

Overseas Aid Collection Scheduled for March 20

Earthquakes were the scourge of humankind last year in widely scattered areas of the world; man-made upheavals took their heavy toll, and poverty raged with the force of disaster. But wherever Catholic Relief Services could reach, there American generosity counted. The lives of 20 million persons in 75 countries were improved through relief and development programs paid for in the parishes of the United States, CRS reported last week.

The bishops' Overseas Aid collection is scheduled for Laetare Sunday, March 20. In this diocese, it will be supplemented by Operation Bread Box, a variant of the "Rice Bowl" that held \$5 million by the end of Lent, 1976.

Scanning the high spots of the past year, CRS described the February earthquake in Guatemala as "probably the most terrible disaster of 1976." The agency still is engaged in "a vast program of reconstruction" in Guatemala. In August, earthquakes devastated areas of Northern Italy and the Philippine Islands. CRS had money and supplies, and was able to send help at once.

Political upheavals in Asia and Africa created a refugee problem in Portugal, the report continued, and CRS "is helping to mitigate some of the privation suffered by the



American Catholic Overseas Aid Appeal

This year's Overseas Aid poster.

Portugese returnees." It was able also to transmit funds to war-torn Lebanon, and "from time to time to land some cargoes of badly needed food, blankets and medicines."

Starvation and malnutrition will claim 10 million lives in 1977, the

report predicts, and half of the doomed will be less than five years old. This is a foreseeable disaster, and steps can be taken to ward it off, the agency noted.

The slogan for the bishops' fund drive, therefore, is Touch a Hungry World!

Call to Action

Continued from Page 1

presented a point of view. It was not objective. The way the resolutions were worded we could not give a yes or no answer." He described the booklet as "slanted." He also said that a text meant to clarify the issues "sounded like a marketing brochure for affirmation."

Garlick noted that the process "could have been done a lot better." He further cautioned that one "should not take an affirmative response" to the variety of questions "as a stamp of approval."

The process generated a "strong reaction" among parishioners, Garlick said. He cited letters and phone calls he had received from people throughout the parish.

ST. MARY, CORNING

The six-month-old parish council at St. Mary's discussed the issues at a special meeting. Father Stephen Kraus, assistant pastor, noted that "we were impressed" with the council's preparations for the meeting. "The council was glad to share in the project," he added. "Although they felt they were being asked to vote on too many issues."

Participation was "excellent," he said, "and parish discussion was aided by a supply of the Call to Action issue of the Courier-Journal."

ST. MARY, ELMIRA

St. Mary's Parish Council

dealt with the issues at a regular meeting. There was "some disagreement," Peggi Constantine, parish council president, reported, but "for the most part we agreed," with the resolutions. The council used the process suggested for discussion and evaluation she noted.

ST. MARGARET MARY, ROCHESTER

Robert Marsh, president of the parish council at St. Margaret Mary's, said that the council dealt with the various papers in committee. In January, special workbooks on the issues were distributed to the council members. The Courier-Journal special issue on the conference was used as a reference. Notices were placed in the parish bulletin and individual responses from parishioners were welcomed. At the February council meeting priorities were sorted out and the council as a whole voted issue by issue. The discussions, he said, were lively and amendments were passed on several of the resolutions.

He described the process as "real good" and is happy that the issues at Detroit have come to the fore. He said that the feelings of the council members appeared to be "very altruistic."

ST. MICHAEL, NEWARK

At St. Michael's the parish council held an open meeting Jan. 19 that attracted 60 people. Father Eugene Sweeney, co-pastor, said his parishioners found the discussion "informative

and helpful in clarifying the issues. It helped them prepare their own individual input. We were pleased with the turnout," he said.

ST. PATRICK, SENECA FALLS

At St. Patrick's, the parish council meeting was devoted to discussion of the Call to Action workbook, which members had had for a month. "They were prepared and interested," according to Charles Shaffer, council president. "We concentrated on Section 2, devoting ten minutes to each of the 12 issues. The conversation was lively and good." The meeting was open but only council members attended.

