

Bishops Hogan, Spears Charge Tax Inequity In Pure Water Rates

Backstage with

GOOD NEWS

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan and Episcopal Bishop Robert R. Spears Jr. have teamed up once again on an "issue of basic justice."

The prelates, in a letter dated April 15, have urged Monroe County Legislature President, Joseph Ferrari, to support a resolution in the County Legislature that would make proportionate the Pure Water Rates paid by city and suburban parishes.

The bishops cite the following figures in their letter: St. Andrew's (city), \$7,937.30; Holy Name of Jesus (Greece), \$201; Holy Family (city), \$4,472.12; Guardian Angels (Henrietta), \$351; St. Paul's (city), \$3,800; Christ's Church (city), \$3,112; Church of the Incarnation (Penfield), \$72; Church of the Epiphany (Gates), \$135.

"We feel," the bishops wrote, "that this is an issue of basic justice. Currently there are different charges for churches because there

are six separate Pure Water Districts with different rate structures. Suburban rates are based on unit charges while the city is based on a combination of assessed valuation and water consumption."

The contrast in the figures, the bishops said, is clear. "We would ask that our city churches pay the water consumption portion only. This will mean about a two-thirds reduction and bring the city churches to approximate equity with the suburban churches."

"We would point out that the Church is a unique organization in that all its contributions are voluntary. Taxes such as the Pure Water Tax, cannot be added to membership charges. Also, our city churches perform an important function in regard to neighborhood stability and strength."

"With the current financial squeeze, this source of strength may be

eroded. However out of concern for the city taxpayer, we ask that the reduction in income to the City Pure Water District be absorbed by charging it against the surpluses which have occurred for the past four years in regard to Pure Waters."

Father Frederick Eisemann, pastor of Holy Family, noted that the bishops' statement added "further strength and credibility to our effort." Father John Norris of Blessed Sacrament said that the clergy acting on behalf of all the city churches felt encouraged by the bishops' public support. He spoke of "continued pressure to bring this effort to public notice."

Other members of the committee are the Rev. Richard Comegys, pastor of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, and Fathers Bernard Dolten of St. Andrew's and Charles Bennett of St. Mary's.

By JOHN DASH

Don't miss Good News.

Judging from the rehearsals last week, and albeit they were rough and rugged, the teens from Rochester's Westside have a blockbuster show lined up for the St. Agnes High School stage come May 6 through 8.

The title is Good News, an original revue, a combination of Scripture, song and dance, that, in the words of its producer, "carries a message, but doesn't hit you over the head with it."

Showtimes are 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and 3 p.m. on Sunday.

For several years, staging such a production has been a major part of Father David Simon's ministry to young people. In days past this constituted mounting a Broadway inspired show.

This year, however, the 55 member cast will be singing and dancing an entirely original revue.

Father Simon noted last week he was looking around for a vehicle to showcase the talents of the high schoolers from St. Monica's and St. Augustine's, when he hit on the idea of creating something fresh, based on the Sacred Scriptures, something that approximated the highly-successful Broadway show of a few seasons back, "Godspell."

About this time he came into contact with Anthony Falzano, a 24-year-old advertising salesman who had minored in Music at Geneseo and who has been composing "for the last 10 years in the school of hard knocks."

Father Simon, also at this time, was stringing together scriptural themes, "concepts," he calls them, dealing with man's fall from and rise in the life of Christ.

He gave them to Falzano who worked them into unusually stirring songs.

Late last week, following a rehearsal in St. Augustine's Church, where

Father Simon is co-pastor, a group of adult volunteers gathered around a piano in the rectory, while Falzano ran through a number of the pieces he has written for Good News.

Stripped of the choreography, the sets and costumes that will be part of the production on the St. Agnes Stage — and even without the orchestration that diocesan will hear, the melodic lines Falzano has created visibly affected several of those present.

Good News is a joint parish project, Father Simon says. Only three members of the cast live outside the boundaries of St. Monica's and St. Augustine's.

