

# COURIER-JOURNAL

NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

20 Pages

Wednesday, July 16, 1975

15 Cents



## 'Heaven's Angels'

With a blessing from Anglican Bishop Maurice Wood of Norwich, mobile clergymen speed out to spread the good news with crash helmets on their heads and a prayer in their hearts. The idea for a fleet of "heaven's angels" is Bishop Wood's and it is based on economics. After all, the Bible urges prudence and economy in all things. So why not increasingly expensive gasoline? The bishop decided that his clergymen should swap their thirsty cars for motorbikes that can spin out 200 heavenly miles to the gallon as they make their rounds of rural villages in the Norwich diocese. When the vicars arrived at the bishop's residence to collect their machines, a short service was held and the bikes were blessed. Then the reverend gentlemen revved up, and after some shaky starts, satisfied the bishop that the Lord's glad tidings were in safe hands. (RNS)

## Melkite Prelate Due Here

Archbishop Joseph Tawil, bishop of all the Melkites of North America, will be in Rochester for a visit to St. Nicholas Church from Saturday, July 19 to Tuesday, July 22.

Archbishop Tawil, a native of Damascus, Syria, studied in Jerusalem with the White Fathers at St. Anne Seminary, before serving many years as a teacher in Cairo, Egypt.

He was ordained a bishop in 1959 and was named patriarchal vicar of Damascus. He was named Melkite Exarch of the United States in 1969, and has his offices in West Newton, Mass.

Melkites are responsible to the Pope in matters of faith and discipline but are under their Exarchate Bishop in matters of liturgy and ritual.

Archbishop Tawil will officiate at Vespers at St. Nicholas, at Remington and Leo Streets, at 7 p.m., Saturday, July 19 and will consecrate the iconostasis, a screen bearing holy pictures that separates the sanctuary from nave of the church.

At 10 a.m. Sunday, Archbishop Tawil will celebrate a solemn Pontifical Mass in the Byzantine rite and will ordain August J. Deasio to the priesthood. Father Deasio is the son of Mrs. Elzira Deasio of St. Dominic's parish in

Shortsville. He will celebrate his first Mass at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, July 26, at St. Dominic's.

Father Athanasius Hassey, pastor of St. Nicholas, said that a special pancake breakfast has been scheduled at Bishop Kearney High School to note the visit of Archbishop Tawil. Everyone is invited to the breakfast, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sunday, July 20 for \$1.50 a person.

Father Hassey also noted that all are invited to the religious ceremonies at St. Nicholas saying, "It is an excellent opportunity for all to enjoy and take part in an Eastern rite." Roman Catholics may satisfy their Mass obligations by attending these Eastern Rite Masses.

St. Nicholas Church was the scene of the first Catholic Mass to be celebrated in English in Rochester. Permission for the Mass, in January 1958, was given by the Patriarch at Antioch because 90 per cent of the congregation did not understand either the Greek or Arabic in which Melkite Masses had been chanted at the time.

Melkites use the Byzantine liturgy of St. John Chrysostom and ritual the same as that of Russian, Albanian, Ukrainian and Greek Orthodox churches. Melkites, however, were among several Eastern church bodies

which, in the East-West schism of the 10th Century, remained faithful to Rome. The rite officially declared itself part of the Roman Catholic Church in 1724.

## Pastoral Ministry Plans to Publish PC Guidelines

Father Douglas Hoffman's Office of Pastoral Ministry is planning to issue a paperback version of Parish Ministry/Revised Guidelines for Parish Councils.

The office recently sent all parish council heads a mimeographed version of the revised guidelines.

In a letter which accompanied the 52-page document, Father Hoffman said he hoped it would be helpful to council leaders as an educational instrument and as a study document.

He "strongly encouraged" use of the document as a means of orientation and education.

The paper contains the diocesan directives for all councils as well as a feeling for the spirit of parish councils, he said.

Father Hoffman cited texts from the document which in itself contains citations from other documents. The definition of the parish, for example, comes from the Directory on the Pastoral Ministry of Bishops, issued by the United States Conference of Bishops:

(A parish) is a community of faith, liturgy and charity, a sign of the presence of God and celebration of liturgical worship; a personified presence of the universal and diocesan Church, fostering the Christianization of human relations between neighbors; it is a visible point of unity and universality for small

