

# COURIER-JOURNAL

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NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

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## Stewardship Meetings Open

By MARTIN TOOMBS  
Southern Tier Editor

Elmira—"If you love Jesus, share. Any dope can toot."

That bumper-sticker slogan was used by Father Conrad Sundholm to summarize the basic concept of the stewardship program being sponsored by the diocese.

People learning to share their time, their talent and their treasure is the basis of the program, he explained to the 125 persons from the Southern Tier who attended an information session on the program at Notre Dame Oct. 18.

Father Sundholm emphasized that while financial benefits may be realized through the program, it is more devoted to increasing total parishioner involvement.

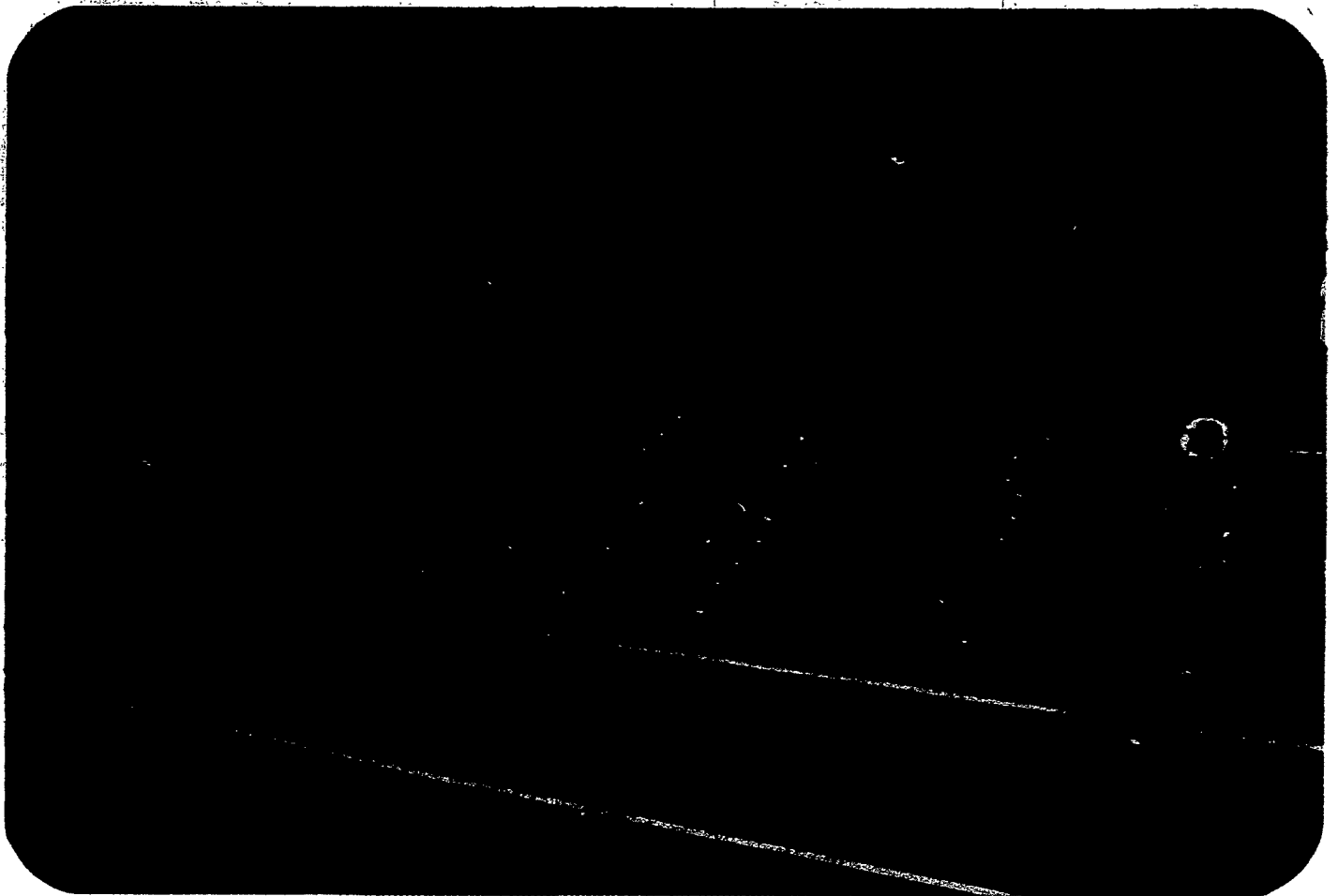
St. Salome's, Father

Sundholm's parish, began a stewardship program last year. A study of parish giving revealed, he explained, that 30 per cent of the parishioners were donating 66 per cent of the parish collections, and also found that "the amount people gave was not determined by their income."

Further study showed that "people were willing to give to the parish in proportion to how involved they were, how committed they were" to the parish and to their faith, he said.

At the same time, Father Sundholm noted, a recurrent shortage of parish workers showed the need for greater parishioner involvement. Taking the two factors into consideration, the Parish Council adopted the stewardship plan, with

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Parade Opens Festival

Photo by Terrance J. Brennan

The Bishop Kearney Marching Kings braved the chilly autumn air and entertained passersby on Main Street in front of Sibley's on Monday, Oct. 17, at the opening of Sibley's Galaxy. Another photo on Page 2.



Photo by Martin Toombs

Registrants sign in prior to the Stewardship Program meeting in Elmira's Notre Dame High School.



Photo by Mary Ann Ginnerty

Bishop Dennis W. Hickey addresses the Stewardship Program assembly of both the Seneca-Cayuga Region and the Yates-Ontario-Wayne Region at Sacred Heart Church Hall in Auburn. More than 85 diocesans attended the evening presentation.

## Finance Report

A complete 1976-77 Diocesan Financial Review, including a brief message from Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, appears on Pages 19-24 of this edition.

## Pro-Life Needs Angels

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## HALLOWEEN Our Pagan Holiday

By JOHN DASH

If that venerable text, The Golden Bough, by Scotsman James George Frazer, published late last century, is anywhere close to reliable, it would seem that our customary celebration of All Hallows Eve, or Halloween, smacks more of our pagan ancestry than of the vigil of a great Church feast.

On the Church calendar, the day is set aside to prepare for the feast of All Saints (All Hallows, as an earlier age had it).

The Catholic Encyclopedia of 1907 calls All

Saints "a feast of the highest rank, celebrated on the first of November, having a vigil and an octave, and giving place to no other feast." It was established for Nov. 1 by Pope Gregory III, who reigned between 731 and 741.

A tradition for fixing one day to honor all the saints, the encyclopedia has it, is probably as old as the Fourth Century.

Likewise, the day following, All Souls, has a long tradition in the Church. Special days to remember them were set aside as early as 636.

It was the Benedictines

during the 12th and 13th Centuries who popularized the practice on fixed days. The St. Andrew's Bible Missal states, "The date of Nov. 2 seems to have come from the calendar of Celtic countries."

That telling statement indicates the reverence the Church has played for local custom, especially in regard to Halloween.

Throughout the length and breadth of the land, bonfires, pumpkins carved into jack o' lanterns, witches, goblins, skeletons and ghosts dominate the scene as symbols of the day. And

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