



Reciting the prayers over the oils are (from left) Bishop Hickey, Bishop Hogan, Father Conboy and Bishop McCafferty.

Elmira Chrism Mass

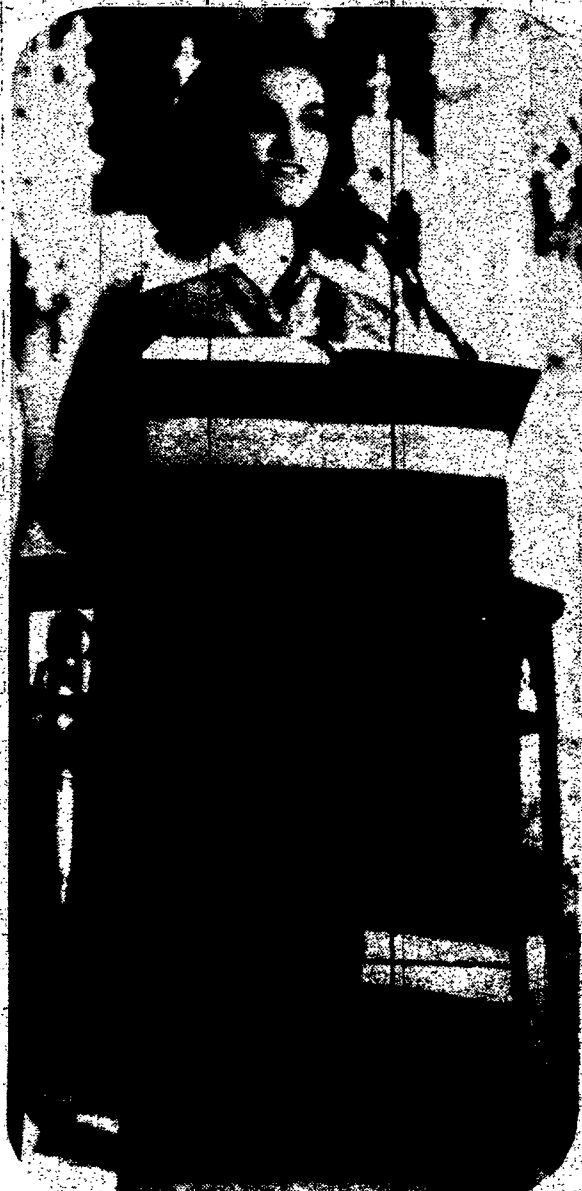
The annual Chrism Mass celebration moved to Elmira this year, where it was received with enthusiasm by more than 1,000 people who filled Sts. Peter and Paul Church April 13. The congregation included persons from every region of the diocese, priests, sisters and lay leaders of the Church of Rochester.

Buses from distant regions of the diocese brought people to the church, which was teeming with excitement a half hour before the 8 p.m. start of the Mass. A joyful atmosphere pervaded the church, as members of the congregation were talking and introducing themselves to each other. Father David Fedor of St. Mary Our Mother in Horseheads set the stage for the entrance of the celebrants

with hymn practice. The hearty singing united those in attendance, into a single congregation.

Seminarians of St. Bernard's led the procession beginning the Mass, followed by the 10 regional coordinators, Father Douglas Hoffman, Father Michael Conboy, Father Edward Foy, and Bishops Joseph L. Hogan, Dennis W. Hickey, and John E. McCafferty. All 15 celebrants wore vestments specially hand-made by local persons for the Mass.

The Chrism oils were blessed after the consecration. The three silver-urns contained the oils for Holy Orders, Confirmation, Baptism, and the Sacrament of the Sick for use throughout the diocese for the coming year.



Mrs. Joette Knott gives the second reading.



Sister Judy Hamm directs Sts. Peter and Paul Adult Group, one of the two groups leading the singing.



The choir of St. Mary Our Mother, Horseheads, directed by Father David Fedor, provides harmony from the choir loft.