



**All Learners**

The Elmira Catholic Schools are participating in a program with Elmira College that brings college students into the classroom. All four schools are participating, adding such classes as art, puppetry, drama and Spanish. The college students teach a few hours a week, and to date

the principals are happy with the program. Above, the kindergarten class at Our Lady of Lourdes doing a St. Patrick's Day project under the direction of Steve Langweaver. Right, Jean Brinser and her new puppet in Elizabeth Bernard's puppetry class at St. Mary's.



**General Education Board**

**Budget, Registration Discussed**

By MARTIN TOOMBS  
Southern Tier Editor

Elmira — Much of the regular meeting of the Chemung County General Education Board March 10 was spent discussing the proposed 1977-78 school system budget.

Father William Burns, pastor of St. Anthony's, congratulated the Finance Committee for their work on the budget, noting that the process is two months ahead of last year.

The budget proposal calls for allocations of \$564,000; the current budget is \$540,000.

The committee proposed a reduction in system-provided busing, estimating a saving from the \$15,000 spent for busing this year. The committee also recommended inclusion of \$4,006 for capital expenses, expenses carried totally by the parishes in the past.

Matt Fennell, Finance Committee chairman, noted that the budget calls for no

staffing changes, and also includes a provision for those parishes maintaining school buildings not used by the system.

Fennell explained budget items, and members were encouraged to study the budget for further action at the board's April meeting.

Pre-registration of 836 students for next year was announced, nearly 200 students below the current enrollment. The gap is expected to lessen. The principals reported that

they are contacting parents of current pupils not yet registered, and several have said they intend to register. It also was noted that approximately 100 students enrolled after registration last year.

The board approved a motion by Donald Stamp that a May registration day be scheduled, with no late fee charged. Another motion was approved calling for the application of any late fees collected to date to the family's tuition charge.

**SOUTHERN TIER  
AUBURN-GENEVA**

**Prayer Workshop  
Slated in Newark**

Newark — An interfaith Lenten mission prayer program, scheduled for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, March 25-27 at St. Michael's auditorium has been designated "Newark Adventure in Prayer Workshop."

Fathers Peter Deckman and Eugene Sweeney, co-pastors of St. Michael's, the Rev. Carl Roemer, pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church, and Rev. J. Edward Putnam, rector of St. Mark's Church, said the title was chosen by them and their steering committee members.

composed of Mrs. Lloyd O'Brien, Mrs. Virginia Krause, William Peck, Alfred Lipke, Roger Wilson, Duane Kline and Charles Terf. They have been busy making arrangements for the three Episcopal missionaries who will conduct the workshop — Fathers Carl Sword and John Emerson, and Sister Ellen Stephen.

The sessions from 7:30 to 9:30 each evening will involve a variety of directed events. Preceding each session there will be a "bring your own bag supper" at 5:30 at St. Mark's parish hall for the purpose of informal discussion.

The steering committee is

**'Sunflower' the Symbol  
Of Next Chrism Mass**

BY MARY ANN GINNERTY

Auburn — "I know whenever I see a sunflower blooming in the diocese this year, it will remind me of the radiance of joy we receive as anointed Christians," said Father James C. Enright as he announced the sunflower

has been chosen as the symbol for the Chrism Mass set for April 5 at St. Mary's Church, here.

The theme, "Anointed with Oil, we have been made radiant with joy," captures the purpose of the Chrism Mass in which the Bishop consecrates the

Chrism and blesses the holy oils used in the sacraments during the year, he explained.

Father Enright, associate pastor at St. Mary's, is co-chairperson of the Seneca-Cayuga Regional Liturgy Committee which has been working with Father Robert Kennedy, diocesan director of the Office of Liturgy.

"The sunflower was selected both for its oil and for its expression of the radiance which comes from God's calling," Father Enright said.

"Just as the many seeds of the sunflower are made into one oil, so we, though many, are made into one holy people formed by the spirit of Christ."

In addition to being the celebration of the blessing of holy oils for the coming year, the Chrism Mass symbolizes the priesthood of all the people. Bishop Hogan has sought to make this celebration a moment of rededication and renewal in ministry for all the people in the diocese.

Final details for the Chrism Mass are nearing completion as Seneca-Cayuga Region parishes were asked to forward the name of one person to serve as usher at the Chrism Mass to Father Elmer Heindl, regional coordinator.

The Cayuga County Marriage Encounter group will host a coffee hour in the Lyceum Hall at St. Mary's after the Mass. Plans are being coordinated by Mr. and Mrs. Donald Brooks of St. Joseph's in Weedsport.

**Sage Speaker  
Announced**

Ithaca-Sister Margaret Farley, RSM, will be the Dean Sage Speaker at Sage Convocation March 27, addressing the topic "Justice and the Role of Women in the Church."

