

PC Constitutions To Be Evaluated

By MICHAEL GRODEN

The Department of Pastoral Ministry has begun a systematic evaluation of all parish council constitutions. The purpose is to give each parish council a clearer understanding of "purpose, mode of operation and the processes they identify as essential to fulfilling their mission."

Linda Decillis, office coordinator of Pastoral Ministry, explained that parish councils have developed a good understanding of the mechanics of a council and are now ready to get into the "nitty gritty" of deciding the parish's goals.

New constitutions must contain a certain number of

directives (must haves) together with some recommendations (should haves) and suggestions (may haves). Ms. Decillis said that the directives are already included in most of the existing constitutions with the possible exception of the last one. "Though not included in the guidelines, the Diocese has directed that all councils install new members and new officers by June, 1976."

Regional coordinators throughout the diocese will select two or three people to help in the individual evaluation of each parish constitution. They must have a good understanding of the Parish Council Guidelines, which came out this fall, and a willingness to commit the necessary time for proper evaluation.

Ms. Decillis said that each Parish Council Constitution will take at least two hours to read and each member will be expected to participate in the writing of any suggested changes. They should also be available to assist parish council members in solving problems of clarifying any of the proposed suggestions.

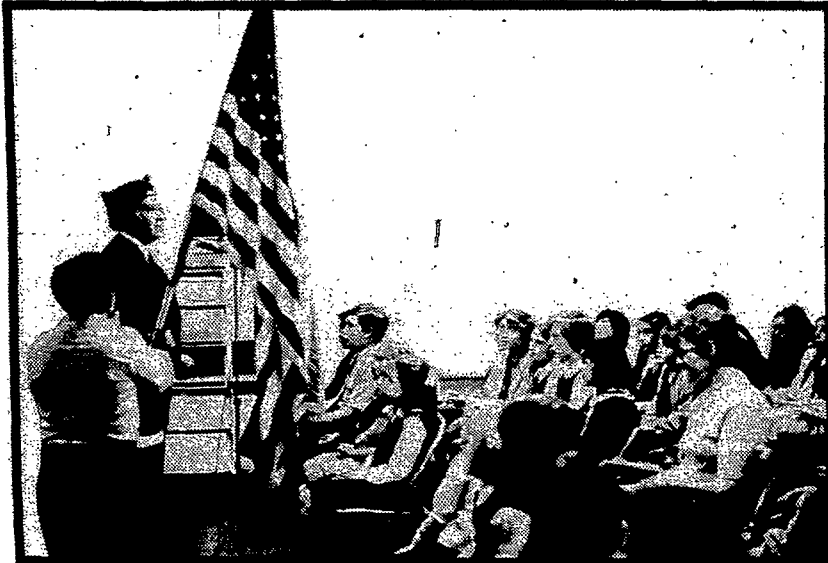
Workshops are being planned to help each parish council reconstruct its constitution. These will be particularly helpful in adapting constitutional changes to the needs of each individual parish.

Father Douglas C. Hoffman, director of the Pastoral Ministry, is now preparing a bibliography of books, newspaper and magazine articles which may prove helpful to the parish councils. This evaluation is not meant to be critical of the parish council constitutions but rather a

method of improving an important part of the Church.

Any questions regarding the

evaluation should be directed to the regional coordinators or Ms. Decillis, Department of Pastoral Ministry.



In Memoriam

Henry J. Pape, Commander of the Monroe County American Legion, speaks at Holy Rosary School at an Armistice Day service Nov. 10.

AS I SEE IT



Pat Costa

I have been watching various episodes of three different detective shows for several weeks now, trying to stay alert and responsive enough to write something intelligent about one or all of them. It has been in vain.

Two of them, "Bronk" and "Matt Helm," have been so numbing week after week that I would be hard put to tell you what either show was about on the morning after a particular episode. They are, in two words, eminently forgettable.

The stars of the programs, Jack Palance as the police detective "Bronk" and Tony Francioso as the flamboyant private eye "Matt Helm" have something in common besides their line of work. Both smile a lot. The better to charm you my dear? Francioso's grin is definitely Cheshire Cat. Palance retains some of the menacing quality of his movie role villains.

Other than that their styles part company. Helm is flashy cars, screeching tires, fast chases and beautiful women including co-star Lorraine Stephens as his lawyer Kronski.

Bronk on the other hand appears tired. He is not fat. But he moves like a fat man. Torturously. One has the definite feeling that in a foot race Cannon could outstrip him easily. His social life is dull and his family consists of a crippled daughter who was injured in an accident that killed his wife. If there have been any romantic encounters for Bronk I have missed them. Bronk is definitely a dull boy.

The third detective is "Ellery Queen" with Jim Hutton playing the writer, and David Wayne as his father, Inspector Queen. The show is based on the old mystery stories "Ellery Queen" and the settings are Forty-ish in New York City replete with old cars, modes of dress, hair styles and solution scenes: Ellery gathers everybody

together, casts grave suspicion on a couple of plausible suspects and then fingers the unlikely culprit.

The purists, I understand, are upset with what has been made of their mysteries. License, obviously, has been taken with the stories and the concept of the hero.

What I find upsetting is the difficulty in following the plot. At first I put the problem down to the fact that I was reading and watching at the same time. But even when the show is given full attention there is a problem in keeping track of the plot, principally because of the extraneous chaff getting in the way of the wheat.

Too bad. Both Hutton and Wayne are attractive, so are the Forties in their own way. Someone with an eye for a clean line could possibly fix this one up but probably won't get the chance.

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