Adults helping the production along include: Sister Sheila Walsh, codirector; Annette and Kurt Eyrich, coordinators; Sister Sheila Briody, choral director; Peter Candela, orchestra director; David Taylor, musical arrangements; Helen Rupert and Sue Onorato, both commuting from Geneva, choreographers; and Paul Hildebrand, stage manager.

COURIER-CALENDAR

Holy Ghost — Sacred Heart Society annual banquet, 6:30 p.m. May 10, Party House, Beahan Road, entertainment by William Scipioni's Hawaiian Group, reservations until May 4 with Maureen Isaac, 594-2465, or Joanne Vaccaro, 247-1045

St. James — Rosary Society installation banquet, 6:15 p.m. Monday, May 2, tickets from Band leaders or at rectory

Holy Family — Rosary Society installation dinner, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 10, Doud Post, 898 Buffalo Road, Father Thomas Staat, rector of Becket Hall to speak. Reservations by May 2 with Mrs. Peter Grisaneli, 436-6395, Mrs. Joseph Smarsh, 436-0327

South Pacific — Rodgers and Hammerstein musical presented by Cardinal Mooney students at school, 800 Maiden Lane, 8:15 p.m. May 6 and 7, 13 and 14, 2:15 Sunday, May 15

Puccini's Tosca — Opera Theatre of Rochester, with guest soloists and David Zinman, RPO conductor, Saturday night, April 30, Eastman Theatre, reservations, 454-7091

Under Milk Wood — Dylan Thomas play for voices presented First Unitarian Church Drama Group, 220 S. Winton, 8 p.m. April 29 and 30

Kid Millions — Eddie Cantor, Ethel Merman, 1934, in Classic Film Series at Rochester Museum, 2 and 8 p.m. tomorrow

Universe Game — Humorous look at common misconceptions, at Strasenburgh Planetarium through June 26; reservations, 244-6060, ext. 56

Three one-act plays — Presented by Nazareth-St. John Fisher Drama Club May 2, beginning at 7:30 p.m.: The Brute, and Celebration, by Anton Chekov in Lourdes Dormitory Lounge, The Sandbox, by Edward Albee, Arts Center main auditorium (9 p.m.) Free.

Women's Role — Conference at U of R Interfaith

Chapel this weekend sponsored by Rochester Regional Task Force on Women in the Church; speakers, Arlene and Leonard Swidler. Lecture at 7:30 p.m. April 29, workshops beginning at 9:30 a.m. April 30. Contact: 716-225-7320

Divorced, Separated — At St. Charles School, Maiden Lane at Dewey Avenue, an International Buffet provided by group members, 8 p.m. April 30; information, 621-8329. At St. Joseph's School, 43 Gebhardt Road, Penfield, meeting of Northeast Region group, 7:30 p.m. May 1, with Dennis Conheady of Family Service of Rochester; open to all interested.

Child Raising — Dr. Dennis Boike on the use of natural and logical consequences as an alternative to punishment, 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 29, Paddy Hill School, Latta Road and Mt. Read, sponsored by Dreikurs Association of Rochester

Images of Urban and Suburban Life — Literature-based discussion between Carol Cloos of MCC English department, John Kramer, SUC Brockport sociology, 12:05-12:55 p.m. Tuesday, May 3, Rundel library, South Avenue, part of Vital Issues program sponsored by library system and NY Council for Humanities.

Justice Forum — Dorothy Wadsworth of State Commission of Correction on its work, 12:15-1:15 Wednesday, May 2, at 101 S. Plymouth.

Country Fair — Charity event sponsored by Young Adult Fellowship of Third Presbyterian Church, Saturday, April 30, 10 a.m.-9 p.m., East Avenue at Meigs; pancake supper from 4-30.

Garage Sale — At Cardinal Mooney High School, 800 Maiden Lane, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, May 7; sponsored by Women's Guild.

Spaghetti Dinner — Sunday, May 1, 1:30-5:30 p.m. at St. Philip Neri Hall, 1772 Clifford; sponsored by Democratic Committee, 20th county legislative district.

