

At St. Joseph's

Pastoral Team Addresses Non-Medical Needs

By MARTIN TOOMBS
Southern Tier Editor

Elmira — St. Joseph's Hospital recognizes that the hospital's patients have needs that extend beyond medical care.

Charged with providing that care, ministry to the patients' spiritual and emotional needs, is the Pastoral Care Department, consisting of Sister Barbara Gulino, SSJ; Father Timothy McGough and Father Cyril Guise, Carmelites from the monastery in Waverly.

The concept of a pastoral care team, also employed at St. James Mercy Hospital in Hornell, is not new, but it is relatively uncommon in the area. The team ministers not just to those of the same faith, but to all patients in the hospital.

Father Guise explains that the department "is an umbrella type of care" reaching out to the "faith dimension" of "all the patients in the hospital."

Father McGough emphasized that hospital chaplaincy is "broader now than administering the sacraments" and has become "a blend of theology and behavioral science." Basically, he explained, "we're pastoral people."

Sister Barbara noted that they are well received by the patients, Catholic as

well as non-Catholic. They "appreciate somebody taking the time" to talk to them, she explained.

In the future, the team may include a full-time minister, Father Guise noted, but currently there is no funding for an additional position. The response of the local ministers to the program has been excellent, he noted. He also explained that local ministers and parish priests are notified concerning admissions or changes in status of their parishioners by the team.

Sister Barbara noted that one of the attractions of hospital chaplaincy for her was the opportunity to work ecumenically. "I personally gain so much from those who know their Bible well" and ask her to pray with them, Sister Barbara noted. She explained that it is more common for such a request to come from a Protestant than from a Catholic, and "we pray with them and they really appreciate that."

The team expressed a special appreciation for the value of the sacrament of the sick. Father McGough noted that the service "can be really beautiful," especially when the patient's family is present. Sister Barbara noted a specific case where a woman was fearful of an operation, but the reception of the sacrament brought her peace, she said, and made her "ready for what

the Lord was going to bring her."

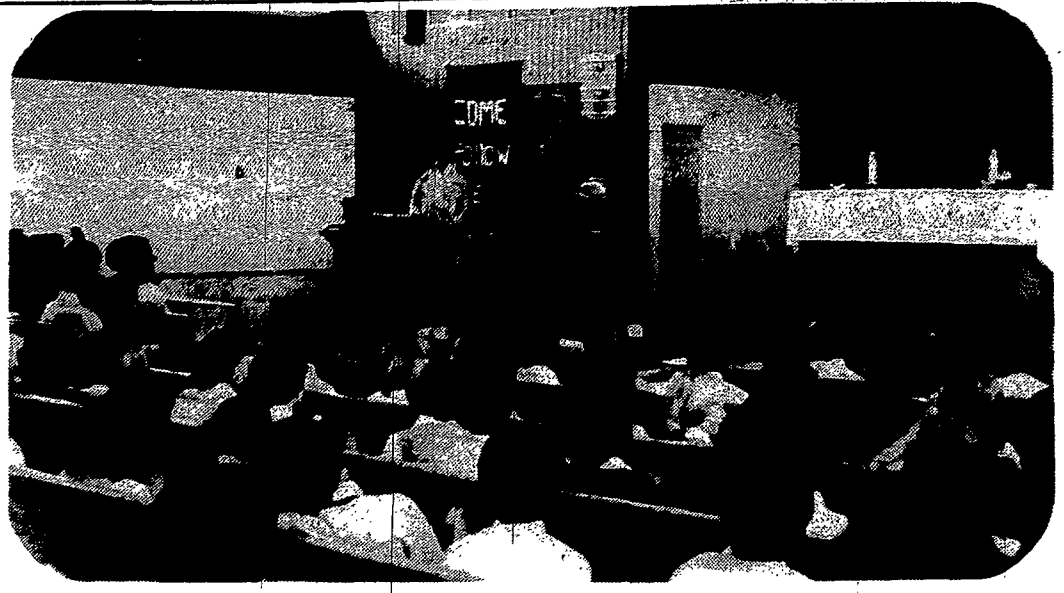
Father Guise noted that it is common for "people to become very peaceful" as a result of the sacrament. Father McGough concurred, noting "it's a beautiful gift of the sacrament."

