



Rev. Tyrrell speaking at the ecumenical service at St. Patrick's. Other participants, from left, are VanCott, Mrs. Grant, Sister Mary Ann, Father Egan, Rev. Lester, Father Davis, and Rev. Ziegler.

Spirit Aiding Ecumenism, Minister Tells Gathering

Elmira—More than 200 gathered in St. Patrick's Church Sunday, Jan. 23 for an observance of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Jan. 18-25. The ecumenical service involved clergy from four faiths and the choirs of Our Lady of Lourdes and Park Congregational Church.

Father Joseph Egan, pastor of St. Patrick's, welcomed those attending the special afternoon service, noting that all were followers of Jesus Christ.

Homilist Rev. Robert Tyrrell, pastor of Grace Episcopal Church, discussed the recent work of scholars of various faiths. Their work has been constructive, he said, as they have examined

the similarities rather than the points of conflict among Christian faiths. They have looked to the beginnings of Christianity, he said, and have not spent their efforts further entrenching the differences among the faiths. It has been "the work of the Holy Spirit," he said, that so many of the Biblical and theological scholars have "come to the same conclusions."

The scholars' work has "shed light on our historical short-sightedness" and has resulted in "much of the clutter that has caused us to forget the Kingdom of God to be swept away," Rev. Tyrrell said.

He added that three

things which are part of the "very foundations of faith" are in scarce supply among Christians, and need to be strengthened: righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. They are "foundation stones of God's kingdom," Rev. Tyrrell told those attending the service.

In addition to Rev. Tyrrell and Father Egan, Rev. Robert Lester, pastor of Park Congregational, Rev. Jack Ziegler, pastor of First Presbyterian, Harrison VanCott, Mrs. Betty Grant, Sister Mary Ann Sliwa, Father Francis Davis, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes, and several other local Protestant and Catholic clergymen participated in the service.

Southern Tier Schools Plan Active Schools Week Programs

The Catholic schools in the Southern Tier will be active places during Catholic Schools Week, Feb. 6-12. Special liturgies, poster and essay contests, teach-ins, parent information sessions and open houses occupy what for most of the schools will be an event-filled week.

The theme for Catholic Schools Week this year is "Catholic Schools—A Plus for America," and many schools are planning activities to educate both those involved in Catholic schools and others of what Catholic school have to contribute.

A special concelebrated Mass at Notre Dame High School on Sunday, Feb. 6 at 3:30 p.m. will kickoff the week's events for the Elmira area schools. The Mass, sponsored by the Chemung County Catholic School System and Notre Dame, will be celebrated by several area priests.

St. Patrick's Junior High, Elmira, will hear from some Notre Dame students on Thursday, Feb. 10, in the morning, and then will participate in a student vs. faculty basketball game in the afternoon. Thursday and Friday will be open house days.

The fifth grade at St. Mary's, Elmira, is busy preparing a radio tape. The school will host open house on Tuesday and Thursday.

A Mass at Our Lady of

Lourdes, Elmira, on Friday, Feb. 11 at 12:30 p.m. also will mark the patronal feast of the school. Students of the school also, have "Support Catholic Schools" buttons to wear.

In Corning, a prose and poetry contest on the value of Catholic schools will be conducted in the Corning Catholic Schools, North and South. The Corning parishes and schools will also be participating in an informational program on Notre Dame High School.

A special liturgy planned by the children will be the main event of Catholic Schools Week at St. Joseph's, Wayland, on Friday, at 8:15 a.m.

St. Mary's Bath, will kickoff with a special Mass at 10 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 6, and will continue with open house during school hours on Monday, and a senior citizens program on Tuesday. On Wednesday evening, Sister Anne Michelle of the diocesan Education Department, will speak on the sex education program being used in the schools. On Thursday, a Home-School Association pot luck supper has been scheduled. A liturgy at 10 a.m. on Friday will conclude the week's activities.

St. Ann's in Hornell will have an evening open house on Wednesday, Feb. 9 and be open also during school hours Thursday afternoon.

St. Mary Our Mother in Horseheads will get an early start, with a First Friday liturgy on Feb. 4. A special Home-School meeting has been planned for Monday evening, and then on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons students, teachers and parents will join in "each-one-teach-one" activities.

St. Casimir's, Elmira, will also begin the week on First Friday, with a Mass at 9 a.m. Open house has been scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday.

Immaculate Conception School in Ithaca has set a theme of "Immaculate Conception School, A Plus for Us." Among other activities, on Wednesday alumni from the community will be invited to speak on their particular career. The day also will involve the missions, and one missionary, Sister Jane Kenrick, RSM, who is a graduate of the school and presently at the Sisters of Mercy Mission in Chile.

