



Regional Meeting

Father Douglas Hoffman, director of Pastoral Ministry, summing up the Tompkins-Tioga regional workshop on the authority of the parish council, at Immaculate Conception, Ithaca, Oct. 17.

Advisory Board Formed For Divorced, Separated

The Advisory Board for the Coordination of Ministry to Divorced and Separated Catholics met for the first time Oct. 14. The board, established by Sister Kathleen Kircher, diocesan coordinator of ministry to divorced and separated Catholics, will "act as a clearing house for the divorced Catholic groups to share ideas, problems, growth, and future planning," according to Sister Kathleen.

Members of the advisory board are Sister Kathleen, Father Robert Collins, head of the Office of Family Life; Father James Lawlor, clergy liaison for the office of divorced and separated; Ms. Janet Foy of the Pastoral Counseling Center, and members of divorced Catholic groups. Consultative members will be Father Robert O'Neill, of the Tribunal, and Father David Kelly of St. Bernard's Seminary faculty.

Currently, there are divorced Catholic groups at St. John's, Humboldt St., St. Charles, Borromeo, Greece, St. Alphonsus, Auburn, St. Paul's, Webster, Geneva and Ithaca.

At the recommendation of the advisory group, Sister Kathleen will begin a monthly newsletter, "The Stepping Stone," that will coordinate ministry, and describe national and church developments of special interest to divorced and separated Catholics. The Stepping Stone's first issue will be in December.

ADDITIONS

In last week's edition of the Courier-Journal, two names of Rochester missionaries serving abroad were inadvertently omitted. They are Father John Fisher Mayer, OFM, Jata, Brazil, and Father Charles J. Young, CSC, Bangladesh.

St. Mary's Uses Outdoors as Classroom

Canandaigua — Early October was the time of a special education experience for the eighth graders from St. Mary's School. The class spent two days and a night camping at the Davis Mountain Campus in Naples. The property is 1,000 acres of woodland owned by Robert's Wesleyan College.

St. Mary's junior high faculty planned the time to provide outdoor education as well as the usual school subjects of math, creative writing, art, poetry, science and map study as they relate to the natural environment.

Students also were involved in

analyzing pond life, learning compass skills, and writing nature poetry. More importantly the two-day goal was for the group of students and teachers to grow as a Christian community, to examine the values they hold, and to grow in appreciation of God's gifts.

Parents helped in the planning and sent along plenty of food to keep the campers happy. Ten adults participated in the jaunt

including the junior high teachers, two mothers, the principal, religious education coordinator, and the pastor.

Msgr. William Roche, Pastor, celebrated a special outdoor liturgy to close the program. The prayers were written by the students themselves and the Eucharist used consecrated bread that had been baked by eighth graders right there in the hills.

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