The trio are committed to pastoral care of those in hospitals; all three are certified chaplains with the National Association of Catholic Chaplains. The certification requires experience and performance levels, and recommendations from the hospital where the chaplain works. Sister Barbara is the first woman in the Rochester diocese to receive certification.

The ministry also extends to the patient's family. Father Guise noted that the chaplain often tries "to bridge that chasm that so often exists" between patient and family.

Ministering to the hospital's staff also is an important part of the work, Father Guise explained. The chaplains also provide a Newman chapel for St. Joseph's Nursing School.

Father Guise noted that a future goal may be setting up clergy days at the hospital to make clergy more aware of how they can help their parishioners who are sick, and how to cope with the dying patient and the family.



Special Mass

A special Mass, in honor of Sister Jean Rodman, was celebrated recently at St. Mary Our Mother Church in Horseheads. Sister Jean is stepping down as parish Religious Education Coordinator, a post she has held for the past nine years. Students from St. Mary's School presented her with a special book, which included a page from each grade.

St. Joseph's Nursing Graduates 41

Elmira — Academic honors were bestowed on four of the 41 graduating students of St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing at graduation ceremonies Sunday, June 12.

In ceremonies presided over by Bishop John E. McCafferty, Patricia Farmer of Pine City received the Rev. Francis J. Walker Memorial Award for highest scholastic achievement; Miss Eileen Cusick, Pine City, was the recipient of the School of Nursing Faculty Recognition Award. The School of Nursing Alumni

Award for excellence in nursing practice was presented to Sheilagh Moynihan of Rochester. Valerie Imburgia, Rochester, was cited for outstanding leadership in student nurses' activities by District 3 of the state Nurses Association.

Recognized for maintaining a "B" or higher average were honor students Mary Theresa Adornato, Susquehanna, Pa.; Susan Cubniak, Waverly; Eileen Cusick, Pine City; Patricia Farmer, Pine City; Roberta Frawley,

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AUBURN-GENEVA

Elmira; Nancy Lucas, Binghamton; Catherine Mills, Elmira; Marilyn Moss, Horseheads; Cynthia Pincipio, Geneva; Brother Sebastian Reale, Waverly; Kathleen Valentino, Baldwinsville, and Linda Ostrander, Bath.

Graduation was at St. Peter and Paul's Church, immediately followed by a reception at McGhan Hall for graduates, friends and families.



Father John S. Hayes, pastor of St. Patrick's, Aurora and Mrs. Patricia Sullivan, newly elected parish council president, hand out copies of the parish council constitution to the other members of the council at the June 6 Mass.

Parish Council Elects Officers

By MARYANN GINNERTY

Aurora — Formal installation of this year's parish council officers and the introduction of Father Thomas Faase, SJ, who will replace Father John Hayes, pastor, for the summer, highlighted the June 6 Mass and parish council meeting, here.

During the Mass, celebrated by Fathers Hayes and Faase, Thomas and Jeane Cass gave a dual homily on the ministry of the laity, to this effect:

"To some extent the lay ministry picks up where the official church leaves off. It is most important that the ministry characterize the people and be open to the Holy Spirit. It should not be a vehicle for self righteous attitudes."

At the council meeting officers were elected and installed. They are Mrs. Patricia Sullivan, president; Mrs. Jane Bowen, vice-president; and Miss Agnes Purcell, secretary.

Newly appointed trustees for St. Patrick's are Gary Finch, and Stephen Taylor, Mrs. Karen Prave and Robert Ryan.

Committee chairpersons are Karen Prave, worship; Mrs. Jody Beck and Mrs. Valmag Vazquez, human development; Patricia Bianconi and Mary Kula, education. The Wells College Community representative is Amy Kindrick. Altar and Rosary Society representative is Mary Kula.

OB Unit Dealt Setback

Elmira — A recommendation that St. Joseph's obstetrical unit be closed was approved by the Hospital Council of the Finger Lakes Health Systems Agency (FLHSA) at a quickly-called meeting June 13.

The vote was in opposition to one a week earlier by the Southern Tier Subarea Council of FLHSA which called for continued service at St. Joseph's, pending the resolution of the status of the religious-sponsored obstetrical units at the state level.

The Hospital Council's meeting, conducted in Canandaigua, was called with less than three business days' notice. The group voted 14-2 to accept the recommendation of the subarea Hospital Council which called for the closing of St. Joseph's unit.