ST. THOMAS MORE, ROCHESTER

Dr. John McIntyre, a member of the St. Thomas More Parish Council, registered his group's feeling that the "concept is a positive thing—to provide input into the directions the Church will be going."

The "how" of providing that input, however, "had problems," he said. The council "struggled with priorities," he noted. And responding to each item proved "confusing." He explained that his council found the questions "loaded" and that more than one issue was raised in the resolutions so that the council responded positively to one part of a resolution and negatively to others. Overall, he said, the idea of searching out the voice of the people was "very positive and helpful."

DPC

Continued from Page 1

DPC members would be trying to define their hopes in Christ and answer Christ's question "who do you think I am?"

The first activity Friday involved the members explaining their hopes for the DPC, both past and present. Concerns over diocesan communications, the effect of the DPC on the people of the diocese, and the need for the DPC to grow were offered. Several members noted that their hopes had been realized in the short life of the DPC, others pointed out that their hopes would probably always remain as goals.

The members then studied Bible quotations, looking to answer Christ's question "who do you think I am?" They then discussed the question in groups, and wrote a common response which was read during the service in the chapel concluding the evening.

On Saturday the council moved to discussion of how their understanding of Christ would affect their actions. The giving of Christ was emphasized, and the members discussed whether or not the council has been a sharing people in the past, and what it could do to become more like Christ. The question resulting from the discussion was "are we willing to be giving people?"

Members were challenged to carry the meaning of the weekend home with them, as they were given bread to take with them, to share with someone who had not attended the retreat.

Fr. Wheaton

Continued from Page 1

overseas duty and worked in Balboa, at the western end of the Panama Canal, and in Oahu, Hawaii. He had interim assignments at the Naval Hospital in Chelsea, Mass.

In 1962, Father Wheaton resumed diocesan service as pastor of St. Paul of the Cross, Honeoye Falls. In 1970, he was assigned to the chaplaincy at the Genacle Retreat House, and served there until his retirement to St. Ann's in 1975.

He was born in Rochester Feb. 7, 1908, and attended school at Corpus Christi and St. John the Evangelist before entering the diocesan seminaries. Ordained in June, 1934, he spent the first seven years of his priesthood as an assistant at Holy Rosary, Rochester; St. Cecilia's, Elmira, and St. Patrick's, Rochester.

On the day of his death, Father Wheaton had a morning appointment for therapy, Bishop Dennis W. Hickey reported. It was the priest's custom to come in early and sit in the lobby, awaiting his turn. When he did not show up, some St. Ann's people went looking for him, and found him dead in bed, the bishop was told.

FOR TEACHERS

Sister Elinor Ford of Fordham University will address a meeting of teachers in religious orders March 5 at Mercy High School. The meeting will run from 1 until 5 p.m. The theme is Education as Total Ministry.

Pope Begs Church To Share with Poor

Vatican City (RNS) — Pope Paul, in a Lenten appeal to the world's Catholics, declared that any penances performed should have an "external and social" dimension, a generous response to the poor, the hungry and the defenseless and the deprived living in a world that has "grown unjust."

"We ask you to go out to meet poor Lazarus, in his hunger and misery," said the pontiff. "Make yourself his neighbor, so that he can recognize in your eyes the eyes of Christ welcoming him, and in your hands the hands of the Lord sharing his gifts."

In his message, Pope Paul urged an awakening of consciences that will give "fresh vigor to our sense of duty and to our desire to respond in a practical way to the demands of the genuine Christian life."

Observing that 10 years ago he had issued his en-

cyclical, Populorum Progressio, which he described as "a cry of anguish in the name of the Lord," the pope said that as Lent begins "we would like to renew that solemn appeal. Our gaze and our heart as pastor of all continues to be overwhelmed by the immense multitude of those whom all the world's societies leave by the wayside, wounded in body and soul, stripped of their human dignity, without bread, without a voice, defenseless, alone in their distress."

