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ALAN MONAHAN

DPC: A Leader Not a Meddler

By MARTIN TOOMBS

The DPC shouldn't be a meddler, it should be a leader, is the opinion expressed by Alan R. Monahan, president of the Diocesan Pastoral Council, during an interview recently. He explained that the council should help set policy and influence the decision making process in the diocese without interfering with the operation of the diocesan departments.

Monahan, a parishioner of St. Jerome's in East Rochester, also commented on the need for the regions and parish councils to be strong in order to make the DPC effective.

Commenting on the purpose of the DPC, he pointed out the approval of the proposal to ensure access to diocesan buildings for wheelchairs, and on the need for the council to complete more concrete projects during this term.

This is the first of three interviews with the presidents of the consultative bodies in the diocese. Monahan began by assessing the

DPC's first eight months of existence.

Monahan: I see three things that we're doing, the goals, which were getting out of structuring the DPC in order to surface the concerns of the people relative to action proposals and diocesan committee participation. Although we haven't done much in solid action, the DPC has allowed for input from the people into diocesan committees, for example, conciliation, human development, ministerial review, Nursing Home Task Force, Peace and Justice Proposal, Eucharistic Congress and the Confirmation Task Force.

Going back to number one, I guess the goals represent the June effort, the convocation weekend. I think they're an excellent set of goals. Relative to Bishop Hogan's Living Stones message, I think they are supportive of his vision of Church. That was a good start. Since then we've had problems in terms of what we were going to do with the goals and how the representatives on the council were to communicate with the parishes.

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EARTHQUAKE AID

The diocese last week sent \$2,500 to Catholic Relief Services in New York City to aid victims of the earthquake in Guatemala City. The gift was donated by the people of the diocese to the Disaster Relief Fund which makes immediate distribution of aid in major disasters.

The CRS has already airlifted blankets, medicine, supplies and food to the stricken area.

Individuals and families wishing to assist the charity may send contributions directly to the Disaster Center, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624 for immediate distribution to CRS.

Criticism, Some Praise Greet President's Remarks on Abortion

The president of the U.S. Bishops' committee in Washington has leveled strong criticism at President Ford's comments on the abortion issue, calling them "inconsistent and disappointing" and claiming that the President "contradicted" an earlier position of clear support for a states' right amendment on abortion.

President Ford in his remarks on abortion made during a television interview with Walter Cronkite of CBS News, said he was taking a "moderate position." He said he opposed abortion on demand and believed that the Supreme Court "went too far" in striking down laws against abortion, but he also said that he did not agree that a constitutional amendment is "the proper remedy."

Archbishop Bernardin, speaking for the nation's bishops, agreed that the President expressed opposition to "abortion-on-demand" and his support of the right of states to restrict abortion, but said he backtracked by opposing a constitutional amendment.

Although the President's remarks were interpreted as supportive of a constitutional amendment that would enable states to regulate abortions, a spokesman for Archbishop Bernardin said it is his contention that Mr. Ford has contradicted his earlier position of complete support for an amendment permitting states to adopt legislation to regulate abortion.

What President Ford did say was that "it's my judgment that it ought to be done on the basis of what each individual state wishes to do regarding abortion." When asked how states could act when prohibited by the Supreme Court decision, the President said if there is to be a constitutional amendment to get around the Supreme Court ruling, it would be "preferable" that it be a states' rights amendment and not a human life amendment.

Closer to home, the reaction of pro-lifers contained some of the criticism voiced by the archbishop but it was tempered by praise that the President had at least come to grips with the problem. They also feel that the President's remarks implied support for a states' rights amendment.

William Polito, president of Rochester Right to Life and a member of the board of directors of the national Right to Life, speaking for state Right to Life, said that while the group "commends" President Ford for politically acknowledging the depth of the concern of the American people on this important issue and the necessity for a pro-life constitutional amendment overturning the Supreme Court decision, "we nevertheless point out the inconsistency of his suggested amendment which would allow the recognition of a human being in one state and not in another."

Polito compared such a development to the slavery issue and stated it would be "inconsistent" for a "human being because of color to be a person in one state and not in another."

"It is today equally inconsistent

to those same hallowed principles (the Constitution) for a human being to be a 'meaningful person' in one state but not in another due to deformity or age," Polito added.

