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COURIER-JOURNAL

Southern Tier-Auburn Geneva

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St. Mary Our Mother's Church Construction Begun

Horseheads—Construction has begun on a church for St. Mary Our Mother Parish.

After several years of planning, and intensive fund raising, architectural study and planning during the past year, work on the new center of worship, with a total projected cost of \$966,000, is underway.

The parish's last church building was closed in 1965. Since that time, parish liturgies have been celebrated in a chapel in the school.

The new church is being located between the school and rectory, on what was the parish's parking lot. A

new lot is being constructed along Westinghouse Road, under the high power lines on the church's property.

Current plans call for work to be completed on the church in about a year. Streeter Associates of Elmira is constructing the church, which was designed by architect John Teitsch.

When bids for the project were opened in May, they were nearly 40 percent higher than estimates, Aloysius Stanton, Building Committee Communications Chairman explained in a letter to parishioners. Modifications were made,

in consultation with Teitsch and Streeter Associates, to reduce the contract bid \$120,000 to \$809,000. That resulted in the total projected cost of \$966,000, which includes fees, furnishings, and the cost of rebuilding the organ donated by Notre Dame University.

Increased construction costs and higher mortgage rates could have wiped out any gains from further delaying the project to redesign it, Stanton explained. With that in mind, the Parish Council unanimously approved the plan July 14.

Final diocesan approval was received before



Photo by Martin Toombs

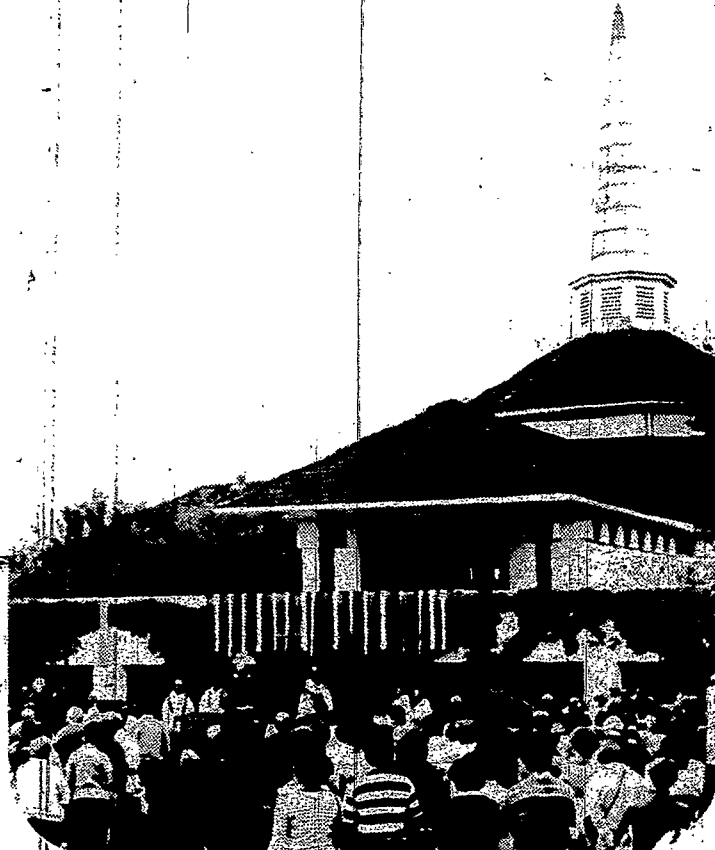
Construction work under way at St. Mary Our Mother.

construction began, he noted.

Father Bartholomew

O'Brien, St. Mary Our Mother pastor, has asked parishioners' patience with the inconvenience and

what he calls "joyful confusion" that will be caused by the construction.



This year's Mount Saviour Festival is expected to draw thousands of persons from the surrounding area, as did last year's event. Pictured is the outdoor Mass opening the 1977 festival, being celebrated in front of Our Lady Queen of Peace Chapel.

25th Annual Festival Set at Mt. Saviour

Big Flats—Mount Saviour Benedictine Monastery's 25th Annual Fall Festival will be Sunday, Sept. 17.

