



The executives of the Diocesan Sisters Council are, left to right, Sisters Rita Kaufman, Marlene Vigna, Ann Habershaw, Frances Sweeney, Mary Jean Smith and Barbara Moore.

Sisters Council Readies For New Consultations

Commenting on the Gospel text of the day, Sister Barbara Moore, president of the Diocesan Sisters Council, said "Jesus seems to have found an ultimate answer to our living needs and transportation problems certainly his proposal would on one hand simplify things. Provide yourself with no gold or silver, no sandals or walking stick."

Sister Barbara gave the homily at a Eucharistic celebration which opened the final session of the DSC for the 1976-77 year. Both transportation and living needs have come under intense scrutiny by the council this year.

"I find," she said, "within the opening lines of Matthew the basic call by Jesus to us as women, as Christians, and especially as Sisters (chosen for a time to represent others, to lead and to offer consultation and advice to the bishop).

"Our policies, our deliberations, and discussions as the Sisters Council, should always be saving to others. The Kingdom of God is at hand. Our decisions and exchanges should have the two edged effect so often spoken of by Paul, cutting through the unnecessary distractions and bringing to all our meetings the sharpness, the penetration and

keenness of the Gospel message.

"Jesus asked the apostles and us today to cure, to raise up, to expel and to heal — to expel whatever detours us from our focal point, the Lord, to expel the inhumane within the Church, to cure sick attitudes, petty jealousies and rigidity, to heal the wounds of old grudges and narrowness and self-interest and to raise the consciousness of sisters and of the diocese as a whole to justice, mercy and a true awareness of why we are and the dignity of who we are.

"Above all," she said, "we are asked to give freely as we have been freely given," a translation of the motto which appears on Bishop Joseph L. Hogan's coat of arms.

In major Sisters Council action, the session unanimously approved a resolution calling for writing letters to the state legislators condemning capital punishment and urging the lawmakers to reject legislative attempts to reinstate it.

The sisters also were given informational presentations. Father Charles Mulligan spoke on the new Department of Social Ministry of which he

is the head. John Salter, head of the Office of Human Development also spoke on his work as did Maurice Tierney, head of the diocesan Catholic Charities.

Sister Marlene Vigna delivered a report from the council's social concerns committee.

Father Sebastian Falcone gave the sisters an update on the work of the Permanent Diaconate Task Force.

James Noonan, Bishop Hogan's administrative assistant, presented the sisters with the diocesan budget for next year.

Bishop Dennis W. Hickey described the history of and the workings of the new Stewardship Program now underway in the diocese.

Following adjournment of the 1976-77 council, Sister Kathleen Kircher chaired election of officers for the 1977-78 council.

Sister Barbara Moore was elected to a second term as president.

Sister Mary Jean Smith was named vice president and Sisters Marlene Vigna and Anne Habershaw were named recording secretary and corresponding secretary, respectively.

D. and S. Group Slates Events

Activities for the divorced and separated in the Rochester area will continue over the Summer, as several of the Divorced and Separated Catholics groups are sponsoring events.

St. Monica's group is sponsoring a picnic at Genesee Valley Park for members of all area groups Friday, July 1. Further information can be obtained from Donna Mooney, 464-8565.

The St. Joseph's, Penfield, group is sponsoring a Father's Day Mass at 7:30 p.m., Sunday, June 19, and a picnic the following Sunday. Those interested in the picnic can contact Luz Maria DiPalermo 381-1495. Cathy Marks, 586-5414 is coordinating a picnic for July 4. There also will be a panel discussion Aug. 21 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Joseph's.

The Cenacle Retreat House is offering an "Effective Living Seminar" for divorced and separated men and women Aug. 19-21. The seminar will examine techniques for improving self-concept, the effects of destructive self-criticism, realizing potential, and discovering a faith response to life. Further information and reservations can be obtained by contacting Sister Betty Rogers, 271-8755.

Preparations also will be underway for the visit of the Toronto divorced and separated group Sept. 9-11. The Toronto group hosted Rochester group members in April.

44th ANNUAL PICNIC

The Holy Name Society of St. Thomas the Apostle Church has scheduled its 44th annual picnic for June 20 at the St. Paul Firemens Clubhouse on Thomas Avenue. A ballgame at 6 p.m. will be followed by dinner at 7. Frank Donnelly is general chairman, taking over from Norm Robinson, who ran the first 43 picnics.



Holy Redeemer singers working on the paper drive include John Halewski, Tom Napierala (l-r) and Marie Gleichauf, who is holding the choir director's daughter, Michelle Miller.

Paper Drive Slated At Holy Redeemer

Mrs. John Miller, choir director at Holy Redeemer, shudders when she thinks of the cost of heating parish buildings. "We should go out and sing for money," she says. Instead, to raise their own contribution to the winter fuel fund, her choristers are collecting old newspapers right now, and planning a car wash and a lasagna dinner for later in the season.

Newspapers and magazines, separately bundled, may be left at the rectory between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. any day until Saturday, when the school parking lot will be the depot, from 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Pickup arrangements can be made through 544-2442. Holy Redeemer Church is at 634 Hudson.

Team to Head Family Life

Come the end of the month the diocesan Office of Family Life will take on a new, and for the diocese, unique look to it.

At that time, a team, composed of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Staropoli, Father Edward Palumbos, Sister Kathleen Kircher and Mrs. Joanne Noonan, will take over in new offices the programs begun and carried out by Father Robert Collins and his staff.

The team is moving its center of operations from 50 Chestnut St., where space was afforded the office by Catholic Charities, to 1150 Buffalo Road, the Pastoral Center.

And the fact that the operations of the office will be carried out by a team, makes it unique in the administrative structure of the diocese.

According to a paper written by the team last April, one of the reasons for the move is that it will enable the team more easily to "interact with other



The Office of Family Life team includes Sue and Frank Staropoli, Sister Kathleen Kircher, Father Edward Palumbos and Mrs. Joanne Noonan.

diocesan departments and programs, since concern for family values cannot be isolated or distinguished from other ministries."

At present, the team is cautious on explaining the specific programs they anticipate administering.

They are, however, enthusiastic over engaging in

the programs underway already in the diocese.

Establishing a sense of prayerfulness together is uppermost in the minds of the team members — that and careful assessment of the needs within the diocese to which they feel they can respond.

Team members include:

Mrs. Joanne Noonan, for more than 15 years coordinator and developer of Pre-Cana programs, with her husband, William, has extensive experience in social work. She and her husband have six children.

Frank Staropoli will share the administrative duties as director of the office with his wife Sue. He has degrees in Business Administration, she in languages. They have been active in Marriage Encounter and are the parents of six children.

Father Edward Palumbos, coordinator of Marriage Encounter in the diocese, has degrees in philosophy, pastoral theology and systematic theology. He has been an associate pastor and presently is a member of a rectory community.

Sister Kathleen Kircher, SSJ, coordinator of Ministry to Separated and Divorced Catholics, has served as a high school counselor and has counseling experience with families and in the area of child abuse. She holds degrees in English and counselor education.

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