

**Abuse**

**From 1**

a separate facility. Butts noted, is that "now we feel that we have to do more than give them a place to stay." The safe house will have 24-hour counseling available, and would conduct group counseling for both the batterer and the victim, he noted. Such counseling programs could be valuable in preserving families, Ms. Ruger added, providing assistance before the situation becomes severe.

Ms. Ruger commented that the "word is getting around," about the availability of the service at the Salvation Army, and the number of referrals and requests for assistance continue to increase. Referrals have come from many sources, Butts noted, including local hospitals and police agencies.

Ms. Ruger reported that the Salvation Army's program is being guided by a steering committee of local persons, including one woman who has suffered from spouse-abuse.

Pleas for help often come when the batterer turns on the couple's children, Ms. Ruger noted. While the victim will accept the consequences of the beating for themselves, when the assault is on "their children, they can't handle that," and seek help, she said.

The only thing that is generally true of abusing families, Mrs. Ruger noted, is

that the parents themselves were raised in an abusing family. Other factors, such as family income, education, status, race or ethnic background seem not to have any bearing, Mrs. Ruger noted.

Briggs noted that while working for Family Services of Corning, he dealt with abusing families that included school teachers, police officers, and other professions, including one case involving a school psychologist.

Briggs commented that abusing families are "families in trouble," and are "locked into a certain way of life."

"For many" abusing families, Ms. Ruger said, "it's a normal way of living." She added that nine out of ten batterers believe that what they are doing is not wrong.

She noted that one woman told her that "if her husband didn't beat her, he didn't love her."

**Shrines**

A week-long bus trip to the principal shrines of Quebec Province will begin July 1, from 650 Glenwood. For reservations: Angelina Marcano, 254-3485; Norma Sallberger, 865-7891.

**OLPH Council**

The 1978-1979 parish council of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church will be inducted into office at the 5 p.m. Mass Saturday, June 24. Officers are Ruth Seipenbusch, chairman; Peter Ciavarri, vice chairman; Agnes Simmons, secretary.

**Bishop Stresses 'Challenge' to DPC**

By MARTIN TOOMBS

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan commissioned the members of the Diocesan Pastoral Council (DPC), and then in his address keynoting the DPC Convocation last Friday and Saturday, challenged them to use their positions for effective Christian leadership.

The commissioning Friday evening was "no idle ceremony," the bishop told the 54 delegates; "you were commissioned" to be DPC members. If asked what authority they had to serve the diocese, they should respond "our bishop gave me a mission, a very special mission", to serve as a DPC member, he said.

The commissioning service "was designed to remind all of us of our call to leadership," Bishop Hogan said, noting that authentic Christian leaders are persons who work to build the kingdom of God.

As Christian leaders, the bishop pointed out, DPC members can benefit from studying the leadership of Jesus. He noted Christ's attitude as one possessing authority, His responsibility to and for others, His acceptance by others, His capacity to listen, and the embodiment of a significant ideal as being central to Christ's leadership, and a standard to which DPC members can compare themselves.

"What we're beginning

tonight is our fourth year of the reality which I wrote about in 1972 as my "fondest hope," Bishop Hogan noted.

"I recall those four years of pain" and effort that took place before the DPC began, he noted, adding that "this doesn't reflect a slow pace in the diocese" but a commitment to thorough preparation. "We didn't have much to go by" when designing the DPC, he added.

It is important to remember, he said, that "pastoral councils were recommended by the Second Vatican Council not as an end, but a means of vitalizing the body of Christ. It is a tool, and not a toy."

Pastoral Councils also have a responsibility not to become "vigorous applauders of the status quo," Bishop Hogan pointed out. Councils need to "create a climate in which

people can honestly disagree with one another."

Bishop Hogan also noted that his first warning to parish councils is that they should not ignore the value of prayer as part of council proceedings. Prayer is "not a second-rate item on each agenda" for Church councils, he emphasized.

After reminding members that it is "your judgment, not just your vote" that was elected or appointed to the DPC, he noted challenges that will face the council in the next few months.

He first noted the need for the DPC to respond to requests for counsel from him, and stressed the need for the members to insure effective communications with their respective constituencies.

A response to a proposal dedicating 1980 as a year of the family by the National

Conference of Catholic Bishops will need to be considered, he noted. It must be decided "what the diocese can reasonably do" to participate in the program to strengthen family life, the bishop noted.

Decentralization and regionalization of diocesan activities is a topic which will probably come before the council, he noted.

The budget review process, first completed last year, will occupy the council again, he noted, and he also applauded the continuing work of the Bishop Selection Committee.

Such varied and complex issues will require much work by the council, he noted, and informed decision making. For members to properly fill their responsibilities, he emphasized, it will require "a lot of reading" in preparation for council discussions, and "a lot of praying."

**DPC Officers**

**From 1**

of the diocese's priests are between 60 and 69.

He cited the need for a diocesan vocations team to work for vocations to the priesthood, sisterhood and brotherhood.

Father William Flynn, head of Support Ministries, noted the importance to the diocese and to many parishes of the Stewardship program, which will be

conducted in the diocese this fall.

Sister Roberta Tierney, Education Division Director, noted the continuing need for educating all Catholics, citing especially the need for increased programs for lay religious educators.

Father Charles Mulligan, Social Ministries head, noted an important goal is to end the "Babylonian captivity" of Catholic Charities, in

Monroe County. Operating almost exclusively in Monroe County, he noted the agency has turned \$30,000 in diocesan funds into a \$10 million budget by tapping other funding sources. The current situation means that services are available in Monroe County, which is comparatively wealthy, while "some of the poorest countries" are left with nothing.

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