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SPRINGTIME

Marie Biancuzzo and Jeanne Beauchamp, Nazareth College juniors, took full advantage of spring weather to study outdoors last week. Marie is an applied piano major and Jeanne is a music major. Fittingly enough the statue of Our Lady reminds that May is devoted to her.

Photo by Ben Susso

Panama's Archbishop McGrath:

New Treaty Good for U.S.

More photos, story on Church in Panama in centerfold

BY ANTHONY J. COSTELLO

Panama City — Archbishop Marcos G. McGrath of Panama told a group of officials from the Rochester diocese headed by Bishop Joseph L. Hogan that a new treaty on the canal would be in the "best interests" of the United States.

The archbishop said that a treaty being discussed now would accept 23 to 25 years of continued U.S. administration of the canal including the presence of U.S. troops for defense coupled with a gradual turning over of the canal zone to Panamanian jurisdiction.

Such a treaty, he said, would be "very much in the best interests of the United States. Everything is in favor of the U.S. because it loses nothing in the sense that for 25 years they'll have to be the built-in guarantees for the security of the canal and it's an area that's going down in strategic importance, and, even, in

economic importance as a canal."

Speaking in an informal atmosphere, the archbishop added, "But most of all by so doing the U.S. can really open a new era in relation to Latin America ... Carter has an opportunity here to begin something new. We've been so used to having the U.S. get away with whatever it wants to do because it's the stronger party — this can really be done on the basis of the interests of all involved."

"What Panama is striving for is simply an affirmation of its sovereignty over the whole territory," he said. The U.S. now controls the canal and five miles on either side — the Canal Zone.

He pointed out that there are 15,000 employees of the zone of whom only about 3,500 are U.S. citizens — the bulk are Panamanian citizens "but most of the top positions are occupied by U.S. citizens." Difficulties such as racial discrimination have confused the issue and one of the workers' main problems about the discussion is "that

they are not being told what is happening."

While the Panama City has grown over the years resulting in crowded housing conditions, the canal zone in the heart of the city has acres of unused jungle land.

The diocesan group, in addition to Bishop Hogan, includes Father Joseph Reinhart, missions director; Father Louis Hohman, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul in Churchville and episcopal adviser to the Courier-Journal; Father Michael Conboy, secretary to the bishop, and Anthony J. Costello, general manager of the Courier-Journal. The Panama stopover came between visits to Selma, Ala., and LaPaz, Bolivia. The group is making the tour to show home support directly for diocesan workers in mission and indirectly for missions everywhere. Father Edward Golden, pastor of St. Francis Xavier, who set up the San Jose Obrero parish in LaPaz, will join the group in South America.

Archbishop McGrath said that any consideration of the current issue over the canal zone must be done in

City Board Says No To Funds for Busing

On Saturday, April 23, the Rochester Board of Education endorsed the 1977-78 school budget which included a number of controversial cuts including funds for the busing of parochial and private school children outside of the city.

In view of the fact the City Board's action is legal, the city unlike suburban districts is not mandated to transport outside of the district, the Rochester Diocesan Board of Education is now in the process of revamping their strategy to meet what they see as another infringement on the parent's constitutional rights in freedom of education.

This particular cost cut was proposed by the City School board on March 29 and resulted in direct action by the Diocesan administration. Letters were sent to Dr. John Franco, superintendent of city schools, to all board members, and to parishes urging a representative from each parish to place themselves on the speakers list for the public meeting held April 19.

This meeting was attended by more than 300 people and of the 229 persons who registered to speak to the Board, about one-tenth addressed themselves to the question of transporting parochial and private school students.

Those who spoke for the continuance of the program based their arguments on the necessity for freedom of choice in education, that such a cut would result in an "injustice for students and an injustice for their parents," that such a budget cut would encourage a hastening of the "flight to the suburbs," and that the cut is unnecessary because the State reimburses the schools 90 per cent of their transportation costs.

In spite of this concerted effort the elimination of busing funds was endorsed by a 5-2 vote. The budget will be formally adopted on May 15 and then forwarded

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Five Pastors Named

Four pastorates and a college chaplaincy were filled last week by appointments effective June 28. Resulting vacancies probably will be filled next month, according to the Pastoral Office announcement.

Each of the newly appointed pastors takes the place of a priest who is retiring.

Father John P. O'Malley, a World War II Army chaplain who has been pastor of St. Mary's in Bath since 1958, will return to Holy Cross, Rochester, where he spent 11 years as assistant pastor after his release from the service.

Father Gerald Connor,

diocesan Director of Vocations and spiritual director at Becket Hall for the past six years, will assume his first pastorate, at St. Pius X, Chili. Father Albert Delmonte, associate pastor at Guardian Angels, Henrietta, will become pastor of St. Anthony's in Elmira

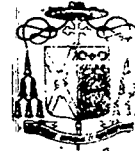
St. Patrick's, Elmira, will

have co-pastors — Fathers David Callan and Kevin Murphy, currently working together in the Campus Ministry at Cornell

Father Robert Collins, director of the Family Life office, will become chaplain at Monroe Community College.

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Diocesan Appointments



Father John P. O'Malley to pastor, Holy Cross, Rochester, from pastor, St. Mary's, Bath.

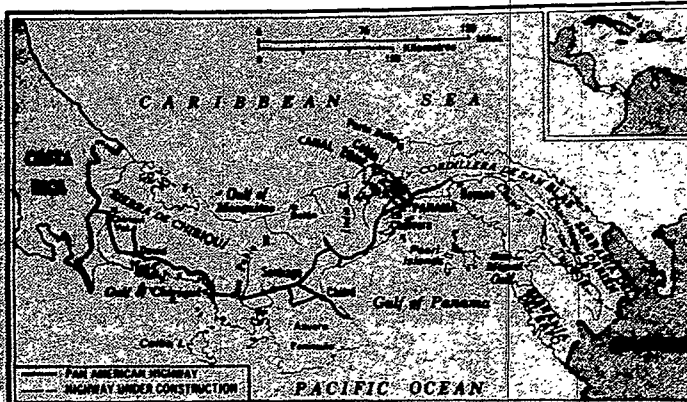
Father Gerald Connor to pastor, St. Pius X, Chili, from director of Vocations and spiritual director, Becket Hall.

Father Albert Delmonte to pastor, St. Anthony's, Elmira, from associate pastor, Guardian Angels, Henrietta.

Father David Callan to co-pastor, St. Patrick's, Elmira, from Campus Ministry, Cornell.

Father Kevin Murphy to co-pastor, St. Patrick's, Elmira, from Campus Ministry, Cornell.

Father Robert Collins to chaplain, Monroe Community College, from director, Family Life office.



Panama is a Central American republic lying between Costa Rica and Colombia, South America. The Panama Canal, crossing the lowest and narrowest point of land between the Atlantic and Pacific, bisects the republic from ocean to ocean. Contrary to the impression held by many, Panama runs east and west and is due south of New York City; the South American continent is to its east and thus east of New York City and the United States.

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