

Sacramental Study Discussed

By MARTIN TOOMBS
Southern Tier Editor

Elmira—The Chemung County General Education Board (CCGEB) discussed sacramental preparation in the schools, received notification of the resignation of two of its principals, and prepared topics for its April meeting at its regular meeting March 9.

A proposal concerning sacramental preparation was presented to the board by Father Kevin Murphy, co-pastor of St. Patrick's. The proposal noted that the consolidated schools are not operated on a parish basis, and therefore sacramental preparation should be retained by the parish, and not done in the schools. At issue is preparation for first Eucharist and first Penance.

The lengthy discussion centered on whether or not approval of the proposal would constitute interference with parish operations, by requiring all parishes to conduct preparation programs for students in Catholic schools.

Father Murphy explained in his proposal that "parents with children in a certain school are torn between the school and their home parish if the school is actively involved in sacramental preparation. Also a parish program of extensive sacramental preparation for parents of both public and Catholic school children is sabotaged if parents can opt out of the parish program and join in the school program—which

may be less demanding for the parents."

Points were raised concerning the extra hardship that could be caused by requiring parents who already send their children to a Catholic school to participate in a separate sacramental program, as is now the case with Confirmation.

Donald Stamp noted that St. Casimir's parish council discussed the issue, and reached a consensus that it should be decided by the pastors. He moved that the issue be deferred until after a pastors' meeting on the subject. After Father Murphy spoke against deferral, the motion was approved in a 10 to 7 vote.

Thomas Santulli reported

that the Personnel Committee has completed a list of pay increases for next year, and it has been approved by the Finance Committee. Proposed is a \$212 increase in the lay teachers' base pay, and adjustments in the pay rates of other employees. Santulli noted that the projected cost of the increases is \$20,223, which is \$5,052 less than last year's increases.

Sister Julia Clare reported that an agreement has been made with the Braiman Uniform Company, Rochester, to take orders for uniforms in May, with delivery during the summer.

Robert Rohde, St. Casimir's delegate, distributed copies of proposed constitutional

changes, and explained the reasons for them. Included is a reduction of membership. The proposal calls for one principal, one pastor and one representative from each parish to serve on the board. Currently all pastors, all principals, and two representatives from each parish have membership. Further discussion of changes was tentatively scheduled for the April meeting.

Lawrence Stephens, board president, announced that Sister Julia Clare, St. Mary's principal for nine years, and Sister Alice Marie, St. Casimir's principal for two years, have submitted their resignations effective July 1.



Birthday Surprise

Bishop Hogan was surprised recently by the Confirmation class at St. Alphonsus, Auburn. The class had prepared a special birthday cake shaped like a shamrock. Father Robert Gaudio, associate pastor at St. Alphonsus is shown here helping Bishop Hogan cut the cake.

STUDENTS

St. John Fisher College invites you and your family to the Annual Conference for Incoming and Prospective Students on the Campus Saturday, April 1, at 1:00 p.m.

At St. John Fisher College, we believe that early planning is essential for students entering college. This conference will introduce you to Fisher's many programs, as well as its campus, faculty, and major administrators.

Throughout the afternoon, you may attend group discussions on academic areas of special interest to you.

Conference Schedule

1:00-1:30 p.m.	Registration	Kearney Auditorium
1:30-1:45 p.m.	Welcome from the President	Kearney Auditorium
1:45-2:30 p.m.	Student Panel	Kearney Auditorium
2:45-3:15 p.m.	Special Interest Session I	Classrooms
2:45-3:15 p.m.	Higher Education Opportunity Program	Classrooms
2:45-4:30 p.m.	Financial Aid	Basil 135
2:45-4:30 p.m.	Tours	Basil Lounge
3:30-4:00 p.m.	Special Interest Session II	Classrooms
4:30-5:15 p.m.	President's Reception	Haffey Lounge

For your convenience:
Special group sessions with faculty leaders every 30 minutes.
Financial Aid:
Sessions will run from 2:45-4:15 p.m.
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Enjoy the full afternoon program.



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