



Cancer Care and the Clergy

Photo by Ben Susso

A seminar on Cancer Care and the Clergy was held May 12 at St. Mary's Hospital. Bishop Dennis W. Hickey opened the meeting, which consisted of lectures, a film, and small group sessions. Seen above are the Rev. Dr. Herbert C. Shankle, Pastor of the First Church of Redeeming Love, who gave the closing prayer; the Rev. Lewis R. Bigler, Protestant Chaplain of Roswell Park memorial Institute; Wilbour Eddy Saunders, D.D. President Emeritus of Colgate Rochester Divinity School; and moderator of the days' events, Father John V. Rosse, chaplain of St. Mary's Hospital. Co-sponsors of the event were the American Cancer Society and St. Mary's Pastoral Services Department.

Catholic Statistics: Population Priests, Nuns



New York (RNS) - The nation's Roman Catholic population and the number of U.S. Catholic parishes increased to record highs in 1976. However, decreases were recorded in the number of priests, nuns, educational institutions, infant baptisms and converts.

Catholics in the 50 states, including all families abroad in the armed forces and diplomatic services, now number more than 49 million, according to the official Catholic Directory for 1977, published by P. J. Kenedy and Sons. The total is an increase of 443,880 over 1975. Catholics now make up 22.84 per cent of the population.

There are now 17,872 parishes with resident pastors, and 700 parishes without resident clergy - an overall increase of 41 for a record total of 18,572 parishes in the 50 states.

While the new directory lists 334 bishops, an increase

of 19, there was a decrease of 546 in the number of clergy, bringing the total number of ordained priests to 58,301. There are now 35,904 diocesan clergy, a decrease of 271, and 22,397 religious order priests, a decline of 275.

The number of sisters, now 130,804, represents a decrease of 191. However, the number of religious brothers increased by 182 to a total of 8,745.

Separate educational institutions of the U.S. Catholic Church decreased by 112 to a total of 10,604. Baptisms, 884,925, decreased by some 10,000 and the number of converts decreased by 408 to 79,627.

There are now 32 archdioceses and 135 dioceses. Chicago remains the largest archdiocese with 2.44 million, followed in order by Boston, Los Angeles, New York, Detroit, Newark and Philadelphia.

Brooklyn remains the

largest diocese with 1.2 million, followed by Rockville Centre.

While the total number of Catholic hospitals decreased by 20, bed capacity increased by 741 to 170,145. Patients increased by almost a million to a record 31,410,474.

60TH ANNIVERSARY

When Mrs. Frank Toal of Ridgeway Avenue joined other Nazareth Academy alumnae at their recent annual banquet, she was singled out as the oldest graduate attending. She was a member of the class of 1907.

Two weeks later, on May 16, Mr. and Mrs. Toal celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary, with the help of their wedding attendants, Mrs. Norman Laragy and her husband, of Wheelton Drive, and Burton Galbraith and his wife, of Ridgeway Avenue.



SR. MARY EDMUND

Sr. Mary Edmund Marks 50th

Sister Mary Edmund O'Neill, official archivist at St. Mary's Hospital and diligent visitor of patients, had a Golden Jubilee celebration Saturday. She has been a Daughter of Charity for 50 years. Her anniversary Mass was concelebrated in the hospital chapel by Bishop Dennis W. Hickey, Fathers Joseph Reinhart and Philip Billotte; Father Joseph Tinnelly, spiritual director for the Northeast Province of the Daughters of Charity; Father John Rosse, hospital chaplain and director of pastoral services, and Father Aloysius Dayton, OFM Cap., a relief chaplain. A luncheon followed.

