



**New OHD Office**

Father George Wiant and Sister Anne Urquhart, above, are ready for visitors at the new Shortsville Office of OHD. The new office which opened Friday, Sept. 23 will serve as a base for their ministry. At right, entering the new office is Kay Flynn, followed by Mary Rutkowski.



## Talks Lauded

Msgr. George Cocuzzi, vicar for urban ministry and diocesan delegate to Genesee Ecumenical Ministries (GEM) reported last week that the current discussions among members of GEM's executive group, who are working on a

revision of the GEM constitution, are progressing "very well indeed." He noted that the group has come to agreement on several points, and on "major concepts" as well. A report on those agreements will appear in next week's Courier-Journal.



**Mercy Banquet**

Class chairpersons Joan Ewanow, '72; Bernice Gottry, '32; and Margie Bonsignore, '52 reminisce over a Mercy High yearbook after completing plans for the Alumnae Banquet. The event is scheduled for Oct. 21 at 7 p.m. in the school and will be preceded by a cocktail hour, 6-7 p.m. Reservations close Oct. 14.

## Goes to Jail

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pment Training Act (CETA).

But how does a busy, happily married father of three living in Irondequoit get interested in prison work in the first place?

Hodgetts explained that he became aware of the needs of the prisoners through the Human Development Committee at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish. RIJM came to address the group and he decided to take training courses offered by jail ministry and St Thomas

After 18 months as a part-time volunteer for RIJM Hodgetts applied for and was granted one of the 30 Social Service Leaves Xerox grants each year

An operating procedure giving Hodgetts access to every floor in the jail as well as an on-site working area was developed by RIJM and the jail rehabilitation staff and wholeheartedly approved by Sheriff William Lombard.

Hodgetts admitted that the first few weeks of his assignment were rough. "The jail deputies looked at me as another bleeding heart," he said, "but gradually they came to accept, even look forward to having me around."

He feels that his work took a load of pressure off the deputies. "Towards the end they wanted to know if a replacement would take up where I left off," he said

As the six months progressed Hodgetts learned a great deal about the job jail deputies performed and gained a great deal of respect for them and for Lombard who "backed the program and RIJM 100%."

According to Hodgetts the Monroe County Jail is well run with a well-trained professional staff but that the "environment in any jail is not good"

The majority of people who have to stay inside are from minority groups who, because of their financial status cannot afford to make their bail. The bulk of white prisoners are out in less than 24 hours, he said.

Another problem is that most of these inner-city inmates have to rely on the public defenders office for representation. Hodgetts stated that although the public defender's staff does a very good job, its work load is so large that it is hard pressed to give its clients proper attention.

One problem in particular which Hodgetts feels should be improved on is prisoner

activities "At the old prison at least inmates had a chance to work the prison farm every day, it kept them occupied. Now, however, with the exception of a few hours in the gym each week, the prisoners simply sit in their cells.

"They are going to be there anyway," he said, "so why not give them an opportunity to put the time to good use."

In a report on the results of his social service leave Hodgetts wrote that his six months at the jail were "both frustrating and rewarding"

He often took jail problems home with him and his children would complain to his wife Marilyn about "daddy being so mean all the time." Gradually, with the help of his wife, he was able to accept these problems without upsetting the family.

He plans to continue his volunteer work with RIJM on a part time basis as well as take over the presidency of the St. Thomas Parish Council

He's also working till eleven each night to catch up with his work at Xerox.

Maybe six months off isn't such a good idea after all

## Six Priests Reassigned

Two order priests who work in the diocese have gone into the Campus Ministry at Cornell, the Pastoral Office announced this week. They are Father John Robbins, CSB, formerly of the Nazareth College chaplaincy, and Father James P. Connolly, S.J.

Two associate pastors have been reassigned, Father Robert Rice from St. Alphonsus, Auburn, to St. Francis, Geneva, and Father David Fedor, from St. Mary Our Mother in Horseheads to Holy Name of Jesus parish in Greece.

In addition, two priests who are assistants, in internship, have been transferred. Father William Laird moves from Holy Name to St. Pius X in Chili; Father Matthew Kawiak, from St. Francis, Geneva, to St. John's, Spencerport.

### Correction

Nazareth College records indicate two lay persons were graduates of the school's religious education program in 1975. They are Andrea Ann Tyrpak and Patricia Lawlor.

### ANOIDING RITE

Seneca Falls—A Mass for the sick and infirm, with the anointing rite, will be celebrated at St. Patrick's Sunday noon, Oct. 9. The rite is for any Catholic who is seriously ill, facing an operation or growing weak from old age, and it may be administered as often as circumstances indicate. Anyone who can offer transportation, and those who need it, are asked to contact the rectory.

### FAMILY PLANNING INFORMATION

Three Natural Family Planning information nights in the Binghamton area might be of interest to diocesans. On Wednesday, Oct. 12, there will be an information program at St. Cyril's, Binghamton, at 7:30 p.m.

# Bishop Urges Diocese to Respect Life

My dear people,

When we examine our attitudes about a broad range of apparently unrelated issues, we can see RESPECT FOR LIFE as the common pivotal concern; we can also discover the inconsistencies in ourselves, our wavering stance about the sacredness of life

Do we have very differing reactions, for example, when we read about the demeaning life situation of the inmates at Attica, about terminal patients at Roswell Park, about the fact that in New York State last year, there were more abortions than births? But aren't these all the same issue: how sacred is life?

It is easy for us to dismiss these as political concerns, or to depend on diocesan programs to address the issues; but the gospels constantly call us to personal involvement. Pope Paul VI said recently, "It is not enough to recall principles, state intentions, point to crying injustices and utter prophetic denunciations, these words will lack real weight unless they are accompanied for each individual by a livelier awareness of personal responsibility, and by effective action."

I would ask you to examine with me for a moment how "personal responsibility" and "effective action" might apply in our own lives. About the aging in our lives, do we respect the wisdom and talents which they possess? Do we urge them to new life, self-respect and interests? About those in our lives with an "unplanned" pregnancy: Do we convey the attitude of "unwantedness" for the new life which has begun? Have we helped them to respect the sacredness of life?

Jesus tells us, "I came that you might have LIFE and have it more abundantly." I would urge you as a family to take this occasion of RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY to seriously discuss the ways in which you are helping each other, and those Jesus has sent to you, to realize this promise of abundant life, here and now.

With every best wish, I remain

Devotedly yours in Christ,

*Joseph L. Hogan*  
+ Most Reverend Joseph L. Hogan, D. D.  
Bishop of Rochester

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