Sister Margaret is an associate professor of ethics at Yale Divinity School, and is currently serving on several national committees on the expanding role of women in ministry. She also has published articles on the issue.

Sage Convocation is in Sage Chapel on the Cornell campus at 11 a.m. The Cornell Catholic Community will be hosting a luncheon after the convocation, open to the public.

**LENTE SERIES**

Moravia — St. Patrick's Church was the host on March 14 for the third in an ecumenical series of Lenten Devotions and Luncheons. Mrs. Pauline McGuerty welcomed those attending. Mrs. Charlene Murray, president of the Altar and Rosary Society asked the blessing. Mrs. Janice Myers gave the spiritual reading. Those preparing the luncheon included Mesdames Ruth Bilinski, Trish O'Connell, Elaine Bossard, Betsy La Rouech and Mary Stevens.

**SOUTHERN TIER NEWS**

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The Archbishop of Canterbury, in commenting on the alleged auto accident in which Uganda Archbishop Luwum was killed, said, "The Church throughout the world is indignant at the atrocities which have been happening there recently." President Carter said the civilized world is "disgusted" at the Idi Amin reign of terror.

If the stories coming from Uganda are only fractionally true, the situation there is incredible. One refugee described how prisoners were lined up and forced to club one another to death and the last one to survive was then shot. Witnesses say the Uganda prelate did not die in an auto accident but was shot three times at close range, perhaps by Amin himself.

Other reports say Amin is systematically butchering hundreds if not thousands of his helpless Christian subjects — an era of persecution as ruthless as any the Romans ever attempted.

It is very easy for us to become "disgusted" and "indignant" at Amin, who is Black, Moslem, and far away.

Yet this month not-so-far away in Groton, Connecticut, a monster much worse than Amin will be

launched with Christian blessings and American flags waving. This monster is called Trident, one of a fleet of missile launching submarines.

Each Trident will be armed with 24 missiles able to vaporize more than 400 cities most anywhere on earth. Each sub has the murderous potential of 2,000 Nagasaki's. And our Navy wants 30 of these deep sea monsters by 1990 at a cost of over \$80,000,000,000 (that's eighty billion dollars).

If these numbers are a bit too abstract for us, then translate them into Hiroshima and Nagasaki in place of London, Paris, Warsaw, Moscow, and with Soviet retaliatory power add New York, Boston, maybe Rochester, and Elmira, with shells of buildings, twisted steel, the stench of burned flesh, melted eyes, lives destroyed, bodies tortured.

And besides this underwater weapon we have concussion bombs, napalm, multi-billion dollar bombers and endless other infernal devices.

A Lockheed weapons designer, Robert Aldridge, resigned in protest over Trident and has said, "Trident symbolizes the malignancy that is consuming America. The soul of America is being destroyed."

Amin's days are limited. Another few months, maybe a year or two, and after much more bloodshed, but then he will be gone. America's destructive power grows only worse and worse and the agony and suffering it threatens is global. Is there no one to be "disgusted" or "indignant" at this?

**St. Joseph's Cancels  
Blue Cross Contract**

Elmira-St. Joseph's Hospital announced March 15 that its contract with Blue Cross of Central New York will be cancelled effective May 15.

Both Chemung County hospitals, St. Joseph's and Arnot Ogden, notified Blue Cross in September 1976 of their impending action. The March 15 notice constitutes a 60 day notice before contract cancellation.

Sister Martha Gersbach, St. Joseph's administrator, explained the decision of the hospital Board of Directors, noting "all reasonable efforts have

been made to effect a change in the legislation which has joined Blue Cross rates with those set for Medicaid. In September of last year St. Joseph's provided Blue Cross with notice of withdrawal commencing action, which climaxed with the May 15th termination of contract. It was our hope that this would instigate the opening of meaningful discussion and eventual introduction of legislation by the State of New York uncoupling Blue Cross from Medicaid."

The hospital projected a loss of \$800,000 from the coupling legislation and Medicaid cutbacks. The cancellation means that as of May 15, the hospital will not accept Blue Cross payments as full payment.

Sister Martha re-emphasized a statement made in September that "no one will be refused care at St. Joseph's no matter what the ability to pay."

The exact procedure for Blue Cross subscribers after the cancellation will be explained soon, Sister Martha said.

**Novena Begins**

Auburn — A novena to St. Anthony of Padua began at St. Hyacinth's Church here on Tuesday, March 22 and will continue for 13 consecutive weeks. The Novena prayers will be recited after the 5:30 p.m. Mass on Tuesdays. Devotion to St. Anthony of Padua is universal, a church spokesperson explained. He has shown his readiness to intervene for those who turn to him with their problems.

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