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Photo by Bruce Genut

Nguyen Thi Nga displays dress she brought from Saigon.

Diocese Fills Two Pastorates

Msgr. William M. Roche, pastor of St. Catherine of Siena Church in Ithaca, will report for a duty a week from today at St. Mary's, Canandaigua, to fill a vacancy caused by the death July 4 of Father William C. Charbonneau.

Father David P. Simon, chaplain and theology chairman at DeSales High School, Geneva, will move to St. Augustines, Rochester, to share the pastorate with Father Paul J. McCabe. The Pastoral Office announcement of these two appointments specified no time for Father Simon's move.

Msgr. Roche, who was diocesan superintendent of schools for 10 years and, earlier, assistant superintendent for three years, has been in Ithaca since September 1969. St. Catherine's was his first parish charge after the initial year of his priesthood, when he was an assistant at Immaculate Conception, Rochester. Although he came to the priesthood relatively late in life, after a varied career, he still, at 36, was the youngest school superintendent the diocese had.

He was born in Corning in 1923, attended St. Vincent de Paul School and Northside High School, and in 1941 entered an aeronautical engineering school in St. Louis. The following year, he joined the Navy and was sent to Columbia University and the University of Virginia. He emerged from the latter in 1945 with a bachelor of science degree and a private pilot's license,

finished his Navy tour with 10 months on Atlantic patrol, and then spent two years in public relations work in New York City. He returned to the diocese to study at St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's and was ordained June 4, 1955.

Father Simon, 35 years old, was ordained in 1967 and has served two assignments. He was assistant at St. Patrick's, Victor, for the first four years of his priesthood and has held the Geneva school post for the past four years. Born in Auburn, he attended St. Alphonsus School and Mt. Carmel High before entering the diocesan seminaries.

Pope: Sept. 14 Women's Day

Vatican City [RNS] — Pope Paul has named Sunday, Sept. 14, "Women's Day," with the framework of the Church's Holy Year and the U.N.-sponsored International Women's Year, the Vatican announced.

The Vatican said the pontiff chose the day to coincide with the one on which he will canonize Mother Elizabeth Ann Seton, founder of the Sisters of Charity in the United States and the first U.S.-born person to be raised to the honors of the altar.

Resettlement In the Diocese

Our Viet Families

By BONITA BALDWIN

When St. Patrick's Church in Elmira decided to sponsor a Vietnamese family, Don and Marjorie Nurnberg, the originators of the idea, agreed to house them. They requested four refugees, but when Catholic Family Center asked them if they would sponsor six, they consented. On Aug. 24 the Nurnbergs became godparents for an unexpected seventh arrival. The Dinh baby is an American citizen.

This summer 36 Vietnamese, including the Dinh's, will have arrived in the Rochester diocese sponsored either by a parish or parish members with the help of their parish. Angie Boella, casework supervisor at Catholic Family Center, tallied the count recently. She said that besides St. Patrick's Church, St. Thomas More and St. Pius X parishes are sponsoring families.

Individuals or families also are sponsoring refugees with the help of their parishes. These include the Colettas in Horseheads, the Yannies in Perkinsville, and Father John Coonan in Clyde. Parish assistance usually comes

in the form of furniture and clothing needed to start a new life. Time and friendship are also important gifts for the aliens. Many sponsors report that efforts to meet the needs of the Vietnamese families have created a stronger sense of community within the parish itself.

The arrival of families will continue into the Fall, with St. Joseph's Church in Penfield and St. Joseph's Church, Weedsport, making preparations.

Four of the total of six families are Catholic, one is Buddhist. The St. Thomas More family is not Catholic, but Mrs. George Harer of the parish said that it is not certain if they are Buddhist. That family has not yet arrived.

Nga, the Vietnamese housekeeper in the Clyde rectory who, with her husband is sponsored by Father Coonan, was asked if she thinks it is difficult to be Catholic in Vietnam today. "Yes," she said, "Be killed. They don't want you to believe. Believe Ho Chi Minh." She pretended to pray and then laughed.

Finding the family a home, and

a job are problems which immediately confront sponsors, especially if the family is large. Mrs. Nancy Shaffer, caseworker at CFC, explained that landlords won't put more than two in a bedroom and there is usually a waiting list for apartments with more than two bedrooms. Bob Brown of St. Pius X reported that he had to make hasty arrangements for a family of six when a verbal agreement for an apartment at Genesee Gateway was withdrawn. Brown said that the government funded housing claimed it did not want too high a percentage of Vietnamese. He found temporary lodging with a former GI and his Vietnamese wife. The family expects to move to its own apartment by the end of August. The family also has been given an inexpensive car.

Brown may have an easier time helping the father find a job. He was a colonel in the Vietnamese army and speaks English. Brown related that he has a good job prospect.

In Horseheads, the James Colettas are sponsoring another family of six with assistance from

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Mr. and Mrs. Nguyen-Van Long and their children pose with St. Pius X parish council members, the Robert Browns, and Father Donald Murphy shortly after their arrival.

Msgr. Lambert Dies

Msgr. Gerald C. Lambert, onetime director of Catholic Charities and, more recently, pastor of St. Monica's Church, died Aug. 27, 1975, at his summer cottage on Conesus Lake. He was 72.

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan was principal concelebrant of the Pontifical Mass of Christian Burial Saturday morning at St. Monica's, and Bishop John E. McCafferty, of the Mass of Christ the High Priest on the preceding evening. Homilists were two of Msgr. Lambert's classmates, Fathers Thomas Brennan and Benedict Ehmann.

Msgr. Lambert retired from St. Monica's in January 1970, and had spent recent winters at St. Ann's Home.

His 22-year pastorate overlapped his Catholic Charities assignment by four years. Appointed to the parish in 1948, he continued to head charities until 1952, for a total span of 21 years in diocesan social service.

During his 13 years as chief administrator of the expanding Charities organization, he served also as director and treasurer of the Columbus Civic Center at 50 Chestnut and overseer of the CYO. For many years he was an active member of the boards of several Charities agencies.

As a student at St. Bernard's Seminary, he helped establish Camp Stella Maris in 1926, and after his ordination in 1929 was assigned as chaplain to the camp and to St. Margaret's Chapel on

Conesus Lake. At the end of that summer, he joined the faculty of St. Andrew's Seminary, taught English and Religion for two years and then undertook graduate studies in social work that led to an M.S. degree from Catholic University of America. From time to time he served as chaplain to various institutions and organizations, and he was one of Bishop James E. Kearney's diocesan consultants. He was a native of Rochester, from Holy Rosary parish.

The nieces and nephews who are Msgr. Lambert's next-of-kin are Mrs. Joseph Mattle, Mrs. William Phillips, Joseph and Donald Lambert and Robert and Jerome Dalton, all living in this area, and Father William Lambert of South Dakota. Also surviving is a cousin, Mrs. Earle Burbotte.