

Lecture on Migrants Opens OHD Program

By BONITA BALDWIN

JAWS opened at the Office of Human Development last week.

JAWS, Just AWhile to Share, is a new lunch-hour program aimed at gathering diocesan staff once a month to discuss social concerns. Father George Wiant, OHD staff person in Wayne County, lectured Thursday on the scope of the migrant presence in the diocese, and migrants' problems.

Father Wiant explained to the group of about 35 from the Pastoral Center, St. Bernard's Seminary, and the Office of Human Development, that three different streams of migrants come to the Rochester diocese each summer. A branch of the predominantly Spanish-speaking Midwest stream comes to New York along with black migrants from the South and Indians from Southern Ontario, who come to work on mink farms south of Rochester.

Another group outside the main migrant streams also comes to work for food processors in Wayne County, on a contract basis arranged by the U.S. Department of Labor and the Puerto Rican Department of Labor. This group is composed primarily of healthy young Puerto Rican men.

According to Father Wiant, it is difficult to estimate how many migrants there are in the U.S. because of differing definitions of who is a migrant. In the diocese of Rochester there are 180 camps licensed by the state for migrants; 134 of these camps are in Wayne County. Father Wiant said that unlicensed camps also operate.

Working conditions are a major problem. Crew chiefs, middlemen between the workers and the growers, recruit the workers and usually lend them the money for the trip north. Thus many migrants start out in debt to the boss, who will receive their wages and manage their camp.

Low level of education, few job opportunities, hostile community attitude, few health facilities, and the unavailability of transportation further trouble life for the migrant.

Program Funding, Inc., established in 1970 through President Johnson's Office of Economic Opportunity, is the organization working with migrants in New York.

In 1972, when federal funds began drying up, PFI changed from a funding agency to an operational agency. OEO died in 1974 and its funds were redirected through the Department of Labor and available only for migrant job training programs. PFI sued the New York State Department of Labor in 1975 for \$125,000 lost migrant funds. They lost the case, but regained the funds. Father Wiant reported that the controversy heightened the awareness of state legislators of the migrant problems.

In the future it is possible that, partly as a result of this awareness, union legislation for farm workers similar to the Brown Law recently passed in California, allowing for secret ballot union elections, will be passed in New York. "If it comes, though, there will be blood," Father Wiant predicted.

Women Priests

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potential could not be fulfilled without it," he said. "In fact, however, no one, male or female, can claim a 'right' to ordination. And, since the episcopal and priestly office is basically a ministry of service, ordination in no way 'completes' one's humanity."

The NCCB president couples his comments on ordination with a declaration that "we must address ourselves seriously to the question of women in the Church."

"Women are called today to a

greater leadership role in the Church; their contributions are needed in the decision-making process at the parochial, diocesan, national and universal levels," he said.

"The Church has grown more aware of the variety of ministries open to women in a very special way they are called to collaborate with all other segments of the Church in the essential work of evangelization. The Church will suffer, indeed it will be betrayed, if women are given only a secondary place in its life and mission."



Happy Faces!

Yes, that's TV's Ronald McDonald. Yes, that's TV's Father Richard Armstrong. The two joined with diocesan notables last week to Celebrate Life at St. Joseph's Hospital in Elmira. Cutting the ribbon on a new pediatrics unit at the hospital are Mrs. Constance Bergh, RN, head nurse in pediatrics; Father Armstrong, McDonald, Auxiliary Bishop John E. McCafferty and Sister Martha Gersbach, hospital administrator. For more pictures of the event which drew more than 1,000 see Centerfold.

Deacons

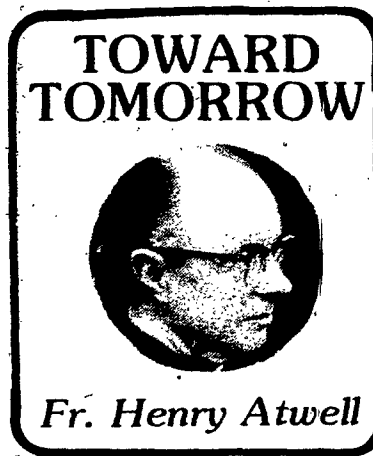
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sang as a group at the school before their own ordinations. They include Fathers Robert Kennedy, James Hewes, Louis Sirianni, and Deacons Peter Clifford and Thomas Mull, all of the Rochester diocese; and Father John Croghan, of the diocese of Syracuse. Also providing music was the Adult Choir of St. Charles Borromeo Church, under the direction of George Geibel.

A reception for the newly ordained followed the ceremony in the school hall.

SEMIFINALIST

Bruce M. Brooks, a senior at Cardinal Mooney High School, is a semifinalist in the National Achievement Scholarship Program for black students. The National Merit Scholarship Corporation announced that he was one of 1,400 semifinalists.



Fr. Henry Atwell

One of the quiet ecumenical breakthroughs during the past year is the adoption of the same Sunday Lectionary by most of the major Christian churches in the United States.

Episcopalians, Lutherans, Presbyterians, Methodists, Reformed and United Churches have adopted the Roman Catholic Lectionary — which in turn had been drawn up with the help of scholars of several denominations. The Lectionary is the selection of Scripture readings for Sunday services.

What it means in practice is that most Christians, no matter which church they attend, hear the same portions of the Bible read to them.

But an interesting puzzle might have developed recently.

If Episcopalian Bruce and his Roman Catholic wife Brenda decided to discuss their Bible reading on the last Sunday of September — the Gospel about the two sons, one who refused to go into his father's vineyard but

later changed his mind and went after all, and the other who agreed to go but failed to do so — and Bruce remarked as to how his rector spoke about the first lad who actually did what the father wanted and Brenda then chided him for being inattentive because it was the second boy who went grape picking, they could have hassled back and forth about first or second endlessly and fruitlessly for hours.

The key to the solution is that some translations of the Bible have the first boy doing the picking and the second welshing on his word whereas other translations reverse the two — and this in turn is rooted in the available Greek texts which are themselves also befuddled. Just about all English translations — Jerusalem, Revised Standard, New English, Good News, Spencer — take number one, but the New American Bible (the recently published Catholic edition) prefers number two.

No matter which way we read it, the point remains the same, of course, that actions speak louder than words.

And even if our fictional Bruce and Brenda had a moment's disagreement, another and very important point also remains true. Protestants and Catholics are now being nourished week after week with the same Word of God. Besides the personal and parochial enrichment that inevitably comes from such a rich fare of Scripture as the new Lectionary provides, there is now this added ecumenical dimension, an added bond of unity and another milestone toward that ultimate unity we all seek.



Dedications

E. James Hickey (l), member of the Nazareth College Board of Trustees, extends the thanks of the college to Kilian and Caroline F. Schmitt (center) of Penfield, for their gift of a new 25-tone carillon. Father John Robbins (r), new Nazareth chaplain, offered the dedication during the ceremony which was followed by a concert by Robert Hobstetter, associate professor of Music. The dedication ceremony was the highlight of Nazareth's 51st birthday observance Sept. 24, which also included an all-campus picnic.

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