Notre Dame High School will be hosting parents for parent-teacher conferences on Monday night, and a faculty prayer service has been planned for later in the week.

All the principals contacted concerning their school's activities expressed the hope that the parents and friends will take the opportunity to learn more about Catholic schools.

Auburn Meeting Adjusting to New Roles

By MARY ANN GINNERTY

Auburn — "Whatever you do, don't stay home" was among the advice offered from divorced and separated persons participating in a program tailored to help those finding themselves in this life situation.

An unidentified woman said that "when divorced or separated the hardest thing to do is to come alone to any gathering. When divorced people suddenly find themselves in a terrible void, it sure does help to know there are others in the same boat who care."

The divorced and separated Catholic group here was just one group represented at a community meeting recently at the Cayuga County Community College, sponsored by Cayuga Counseling Services.

Jeanne Cutillo spoke for the separated and divorced organization which meets the second Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at St. Alphonsus Church.

"A sense of healing and coming closer to God are primary concerns as well as clearing up misunderstandings about Church teachings and laws" was how Ms. Cutillo described the group's goals.

"It is the group's purpose to encourage the recognition and acceptance of the divorced and separated Catholic as part of the parish community... the problems of the divorced are big enough that they don't need the added grief of un-Christian nonsense as well," she declared. "The rights of the remarried are also a concern to us."

Parents Without Partners, new in Auburn, also was

'Action' Proposals

Horseheads—The Southern Tier Curia, Legion of Mary, is sponsoring a workshop on the Detroit "Call to Action" resolutions at St. Mary Our Mother School Saturday, Feb. 5 from 9:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Father Joseph Egan, pastor of St. Patrick's, Elmira, will speak on Personhood; Father Francis Davis, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes, Elmira, will speak on Neighborhood; Father John Morgan, pastor of St. James, Waverly, on Church, and Father Bartholomew O'Brien, pastor of St. Mary Our Mother, on Family and Nationhood.

The program includes two question and answer periods. Those attending are asked to bring their own lunch; beverages will be provided.

represented at the meeting. Ruth Holmes explained that the group hopes to become a member of the international organization when enough members are enrolled. The group meets the second Tuesday each month at 8 p.m. in the Board Room of the Family Planning Center.

Another group, the One-Parent Family Council, which meets the second Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Church was described by Fran Ferraraccio as a socially-oriented adult group. Children's activities, however, have recently been re-established.

In a session dealing with personal counseling needs the Rev. James Hughes, pastoral counselor from Kings Ferry, and Paul Kelly, director of Cayuga

Counseling Services, explained how individuals can get back into society.

"Pastoral counseling begins when someone calls me up," said the Rev. Hughes. "This is the best introduction because it means the other person is saying 'help'."

Kelly said his agency tends to get involved in the terminal stages of marital disintegration when chances for solving the problems are slim. However, people do come back for help with their own problems as individuals. He encouraged couples to seek help when troubles first arise.

Attorney Lee Michaels discussed legal aspects of the divorced and separated and shared his opinions on questions raised.

SOUTHERN TIER

AUBURN-GENEVA

Liturgy Topic At Workshop

By MARY ANN GINNERTY

Auburn— "The universal church is at a point where the major rites have been reformed. Along with this now must come a renewal of the heart, bringing a new spirit to allow the reformed rites to express our spirit and faith," said Father Robert Kennedy, director of the Office of Liturgy.

Father Kennedy was speaking at the opening of the January 14 weekend liturgy workshop at St. Alphonsus here for Seneca-Cayuga region liturgy committees.

The distinction between reform and renewal of the liturgy is important, he said. Changes proposed in the Constitution on Sacred Liturgy in Vatican II were the end result of liturgical, biblical and historical study and experimentation.

Father Kennedy explained that prior to Vatican II, communication within the church was from the pope to the bishops to the priests. The base was holy orders. Catholic social action in social issues was seen as an exception. The liturgy was seen by the people as the priests' business.

Since Vatican II, he pointed out, the church is seen as a whole unit. Baptism is the base and all

are called to ministry in the church. Social action is seen as an integral part of the common mission. The liturgy is the celebration of all the people.

"This is more in tune with the best of our tradition and is part of the vision that has occurred," he said.

According to Father Kennedy, the research-writing phase is over. Now it will be the role of the parish liturgy committee to help create an atmosphere for worship by understanding the liturgy, knowing the people, good planning, education of the parish and praying together as the committee works towards this goal.

Parish worship is the environment in which the christian must live, he reminded the workshop participants.

It will be the challenge of the liturgy committee to make the revised rites their own so that the spirit of Vatican II will be in that celebration. The Church desires all the faithful to be led to a fuller, active participation in the liturgy through head, heart, body and mind, Father Kennedy said.

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