He noted that it is difficult to share one's possessions to help alleviate the world's injustices, and said "that is why it is necessary . . . to remember that we are stewards of God's gifts," and that during Lent, "penance should not only be internal and individual, but also external and social."

Fr. McKenna

Continued from Page 1

portant that we see ministerial responsibility and our call to be servants as a gift from God to proclaim Christ's Good News."

The ordinand's home parish is Sacred Heart Cathedral (Bishop McCafferty is his pastor), and he attended that school before entering Kings Preparatory High School, from which he was graduated in 1968.

He was graduated from St. John Fisher College, Becket Hall, with a B.A. in history, and St. Bernard's Seminary with an M. Div.

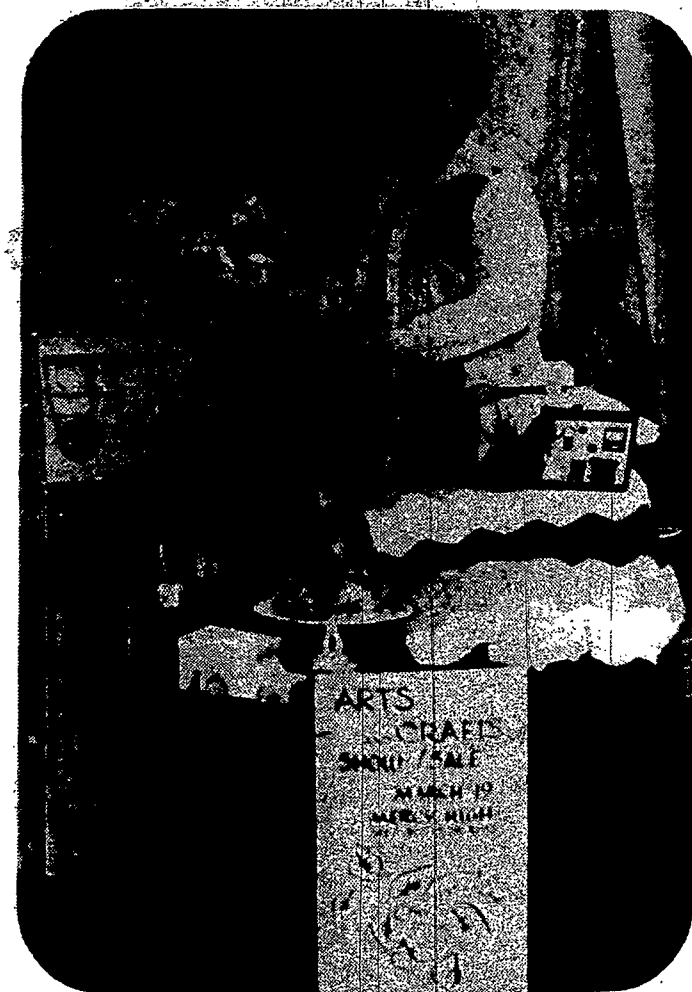
Deacon McKenna has worked in the "Christian Ministry in the National Parks" program in Yellowstone National Park.

He took his Clinical Pastoral Education at Danvers State Hospital, Mass.; has worked in the diocesan Marriage Tribunal; has taught religious education at St. Leo's, Hilton; has worked at the DePaul Clinic; and served as president of the St. Bernard's Student Council.

The ordination rites will be followed by a parish reception in the school hall.

Father McKenna will celebrate the Eucharist on Saturday, March 5, at 5 p.m. in the Cathedral. A reception in the rectory hall will follow the Mass.

He again will celebrate the Eucharist at St. Margaret Mary's, on Sunday, March 13, for the 9:30 a.m. monthly "family Mass."



Art and Craft Festival

Our Lady of Mercy High School, 1437 Blossom Road, will hold its second annual Arts and Crafts Show and Sale on Saturday, March 19, 10-6 p.m. in the school gym. Above, Mrs. Judith Malley, chairman and Mrs. Mary DeWolf, co-chairman show off a few of the hundreds of items, created by 60 local crafters, which will be on display. Also included in the festivities will be a baked food sale. Refreshments will be available as well as free baby sitting service.