

Regions List Results of 'Action' Poll

Results of the regional treatment of Call to Action: Diocese of Rochester, N.Y. were tabulated last week. This marks the end of "Grass Roots Design," the third segment of "Call to Action"

Each region dealt with twelve special Detroit recommendations selected by Bishop Hogan. They were asked to discuss, amend and vote on each and then rank the issues according to their importance.

A graph showing the results was prepared by the Call to Action Committee, headed by Father Douglas Hoffman.

He explained that columns 1-3 represent voting done parish by parish. Two regions, North and Yates-Ontario-Wayne, did not submit their totals.

Columns 4-6 show the results of the regional assembly vote. All regions are represented.

The last column on the

graph represents the regional prioritizing results. The regions have indicated recommendation seven, calling for responsible parenthood, as being the most important.

It is interesting to note that recommendations dealing with married clergy and the ordination of women to the priesthood, the most controversial of the twelve, only ranked fourth and ninth respectively.

The only Detroit issue voted down by the ten diocesan regions dealt with bishop's commitment to reducing crime and the abolishment of capital punishment.

Father Hoffman added that although parishes and regions have completed their work, the amended recommendations will not be officially approved until voted on by the Diocesan Pastoral Council. They are scheduled to meet Saturday April 16.

ISSUE	Col. 1 No. of parishes "for" in 8/10 Regions	Col. 2 No. of parishes "against" in 8/10 Regions	Col. 3 Ties	Col. 4 No. of Regions "For"	Col. 5 No. of Regions "Against"	Col. 6 Ties	Col. 7 Final Rank Order of Regions
1. Selection of Bishops and Pastors	84	25	0	10	0	0	6
2. Reconsideration of Priestly Celibacy	79	26	1	10	0	0	4
3. Formulation of a Position on Ordination of Women	62	48	2	7	2	1	9
4. Parents' Right to Discern Readiness for Sacraments	91	17	0	10	0	0	5
5. Church Commitment to Catholic Schools	94	15	0	10	0	0	3
6. Campaign for Public Support for Catholic Schools	92	15	2	10	0	0	7
7. Call to Responsible Parenthood	97	11	3	10	0	0	1
8. Parish Commitment to Neighborhood	108	4	0	10	0	0	2
9. Examination of Multinational Corporations	85	25	0	10	0	0	12
10. Bishops' Commitment to Reducing Crime + Abolishment of Capital Punishment	42	65	1	3	6	1	11
11. Bishops' Commitment - Citizen Involvement and Alternatives to Prison	90	26	0	9	0	1	10
12. Church Response to Racism	95	14	1	10	0	0	8

Message Comes to 'Light'

New York (RNS) — The owner of the world-renowned One Times Square Building, a long-time foe of pornography and prostitution in New York City's midtown, has "put into lights" his enthusiastic response to Cardinal Terence Cooke's commitment to join the battle against "moral degeneracy" in the area.

Calling the cardinal's recent appearance in the Times Square section a "wonderful thing" and a "tremendous boost" to anti-smut efforts, Alex Parker has ordered the electric news sign which has become a landmark in New York carry the following message every five minutes for eight days:

"The One Times Square Building embraces Cardinal Cooke for his moral commitment to help us in our fight."

Parker said Cardinal Cooke's "coming here to help us in the fight makes me feel 18 feet tall" and that the battle is not lost.

3 to Retire

Continued from Page 1

the Chili parish in 1954, as first resident pastor.

During World War II, Father Murphy was an Army chaplain, decorated twice for bravery under fire in Germany. He was born June 16, 1907, in Elmira, and attended St. Mary's School and Elmira Free Academy before entering St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries. He took graduate courses at St. Pius X School of Liturgical Music and the University of Rochester. After his ordination June 4, 1937, he

Medicaid Cuts Studied by OHD

By MICHAEL GRODEN

The Diocesan Office of Human Development recently released a detailed report titled "Medicaid, 1977." Its publication culminates a research and writing process which began in October, 1976.

The purpose of the paper was to "bring before the attention of the diocese as a whole, a major and complex social issue within our state."

Timothy McGowan, coordinator of public affairs for OHD, who together with Sister Judy Reger, SSJ, staffperson to the ministry for the elderly, prepared the document, explained that Medicaid costs have skyrocketed since the program began in 1965.