On the same evening, the Chemung County Legislature approved a resolution 12-1 with an abstention calling for St. Joseph's obstetrical unit to remain open.

The FLHSA Executive Committee will meet June 28 to examine all recommendations concerning the Southern Tier hospitals, and make final recommendations to the state Health Department.

ST. MARY'S FESTIVAL

Rexville — St. Mary's Church, Rexville, will hold their annual chicken barbecue and parish festival on the Church grounds Sunday, Aug. 7. Everyone is invited to join in the festivities.

ON THE RIGHT SIDE

Fr. Paul J. Cuddy

London: To many in our Courier-Journal tour group of 27, London meant shopping and theater. The famous Harrod's Store, where you can literally buy almost anything, was a great thrill. Waiting to go to lunch there, while some of our people were at a bank exchanging dollars for pounds, I noticed shoes and boots in a window bootery. "Good heavens, the prices are terribly high." The manager heard and came out to explain, "These are superior quality, and many of our customers are Arabs with rolls of pounds to spend." Arab oil has made Arabs vital to Britain's economy.

My own special interest was three-fold: The Tower of London, Cardinal Newman's Brompton Oratory, and the Jesuit Church on Farm Street.

Tower of London... Priests of senior vintage used to read avidly, in the 1930s, the historical novels about the

ST. CASIMIR'S FESTIVAL

Elmira — St. Casimir's Annual Festival has been scheduled for Sunday, June 26 beginning at 1 p.m. The festival, on the church grounds, will feature dancing, a dunking booth and many other activities. Food offerings will include a chicken barbecue, and American, Italian and Polish dishes. A polka band will perform from 4 to 8 p.m. All are welcome.

Protestant Reformation in England by Msgr. Robert Hugh Benson. He was himself a convert to Catholicism. His novels include *The King's Achievement*, about St. Thomas More, and *Come Rack; Come Rope*, about St. Edmund Campion. The Tower and the English martyrs burned into our memories.

Robert Bolt's play and movie about St. Thomas More, *A Man for All Seasons*, and the BBC series, *The Six Wives of Henry VIII*, have made the Tower of London a familiar sight and a historic theme to millions of Americans. While the visit to the tower was supposed to climax with the viewing of the Crown Jewels, they paled before the history of those wonderful Englishmen who died rather than compromise the Catholic Faith.

Brompton Oratory... On our last London evening, I said to Genevan Bob Nenko, "I've always wanted to see Cardinal Newman's Brompton Oratory and the Jesuit Church on Farm Street. That's where so many of the literati converts were instructed by the Jesuits and received into the Church. We have tomorrow morning. Would you care to come?" "Yes. I spent two years in London during WWII and want to see all I can."

We arrived at Brompton Oratory about 9. Brother Gabriel, the sacristan, gave us the altar of the Blessed Mother, where I celebrated Mass. Bob served — the first time in his life. It shakes my soul to find that so many Catholics think Cardinal John Henry Newman, the most famous English convert of the 19th century, is the same as the Bohemian Bishop John Neumann, Bishop of Philadelphia. I have a good cassette talk on Cardinal Newman given by historian Msgr. John Tracy Ellis at the Eucharistic

Congress. Anyone is welcome to borrow it, if he will return it.

In Brompton Oratory we met an Englishman who gave a jeremiad about the Church in England. "It's terrible. It's being Protestantized — after the struggle our people made to preserve the Catholic Faith." While he did exaggerate, it would be a betrayal of More, Newman, Campion, Knox and all the others who suffered to be faithful Catholics, to be indifferent to our history. Sloth, indifference to our religious inheritance, comes under the Seventh Capital Sin.

After Mass, to Farm Street by cab. A quick meeting with a young Jesuit scholastic who was fixing the loud speaker in the parish church brought an invitation into the rectory, where we met some English Jesuits. One gave me the newest address of Father B. Bassett, SJ, whose taped conferences are so popular in the States. I am marketing his Bi-Centennial Retreat, wonderful American Church history, four cassettes and eight conferences for \$17.25.

In the vestibule of the Farm Street Church was an announcement: "After Mass you are invited for coffee at the parish center." I wonder if a chat over a cup of coffee does not build community more effectively than the shake of peace at Mass.

Next week: Scotland.

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