Farm Worker Week Opens Sunday

Acting Bishop Dennis W. Hickey has joined with four other religious leaders in the Rochester area to hail migrant farm-workers and to proclaim the week of May 1 through 7 as Farm Worker Week.

Among the events scheduled locally are fundraising activities, a march, beginning at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 7, starting from the Laborer's Hall, and a bread and soup meal at St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 1 p.m. the same day.

Monies raised during the week will go to the local United Farm Worker Support Committee's Clinic Fund Drive to buy medicine and journals for five rural health centers run by the UFW.

Bishop Hickey's statement, which also was

signed by Episcopal Bishop Robert Spears, Rabbi Judea Miller, Rev. Larry Witmer and Rev. Jack Cassidy, reads, in part:

"We wish to pay tribute to the people who harvest all our crops yet still labor under the worst conditions in America.

"The average yearly income for American farmworkers is less than \$3,000. Their pneumonia and tuberculosis rate is three and four times higher than the national average. Compounded by the dangers of heavy machinery and pesticide poisoning, farm work is the third most dangerous profession; the mortality rate is twice the national standard.

"And so we exhort Rochesterians to observe Farmworker Week and the

efforts of these people to improve their lives. The United Farm Workers of Cesar Chavez has been a vehicle for such betterment, and we join it in urging churches and synagogues to raise this issue on May 1 and 7 through education and fundraising efforts."

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Matthew Kawiak To Be Ordained

The prophet Isaiah describes his ministry to the community stating: "The Spirit of the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good tidings to the lowly and to heal the broken hearted."

Deacon Matthew Andrew Kawiak has taken that text as the theme of the rites when Auxiliary Bishop John E. McCafferty ordains him a priest of the diocese on Friday, May 6, at 7:30 p.m. in St. Columba's Church, Caledonia.

Commenting on the text, Deacon Kawiak stated, "God intends to meet us with salvation in every experience of life. He is among us in the person who hungers and thirsts. The possibility of a divine-human encounter is particularly real in the crisis experiences of life. The priesthood serves as an opportunity for the saving hand of God to touch people in the midst of their turmoil. However, only when the entire community accepts corporate responsibility for shepherding, and only when

the laity is adequately prepared, will it be possible to say in reality that the Church is a caring community.

Deacon Kawiak's father died of cancer last September. His mother, Mrs. Ann Kawiak, resides in Rochester. Deacon Kawiak graduated from St. Stanislaus and King's Preparatory School. In 1972 he graduated Summa Cum Laude from St. John Fisher College — Becket Hall, with a B.A. in Psychology.

He received an M.Div. from St. Bernard's Seminary. On the night of his ordination, he will receive "in absentia" a Doctor of Ministry degree from Colgate Rochester Divinity School. He will be the first diocesan priest to do so.

He has worked as a teacher at Convalescent Hospital for Children, a religious educator at the Al Sigi Center, as a child care worker and assistant supervisor at Hillside Children's Center, as an intern social worker at St. Ann's Home and The Heritage, as a deacon at St.



FATHER KAWIAK

Leo's Parish in Hilton, and presently as an intern marriage and family counselor at Catholic Family Center.

He took his Clinical Pastoral Education at Santa Monica Hospital Medical Center in Santa Monica, Calif.

Father Kawiak will celebrate his First Mass in memory of his father, Matthew H. Kawiak at St. Stanislaus Church at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 7. After each celebration, a reception is planned.

WHAT IS A MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

To find out more about this special weekend, attend an Information Night, Sunday, May 1. Call one of the following couples for place and time of an Information Night near you.

Joe and Ann Civitelli, Rochester, 225-3725
John and Ann Becker, Henrietta, 334-5838
Fran and Louis Wietech, Penfield, 381-3793
Larry and Gail Mooney, Palmyra, 597-6449
George and Shirley Wierick, Nevada, 468-2268
Phil and Ange Gauthier, Auburn, 253-4206

* For making a direct reservation for a weekend
Call 716/865-9160

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