



### Frosh Frolic

Some of the more than 350 members of the St. John Fisher College freshman class got all wrapped up in Orientation Week events last weekend. The tissue wrap was among the more popular events drawing the

appreciation of freshman Terry Friel of Pittsford, lower left. Cynthia Winski and Anne McRae, lower right, both of Webster also joined in the tissue wrap fun.



### Life, Liberty and Law



Nancy Murphy

Some weeks ago this column referred to a letter from a woman who was confused about the Vatican position on sterilization. Since that time I have received messages from two other readers describing essentially the same situation. The women had spoken with priests who had assured them that the Church "now accepts" a "new" method of sterilization which is relatively simple and "completely safe." The priests told the women that instead of removing the ovaries, the surgeon cuts or ties the tubes, thereby "guaranteeing" sterility. This is patently false.

The Church does not base her rejection of sterilization on the method employed. She bases her position on the Natural Law, the Fifth Commandment and the Holy See. The "new" method described by the priests is not new; it is tubal ligation. The really new methods (all being researched and experimented with by WHO-UNICEF) include bellybutton surgery, medicated IUDs, vaginal rings, intra-cervical devices, tubal occlusion, placental antigens, etc. Furthermore no such guarantee on tubal ligation exists.

Shamefully, there are dozens of Catholic hospitals in the U.S. which do perform sterilizations when ruled a

"medical necessity" by committees. These sterilizations are openly acknowledged to be contraceptive in nature and intent. Such policies are NOT based on the Vatican which allows indirect sterilization as a result of surgical removal, or cure, of a present immediately life-threatening pathological conditions such as cancer of the uterus. Liberalized sterilization policies are based on possible future complications neither cured nor removed by the sterilization procedure. And the argumentation used is almost identical to that used by the Supreme Court in its 1973 abortion ruling.

"Pius XI wrote in Casti Cannubii that private individuals are not free to mutilate their bodies or cause themselves to be unfit for natural functions. Pius XII ordered the condemnation of the Holy Office to be republished in 1940 as a rebuke to the Nazis... To be Catholic is to think with the mind of the Church. On the subject of sterilization, the Church has made her position evident and clear." (Our Sunday Visitor 8-28-77).

Many Catholic schools and hospitals have chosen to remain silent on Casti Cannubii and other Vatican documents; they quote and teach instead, the opinions of committees and dissenters. *Sentire cum ecclesia*... think with the Church.

**NEXT WEEK; Sterilization, like abortion, is used to control "unwants."**

### St. Andrew's Plans Sept. 18 Census

"IF YOU LIVE WITHIN THESE BOUNDARIES ... YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE VISITORS."

This is the caption on posters being distributed in the northeast section of Rochester, according to Betty Pudetti, a member of the steering committee for an updated census in St. Andrew's parish, undertaken with the aid of Father Peter Bayer of the diocesan Planning Office.

The posters include a street map of the parish and on Sunday, Sept. 18, nearly 150 volunteers will cover the 50 streets. About a third of the homes to be visited are occupied by families attending Catholic churches.

St. Andrew's Church is at 923 Portland

Noting a trend of younger couples with children to move back into the section, where relatives formerly lived, Father Bernard Dollen, pastor, projects that the neighborhood will stabilize itself as a result and school enrollment will be maintained.

Each volunteer, trained to make the visit a pleasant few minutes, will ask each family to complete a simple

form. From the information obtained, future planning and projects hopefully will serve the community more effectively.

The personalized visit will reassure those that are confined to their homes, the retired, the handicapped that the people of St. Andrew's care enough to make them a part of future events.

For those families living outside the parish boundaries who attend St. Andrew's, census cards will be available after all the Masses the weekend of Sept. 24-25.

### Becket Notes 10

Becket Hall celebrates its tenth anniversary next month as a diocesan house of studies for men contemplating entering the priesthood. Bishop Joseph L. Hogan,

first rector of the institution, will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 7. Both clerical and lay alumni of the school have been invited. The Mass will be followed by a party.

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