Both felt the report was necessary to raise diocesan consciousness of the problem as well as be action-oriented.

The report shows, for example, that "In 1969, the individual health bill in the state was \$374, and all New Yorkers spent a total of \$6.8

billion for health. In 1975, the per capita cost was \$758 and the overall expenditure statewide was \$14 billion"

With citizens feeling the pinch of inflation, layoffs and unemployment, balanced budgeting has become an important issue. The state legislature this year is trying to cut Medicaid costs significantly. Much debate has arisen as to where these cuts should be made.

This is where McGowan feels the problems begin.

It would be better to improve the Medicaid program by making it more efficiently run and systematically checked for fraud than to eliminate services to the elderly — the people most in need, McGowan said. The report states that up to now New York has had some 58 Medicaid programs. It suggests that if the numerous agencies handling Medicaid administration were lessened, money could be saved.

According to the paper, "The results of the variety of problems associated with Medicaid often affect the elderly most heavily. As of November, 1976, according to state figures, roughly 17 percent of all Medicaid recipients were over 65. We are speaking here of 184,645 older people who would be directly affected by any change in Medicaid benefits."

The report further states that "Substantial problems were built into the Medicaid program from its inception. Among some of the major programmatic weaknesses were insufficient safeguards and no funding ceiling."

McGowan said that he favors operational changes, which would save money, but not funding cutbacks.

Sister Judy Reger added that fraudulent use of Medicaid money and large profits by hospitals, physicians and nursing homes have "badly damaged Medicaid's image."

In 1975, hospitals in the state received some 45.9 percent of Medicaid expenditures, physicians received 18.9 and nursing homes 8.6 percent.

The report concludes that "each of these questions deserves not only our sensitivity and concern but lively discussion and action as the opportunity to influence policy, through our legislators, becomes real."

In addition to the report, Human Development plans to campaign against fund cutbacks serve as a clearing house for Medicaid information and both McGowan and Sister Judy have offered their services to speak on Medicaid to any group in the diocese who may be interested.

The OHD report was sent to some 15 community organizations, 11 local legislators, all regional Human Development committees, all Rochester urban parish staffs and a number of consultative bodies. More than 300 copies have been mailed.

ARTS, CRAFTS

A juried show and sale of art and craft work provided by elderly people will take place this weekend at Eisenhart Auditorium, Rochester Museum and Science Center. The show opens Friday noon, April 15.

Bishop to Lead Pilgrimage to Canonization

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan will lead a special Courier-Journal tour to Rome for the canonization of Blessed John Neumann, CSSR. The tour will take place June 15 to 24 and the canonization is scheduled for Sunday, June 19 in the Vatican.

Spiritual leaders accompanying Bishop Hogan on the trip will be Father Bernard Power, CSSR, pastor of Our Lady of Victory Church; Msgr. Richard K. Burns, pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle, and Father Michael Conboy, secretary to the bishop.

Blessed Neumann will be only the third United States citizen to be canonized and the first American bishop. Thus the ceremony will mark a great distinction for this country.

More than that for diocesans, the saint-to-be had local connections. A native of Bohemia, he was ordained in New York and sent to the Niagara Frontier. He preached his first homily in Rochester, baptized and

heard confessions here also for the first time.

He arrived on the Fourth of July, 1836, and worked among the German Catholics before going on to Buffalo. He was to return to Rochester several times in his short life.

He eventually became bishop of Philadelphia and his best known achievement is the systematizing of Catholic schools that was his first project in that diocese. Yet administration was not his strong point. He has been described as by nature retiring, scholarly, a great friend to children, frugal in his living arrangements, but hospitable and generous to all.

He heard confessions in seven languages. A small man, 5 feet 3, he wore himself out walking on missions in the diocese. At the end of a long day of errands performed on foot, he collapsed and died in a street not far from his home. He was 48.

Clustering

Continued from Page 1

The report also contains an extensive theological reflection on the educational mission of the Church, sections on the community outreach of the Catholic schools, the administration of an urban school system and personnel and staffing of schools in that system.

The Priests Council acknowledged that Council members had been in receipt of the task force report in sufficient time to study the document prior to their April meeting, but many, in fact, had not studied it.

They requested Sister Roberta to return to their May meeting to discuss the issue further.