Polito sees the President's remarks as a reaction "to the growing deep moral discomfort of the American people" concerning abortion on demand. He urged all pro-lifers to exercise their "full democratic and political responsibilities" to convince elected officials of the necessity of a human life amendment.

In Ithaca, Imogene Calogero, secretary of the State Right to Life

Committee, said the President's plan to return regulation to the states is "unacceptable because it does not address the chief issue which is the redefinition of life as a social value instead of a natural right because of the Supreme Court decision."

Mrs. Calogero reiterated that the State Right to Life committee backs the human life amendment which restores the constitutional right to life to all human beings including their unborn offspring at every stage of their biological development irrespective of age, health, function or condition of dependency.

Fr. Schwab Named To Education Post

Father Donald Schwab of St. Ambrose parish in Rochester has been named director of the diocesan department of Religious Education effective in June. It has been announced by Bishop Joseph L. Hogan.

The department serves parishes, schools, institutions and parents concerned with the teaching of religion to the Church community, preschool through adulthood.

The appointment constitutes the second change in the diocesan Education Department announced in recent weeks. Sister Roberta Tierney, SSND, will be replacing Father Daniel Brent as superintendent of diocesan schools, also in June.

Father Schwab will be succeeding Sister Michael Lappetito, RSM, who will become director of novices for the Sister of Mercy congregation in addition to other as yet unspecified duties in the field of education.

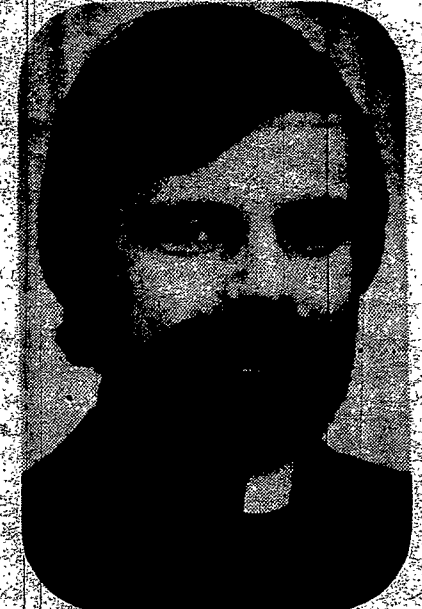
In making the announcement, Bishop Hogan praised Sister Michael for "excellent leadership" and added that he looked forward to the vision and enthusiasm Father Schwab can offer us.

Fr. Hempel Replaces Fr. Moore at St. Ann's

Father Raymond F. Moore, chaplain at St. Ann's Home since 1969, will retire March 1 and Father John J. Hempel, rector of Becket Hall, will take his place. The Pastoral Office announcement named no successor for Father Hempel.

Father Moore, in ill health, will stay on at St. Ann's, living in the priests' residence. For the two years preceding his appointment to the chaplaincy, he was pastor of St. Rose Church in Lima.

He is a native Rochesterian, from Immaculate Conception parish, and a graduate of the diocesan seminaries. Ordained Oct. 19, 1946, he was appointed first to St. Cecilia's, Elmira, and then served assistantships successively at St. Michael's, Penn Yan, and St. Andrew's, Dundee. Our Lady of Lourdes and Our Mother of



FATHER SCHWAB

Father Schwab, ordained in 1973, has a bachelor's degree from St. John Fisher College and a Master of Divinity from St. Bernard's Seminary. He has been a deacon, intern at Holy Ghost, Coldwater, and has served three years at St. Ambrose where he has been in

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Sorrows, Rochester. From June 1961 until June 1967, he was procurator at St. Bernard's Seminary.

Father Hempel, who was director of the Secular (rural) Mission, in 1967 and later headed the new Office of Human Development, was appointed in 1971 to Becket Hall, the seminarians' residence at St. John Fisher College. He has served as an assistant in St. Anne's, St. Jerome's and Holy Cross parishes. He was ordained June 5, 1954.

Before entering the seminary, he served five years in the Army Medical Corps, with 21 months of active duty on the World War II battlefields of Europe. Later, he was a National Guard chaplain for 15 years. Father Hempel is a native of Rochester and a graduate of Aquinas Institute, St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's.