

Brother Davis at Cornell

'Jesus Has Authentic Cure for World'

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Jeremiah. The United States has passed through "our own watershed" Brother Davis said, similar to the one suffered by Judah. He said that the United States has a "very serious wound," caused by many problems, including leaders who "thought they could deceive the people, betray the nation, without answering for it," leaders "vested with trust (who) had to resign in disgrace."

The United States has never come "face to face with the Vietnam War" or with the people who are still suffering because of it, he said. The nation finds itself in its bicentennial year, still struggling to implement the fundamental statement that "all persons are created equal," he pointed out.

"What are we to say about a nation," Brother Davis continued, "where 40 per cent of the people use 40 per cent of the resources," where food is "used as a political weapon. In past years gifts of food

have decreased while the output of arms to foreign countries has increased; a country where the elderly and poor many times are forced to eat food prepared for pets, but the government spends \$23 million on a project to retard aging so people can live longer?"

"We should have the same faith, the same confidence," that Jeremiah had when he told the Judeans of their errors, Brother Davis said. "We possess the authentic cure" to such problems, "because our trust lies in Christ Jesus."

During the discussion Saturday evening, Brother Davis explained that the main concern of NOBC, which he has directed since 1970, is "trying to make the Catholic Church in the Black Community Black." He noted that there are 1,200 Black Catholic churches in the country, about 40 of which have Black pastors.

Black Catholics have a special

position in the Church, Brother Davis said. Catholics are considered to be one family, he explained, and Blacks are often made to feel out of place if they call themselves "Black Catholics." While Catholics think of a single church, Brother Davis said, the Black Catholic knows that "as a member of that Church he is not truly welcome in every Catholic church. He noted that his office of Black Catholics is not trying to divide the Church, but to bring cultural awareness to it. He said that although the one million Black Catholics in the United States are a comparatively small group, they do constitute a significant number of persons who are both Black and Catholic, and should be treated as such.

Brother Davis also said that developing lay Black leadership in the church is an important goal of NOBC. He noted that the permanent deaconate could become an effective method of involving Blacks in ministry to Blacks. He



Father Robinson (left) the diocesan director of Black Ministries, discusses weekend details with Brother Davis during their visit to Cornell.

also said that he felt the deacons need to be employed by the church in full time ministry.

Commenting on Catholic schools, Brother Davis emphasized that "Black parents want the best education for their children, and public schools don't give that." But,

he added, the mere existence of the schools is not sufficient; he said that "schools in the Black Community should reflect the Black Community. Everything a child sees when he goes into the school environment" should strengthen his or her identity as a Black person.

SOUTHERN TIER AUBURN-GENEVA

Mediation Program Helps Tenants, Landlords

BY MARY ANN GINNERTY Auburn-Geneva Correspondent

Auburn — The Cayuga Homesite Corporation, which received a \$7425 grant from the Diocesan Office of Human Development in June, is now in full operation with the hiring of Carolyn Roberts as security deposit mediator for the county.

The demonstration project in the use of a security deposit mediator is a concept developed by the Cayuga Homesite in response to increasing inquiries from local residents concerning an inability to get back security deposits, and the rights and responsibilities of tenants and landlords.

Ms. Roberts explained that the proposal submitted to the Diocesan Human Development Task Force outlined the security mediator's role as one which will assist both tenant and landlord in documenting the state of rental property prior to occupancy and at the termination of the renting arrangement.

In instances where damage occurs, the mediator also can negotiate the settlement.

In some instances, Ms. Roberts said, there may have been personality conflicts or "too much noise" interpreted as damages. While these are not legally enforceable reasons for keeping the deposit, the money is usually kept in an account accessible only to the landlord. Legal action is an expensive alternative.

Either the prospective tenant or landlord may initiate a request to Ms. Roberts at her CCAP Office, 60 Clark Street. The three parties go over the rental property. An agreement on a checklist is reached, and a signed copy is given to each party.

Barbara Lamphere, director of Homesite, said the deposit mediator can be beneficial to both tenant and landlord. It gives recognition to the needs of the tenant and adds protection for the landlord.

Ms. Lamphere said more housing rental units for families are needed. This program recognizes the right of the landlord to receive his rent and reasonable care of the property. Hopefully, this could encourage other landowners to open their property for rental purposes, she said.

Concert Benefits ND, C-S Region

Elmira — Internationally acclaimed organist Wayne Wilkinson will give a concert at Notre Dame High School Tuesday, Oct. 26 at 8 p.m. Appearing with Wilkinson will be nine year old Matthew Borelli, the youngest child ever to be accepted at the Julliard School of Music in New York, having passed his auditions when he was six years old. He will play several numbers on the piano.

The program is being sponsored jointly by Notre Dame and the Chemung-Schuyler Regional Assembly. Tickets will be available through parishes in the region and at the door.

DIVORCED CATHOLICS MEET

Auburn — Sister Kathleen Kircher will address the Auburn area Divorced and Separated Catholics group meeting Monday, Oct. 11 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Alphonsus Parish Center. Sister Kathleen, coordinator of ministry to divorced and separated Catholics will speak on "The Church addresses the needs of the separated and divorced Catholic in her teaching and ministry."

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Tompkins-Tioga Workshop Set

Ithaca — The Tompkins-Tioga Region is sponsoring a program for all regional delegates and parish council members Sunday, Oct. 17 from 2 to 4 p.m. at Immaculate Conception School. Father Douglas Hoffman, director of Pastoral Ministry, will speak on the "Authority of the Parish Council," and discuss the work of councils on the parish level. There will also be a panel presentation by Emily Stuhlmiller, Tony Taras and Father Thomas Cleary from Holy Cross, Dryden. Each panelist will speak for five minutes on what they think a parish council should be. Following the presentation there will be a group discussion with a question and answer period. Father Hoffman will summarize the session.

A brief meeting will take place afterwards, to consider the amendment to add a Human Life Coordinator to the regional executive committee.

Assembly Discusses Ministerial Needs

Elmira Heights — The Chemung-Schuyler Regional Assembly Sunday, Sept. 26, devoted much of its meeting to discussion of ministry needs in the region, especially those relating to the elderly, the infirm and sick, and youth.

Discussion of a constitutional amendment the main item on the agenda, was postponed until the next assembly when it was discovered that a voting quorum was not present. The amendment would have added DPC delegates as regular members of the assembly.

Some of the suggestions for ministry to the sick or infirm included communal anointing services at Sunday Mass, Eucharistic ministry to private homes, a parish committee program for follow-up after hospital discharge, and a study on the quality of life in nursing homes in the area.

Suggestions concerning the elderly included adoption of an elderly person by a family, use of

cable television to reach the elderly; the use of mobile elderly to reach those not mobile; and the formation of a committee of elderly persons to determine what types of service should be offered.

Concern was expressed several times during the discussion over the arrangements for chaplains at Elmira's Arnot-Ogden Hospital. Presently each parish takes care of its own parishioners, and responsibility for the non-Elmira patients at the hospital is shared on a monthly basis among the Elmira priests. Father Joseph Gaynor, regional coordinator, noted that that system should be changing soon, as Marist Father Francis Marino chaplain of the Sisters of Mercy House of Prayer in Corning has offered to work at the hospital.

Several ideas surfaced during the discussion of youth ministry, including a regional CGD program or curriculum for grades 9-12, youth representation on parish councils, a Junior Regional Assembly program, and extension of the Confirmation program into areas of service. Toombs

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