

Holy Redeemer... Times Have Changed

1894, Bombs Bursting in Air; 1975, A Sad Farewell

By MARGARET CONNOLLY

"It's the end of an era at Holy Redeemer," a parishioner wrote to the Courier, in announcing a farewell party for the priests of the parish.

"The school and convent are closing, the Sisters leaving, the pastor and associate pastor leaving."

It probably will be a good party June 19 at Sweet's Farm, apart from the sadness of goodbyes. But no matter how highly the people regard Msgr. Joseph E. Vogt and Father Paul Schnacky, they won't equal the din raised on a happier occasion 81 years ago. The clamor of bells punctuated

by the explosion of 25 bombs? Hardly legal, these days.

It was the night before Halloween, 1894, that the people of Holy Redeemer put on "one of the grandest affairs ever witnessed in the city." It was Father Fidelis Oberholzer's 25th anniversary as pastor. He didn't know what was going on, until—

"After the Angelus had ceased ringing, each of the five bells of the church tolled 25, and then for one-half hour all the bells were rung together.

"The loud ringing of the bells was intermingled by a louder report of 25 bombs; the report was heard seven miles distant."

The quotes are from a souvenir booklet, anonymously written in English and German. "Echoes from the Silver Jubilee" it is called, and echoes aplenty there must have been. Every paragraph mentions fireworks, as the narrative develops.

All of the many parish societies, plus delegations from neighboring St. Stanislaus, a marching band of local fame, a battalion of police officers and carriages loaded with visiting priests paraded through Hudson Avenue, Kelly Street and Clinton to Germania Hall, for a program of music and speeches. The school children — 250 lucky ones — were taken to the hall in "chartered electric cars."

"All the bells were ringing and hundreds of pieces of fireworks were discharged" as the procession moved off. The pastor's carriage was "lighted by electricity and drawn by four white horses." Along the route, "nearly every house was decorated, and there was a fine display of fireworks."

Father Oberholzer, the first pastor — there have been but four in the 106 years of the parish — was born and educated in Germany.

His era outlasted him, but ended long ago. One of the signs of those times is found in the pastor's report on the condition of the parish. There were 578

children in the school (from 760 families) and they were taught by 12 School Sisters of Notre Dame.

In a speech congratulating Father Oberholzer on his church and school, Bishop Bernard J. McQuaid said, "We are differently situated in this country than in the older countries of Europe. There, many of the churches were built years ago and endowed with funds to maintain them. Here, we have to build our own churches and support our priests."

"We have no government, thank God, to go to, to beg a pittance for the support of our churches."

DPC

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Association and the Metropolitan Opera Guild. Mrs. Irene Navatta will represent Ecumenical Ministry. She is a member of the Diocesan Ecumenical Commission and helps direct the Christian Institute of Man, and ecumenical adult education program in Elmira.

"I think my vision of Church may be broader than most people," Mrs. Navatta responded when asked what she felt she would bring to the DPC. "I'm beyond parochial boundaries," she continued. "I hope that the Pastoral Council will be able to help raise others' vision of Church."

Four youths were selected. They are Beth Powers of Auburn, Tony Quercia of Gates, Liz Quinn and Laurie Klipp of Rochester.

Beth Powers, 16, a sophomore at Auburn High School, is the youngest member of the council. She said, "I think that kids want things from the Church that they can use in their everyday lives. I would like to see the liturgy get more specific."

Laurie Klipp of Rochester will bring her experience with Teen Seminar, and her involvement in Religious Education and Youth programs. "I have spent a lot of time with friends at the Newman Community at Monroe Community College. I hope to gather input from them, from the Reality groups of Teen Seminar and the Regional Youth Councils. I feel particularly concerned with the college age youth. Since I am married I think I have a unique contribution to make by representing my age group who

are in college and young married couples in our diocese."

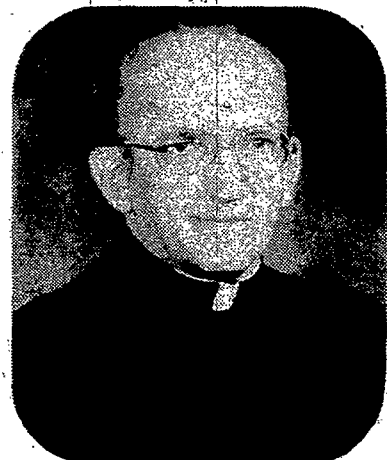
Dr. Padraic O'Hare, of the diocesan education office served as chairperson of the Screening Committee which included Father Joseph Brennan, rector of St. Bernard's Seminary and Sister Carolyn Knipper, RSM, principal of Good Shepherd School.

The committee recommended that all appointed members serve a one-year term and urged Bishop Hogan to "call upon the entire DPC to be sensitive to the needs implied in ministries not formally represented (the aged, renewal groups, the jailed, hospitals, etc.)"

Still to be appointed are a brother, another member of the Hispanic community, and another representative of rural life.