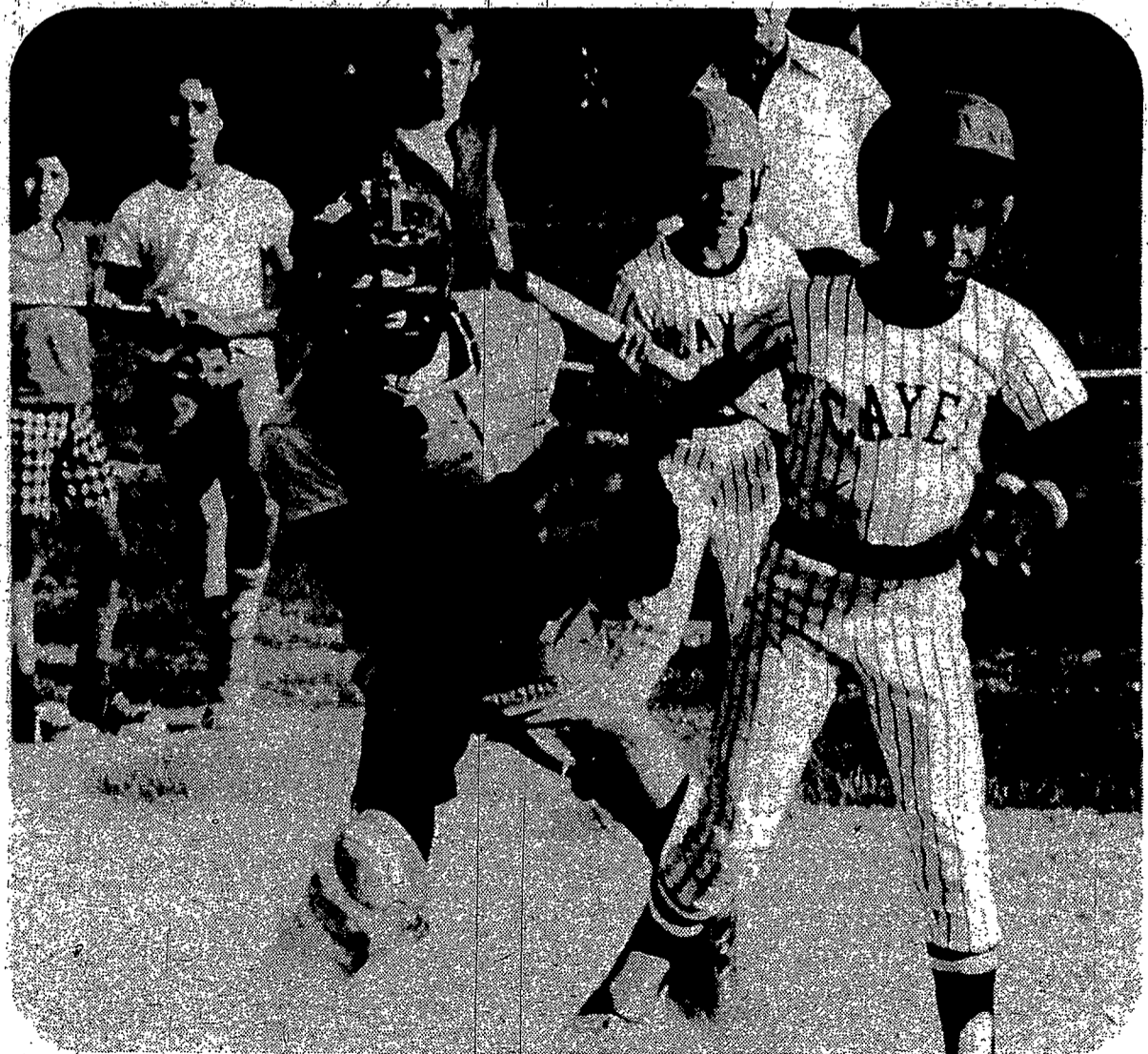
Christian communities within its boundaries.

The guidelines say that "parish council authority is primarily in regard to directions and policies and not day to day administration."

The guidelines further say that a parish council "has no executive responsibilities itself. It has the obligation to call to accountability those who have the responsibility for implementing the policies and directions which have been determined. This distinction ought to clarify the difference in roles between the council and the staff. It is a reminder, too, of how important a solid consensus between staff and council is for the success of both their efforts."

On the relationship of the priest to the parish council, the document states that "priests have a distinct role that is parallel to their role in the total parish. First of all, as students of the Scriptures and preachers of the Word, they have the responsibility to insure that the council is hearing and applying the Word of God in its fullness. In so doing, they are obligated to call the council members to pause and reflect on the challenging Christian implications of an issue being considered. Secondly, priests are called to generously share responsibility with the council. They must be models for consensus-building, which is the way of the Church. Priests are,

Continued on Page 2



## Summertime and . . .

Youngsters of the Roberto Clemente Baseball Youth League concentrate during game at Crosman Terrace playground. Inner city parishes' alternate ministries fund helped to support the league.