Sister Mary Edmund, now 80, was 30 years old before she felt qualified for the religious life. As a test of her vocation, she told friends, and as preparation for the life, she undertook nursing. She talked of the rigors of the student's 12-hour day that would include serving breakfast from 4 until 7 a.m. Private duty nursing as she experienced it more than a half-century ago involved sleeping on a cot in the patient's room and taking two hours off, in the 24,

while visitors were there. Sister Mary Edmund was graduated from the Delaware Hospital School of Nursing in 1924. She joined the Daughters of Charity at Allegheny Hospital, Cumberland, Md., in 1927 and became director of the nursing school there in 1930. She has served in similar capacity at the order's hospitals in Greensboro, N. C., Waterville, Me.; Pensacola, Fla., and Baltimore. While in Waterville, she served as secretary and president of the State Board of Nursing Examiners. In 1969, she came here to summarize the graduate records of nearly 2,000 nurses trained at St. Mary's. She has been archivist since 1971.

FOR ARTISTS

Local artists interested in showing their work at the Lavery Library at St. John Fisher College may contact Karen Plunkett at the college media center. Currently on exhibit are 25 informal camera portraits of children by Mark Butto, a Fisher senior majoring in Studio Art.

First Deaf Priest Studied in Rochester

Baltimore (RNS) - A Malone native who studied at the Rochester (N.Y.) School for the Deaf was ordained the nation's first deaf Roman Catholic priest

by Cardinal Lawrence Shehan last week at the Basilica of the Assumption here.

Father Thomas Coughlin,

a Trinitarian, was ordained in a 90-minute ceremony which contained both words and sign language. He said he hopes to remain in the Baltimore area, working with the 500 to 600 deaf Catholics scattered throughout the region. One of his major goals is to establish a permanent church for the deaf here.

A native of Malone, N.Y. Father Coughlin has been deaf since birth. He studied at the Rochester School for the Deaf and St. Mary's School for the Deaf in Buffalo. After receiving his bachelor's degree from Gallaudet College in Washington, D.C., he joined the Trinitarians in 1972.

At the national level, he said, he hopes to form a religious community for the deaf through the Trinitarians and a national Catholic deaf youth leadership camp.

Hospital Chaplain To Speak Tonight

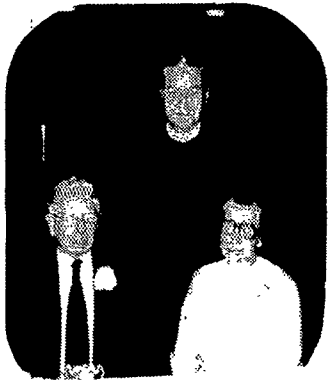
Counseling the Dying Patient is the title of a talk Father James Schwartz will give tonight at the Pastoral Center, 1150 Buffalo Road. Father Schwartz, chaplain at Rochester General Hospital, is scheduled to speak at 8 p.m. in room 309, in a continuing lecture series that is open to the public.

Fisher College. Dr. Kollar, author of Death and Other Living Things, will consider the afterlife. The final lecture is entitled The Grief Process. It will be given at 8 p.m. June 1 by Diane Bennett, oncology nurse specialist at Highland Hospital. The fee for each session is \$1. Those attending are asked to park their cars at the rear of the building and enter by the rear door. Further information may be obtained from Sister Elizabeth Hughes at 328-3210.

The speaker next Wednesday, May 25, will be Dr. Nathan Kollar, professor of Religious Studies at St. John

Seton Tour

The second annual Seton Tour of Homes, for the benefit of St. Mary's Hospital, will take place on June 4. This year's tour, which begins at 11 a.m., features six of Rochester's most beautiful homes. A luncheon at Oak Hill Country Club will be included. For information interested persons may call Mrs. William Shafer, 586-3623.



Man Of Year

Vin Fox and his wife, Millie, are shown with their pastor, Father George Wood, at a surprise party given for them recently by Mother of Sorrows parish. Representatives of various parish organizations presented Vin with tokens of gratitude for his constancy and hard work over the years. Millie's present was a silver locket containing a picture of the Fox family. About 170 friends attended the banquet in the parish hall.

Brockport Fest Set June 3-4

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary parish in Brockport has scheduled its Festival 1977 for 6 p.m., Friday, June 3, and 11 a.m., Saturday, June 4 at Erie and Utica Streets. Crafts, boutiques and white elephant sales are scheduled and snacks available. A barbecue beef and beef-on-wick dinner will be served from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Friday and from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., Saturday. Rides and games also are planned.

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