Regional Coordinator Named

Father Emmett J. Halloran, pastor of St. Columba's, Caledonia, and St. Patrick's, Mumfords, has been appointed coordinator for the Southwest Region, one of the five regions within Monroe County. He succeeds Father Neil Miller, co-pastor of St. Augustine's.



in Rochester, Gates and Chili; Spencerport, Brockport, Churchville and Scottsville.

Caledonia, just south of the Monroe County line, would be in the Livingston-Steuken Region, but that "We are more oriented toward Monroe, and given a choice, voted to be in that region," Father Halloran explained. "We had a toe-hold in our Mumfords mission," which is just north of the line.

The region includes 17 parishes

Father Halloran, 25 years a priest, concelebrated his Jubilee Mass last Sunday with Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, and his new appointment was announced at that time.

He has been at St. Columba's since June, 1970. The 14 years preceding years were spent in education. Father Halloran was appointed to the St. Andrew's Seminary faculty in 1956, to teach history and English. When the seminary was converted to the short-lived Kings Preparatory School, he was named rector. He has served assistantships at St. Patrick's, Seneca Falls, and St. Michael's, Newark. He is a native of Rochester, from Blessed Sacrament parish.

FATHERS' DAY

Father Joseph Brennan, rector of St. Bernard's Seminary, will celebrate a special Fathers' Day Mass at the request of the Rochester Chapter, St. Joan's International Alliance. The Mass is scheduled for 5 p.m. Sunday, June 15, at the Cenacle Retreat House, 693 East Ave. Everyone is invited.

SUMMER FESTIVAL

The two-day festival at St. Salome's in Seabreeze will feature a spaghetti dinner Friday night, June 20, with service from 5 until 7 p.m. New this year is the Country Store, stocked with items made by parishioners. The storekeepers will be the Sisters of the parish. The festival will continue Saturday, June 21.

LIBRARY GIFT

The local Fraternal Order of Eagles Auxiliary recently presented a gift of \$100 to the Rochester Public Library for the purchase of books or provision of services for senior citizens, the library has announced.



Elizabeth Kelly chats with Father Bruce Ammering.

99 Years Old, She Longs for Heaven

"I have a date with the Bishop in a year," chuckled "Grandma" Elizabeth Kelly, sitting in her wheelchair in Monroe County Community Hospital. But if Grandma Kelly has her wish she will stand the Bishop up.

Grandma Kelly celebrated her 99th birthday May 14. A special Mass was held on her hospital floor that day, but her real gift came two days later when she went to church. The trip was Grandma's first out of the hospital since her admission Jan. 2, 1970.

The plan started when two nurses, Mrs. Doris Williams and Mrs. Carol Borkhuis, wanted to do something special for Grandma's 99th. Father Bruce Ammering, Catholic chaplain at the hospital, made the arrangements with Sacred Heart Cathedral and Bishop John E. McCafferty, who celebrated the Mass.

Of her trip in the wheelchairmobile, Grandma Kelly complained, "He went so darn fast I couldn't see a thing." She said that Bishop McCafferty told her she was the oldest woman ever to be in the cathedral. "They've had a lot just 95, though," she quipped. "He shook my hand and said next year they'd have a choir and every thing."

Grandma would rather go to heaven than wait for the Mass. "It's darn hard to get out of this world," she said. "I go to Mass every day. I want to see the things I've been hearing about. Everybody I know is dead."

Mrs. Kelly was born in Rochester's St. Bridget's parish, spent most of her married life in Corpus Christi parish, and lived with her son Harold in St. Augustine's for several years before entering the hospital.

Chaplaincy

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argument. This means that Catholic hospitals, as a matter of institutional policy, may not authorize sterilization procedures for reasons other than those contained in the guidelines. If questions of material cooperation arise, the traditional norms of moral theology are to be applied.

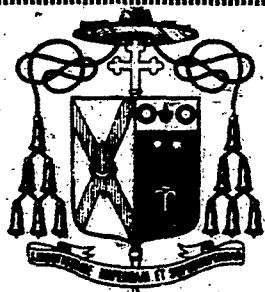
Bishop Joseph L. Hogan on April 28, wrote to Sister Mary Rene, administrator of St. James Mercy Hospital, that it is "quite clear from the recent letter of Archbishop Bernardin that Catholic hospitals are not excused from guidelines earlier approved by the American bishops, particularly in

procedures inducing sterility. I have to expect Catholic hospitals within the Diocese of Rochester to follow these directives."

The letter continues, "It is also evident that the consciences of staff must be honored even in non-Catholic hospitals when procedures are introduced which appear to them to be morally unacceptable.

"If procedures contrary to the above-mentioned directives are initiated on the grounds of the institution's not being Catholic, I feel the local community is owed an explanation that the institution in question is not under Catholic auspices."

Diocesan Appointments



Father William J. Cosgrove, to pastor, St. Francis Xavier, Rochester, from chaplain, St. James Mercy Hospital, Hornell.

Father Robert Kress, to pastor, St. Joseph's, Rush, from pastor, St. Michael's, Montezuma, and St. John's, Port Byron.

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