 and will celebrate the 25th anniversary of his priesthood at both on June 1.

He was born in Wayland and attended St. Joseph's parish school and Wayland High School before entering the diocesan seminaries. Ordained June 3, 1950, he was posted to St. Boniface, Rochester as an assistant pastor. Later he served at Immaculate Conception, Ithaca; Holy Cross, Ovid, and Sacred Heart, Romulus; St. Patrick's, Elmira and St. Mary's, Danville.

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# Diocese Establishes Bicentennial Unit

My dear People:

As our nation's two hundredth anniversary approaches, I am happy to inform you of the establishment of a Diocesan Bicentennial Commission which will serve to coordinate the various diocesan and parochial religious observances that will be planned for 1976.

The triple theme of the bicentennial — "heritage, festival, horizons" — offers many exciting possibilities of making the diocesan commemorations both pleasant and constructive. In addition to local events, my fellow American bishops are sponsoring a series of stimulating discussions in every parish across the nation, with a view to answering the question — Where is America going and what must Catholics do about it? I heartily encourage every Parish Council in our Diocese to study the bicentennial document, "Liberty and Justice for All," and reflect upon the implications of this theme for the life of every parish family and the Church of Rochester.

I urge all of our parishes and regions in the Diocese to collaborate in civic and ecumenical bicentennial activities. Wherever the "Town Meeting '76" is being staged throughout the Diocese by the Institute of Cultural Affairs, Catholics of the neighborhood should think seriously of participating in this neighborhood oriented study day.

I am happy to announce that the Reverend Joseph Reinhart, Diocesan Director of the Propagation of the Faith, has accepted my invitation to be the Chairperson of our Bicentennial Commission. With your cooperation and enthusiasm the entire Catholic community in the Diocese of Rochester can make a substantive contribution to our country during its bicentennial.

With all good wishes, I am

+Most Reverend Joseph L. Hogan, D.D.  
Bishop of Rochester

# DSC Injects 'Realism' Into Salary Debate

Outright payment of a "realistic salary" has been proposed as a way of providing for sisters doing parish work.

The idea was aired at the monthly meeting of the Diocesan Sisters Council, May 14 at the Mercy Motherhouse. There would be a minimum base salary, plus a living allowance that would permit a Sister to pay her own way in the convent, wherever she lived. No figure was suggested.

Sister Ann Habershaw of the School Sisters of Notre Dame reported that her order had five

Brooklyn convents operating successfully on the "realistic salary" plan, the salary being \$5,300. The base is \$3,700, she said, and to this is added \$600 for lodging, \$300 for transportation and \$700 for pension.

Council members will continue their study of the problem, and Sister Mary John, SSJ, liaison to the Priests Council, will report the new angle to that council, which began its discussion of "Sisters' Maintenance" more than two years ago. The subject has been re-named "Sisters' Living Needs" on the agenda.

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