The yearly event, which commemorates the dedication of the chapel of Our Lady Queen of Peace and the founding of the monastery, attracts thousands to the monastery, located off Hendy Hollow Road in the town of Big Flats.

This year's festival is being chaired by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hain of Elmira. It will start with a concelebrated outdoor Mass sung by the monks at 10 a.m. The day will close with Vespers at 6 p.m. The other program activities will begin at 11 a.m.

Chairing other committees are Curran Sekella, food; Michael Gonta, music; Marian Ruffy and Barbara Sekella, arts and crafts; Georgia Botcher, street of shops; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Wardell, specials; Mr. and Mrs. George Welch, publicity; and Jack Kelley, transportation. Volunteers interested in helping are asked to contact the committee chairperson or Mr. and Mrs. Hain.

The street of shops will feature a bake tent, new and old, jams and jellies, hand-made items, plants and flowers, mitten tree, and a booth run by the Sisters of St. Mary of Namur from Buffalo.

Health Information Service Started

Elmira—A statewide broadcast news service has been established by the state Hospital Association, Sister Martha Gersbach, St. Joseph's Hospital Administrator has announced.

The health information service, which began Sept. 1, with a series of weekly messages, is designed to help consumers use the health care system more effectively and to become more knowledgeable about

matters affecting their own health.

"The rising cost of health care and the future direction of the health care delivery system are matters of considerable concern today," Sister Martha noted. "While many of the health problems which hospitalize people" at St. Joseph's and at other hospitals are "unavoidable, there are many areas where better health care information and illness

prevention could well eliminate or at least substantially reduce the period of hospitalization and convalescence for a large number of persons."

"As school begins," Sister Martha concluded, "there is recognition that many children here are not protected with full immunization; this places them at risk to diseases that are easily preventable. This is just one example of the need for preventive

care. Also, we have an adult population that drinks too much, eats too many of the wrong foods, smokes too much, drives too fast, or has generally adopted a life style that also places them at risk. The goal in initiating this new public information health service on Sept. 1, is to help our fellow New Yorkers avoid unnecessary hospitalization by becoming more alert guardians of their own health."

St. James Graduates X-Ray Technicians

Hornell—St. James Mercy Hospital School of Radiologic Technology graduated three students in ceremonies Aug. 25.

Mrs. Kathie Brownell of Jasper received an award given annually by the J. B. Squibb Company to the student with the highest scholastic average for the two-year X-ray technology course.

The other graduates were Kim Brown, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Brown of Cohocton, and Robert Wallace, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wallace of Andover.

A highlight of the ceremony was a presentation

Festival

Mt. Morris—The second annual festival at St. Patrick's Sept. 9 will feature, as the first one did, an auction of "trivia" donated by well-known personalities. A barbecue dinner, snacks, music, carnival rides for children, and booths selling plants, baked goods and craft work also are on the program.

to Dr. James MacFarland, who founded the school and served as director for 30 years until his retirement earlier this year. He was presented a plaque by Sister Mary Colette,

who had served in many capacities in the X-ray department and the School of X-ray Technology until she retired in 1973 to work in the Pastoral-Care Department.

Regional Committee Sets Religious Ed. Workshops

Auburn—The Seneca-Cayuga Religious Education Committee has arranged a series of workshops for religion teachers and members of parish councils and education committees. The series will open Tuesday evening, Sept. 19, and conclude Sept. 23 with a day at Holy Family Church, keyed by Father Lewis Brown, diocesan director of Religious Education.

Tuesday's session, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Alphonsus, will be a presentation for elementary teachers by a representative of the Sadlier Publishing Company. At 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at St. Patrick's, Seneca Falls, there will be a

presentation for parishes using Silver-Burdett materials. Thursday, at 7:30, there will be a workshop at Sacred Heart for those interested in adult and family education programs.

Prayer and scripture in the classroom, penance and children's liturgies are among the topics to be studied in seven workshops at Holy Family on Saturday, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Films will be shown during lunch hour, and there will be displays of other instructional materials. Participants should register by Sept. 14 in their own parishes or by calling Miss Betty Gendreau at Sacred Heart or Father Robert Gaudio at St. Alphonsus.

Food Festival

An International Food Festival is scheduled for Saturday afternoon, Sept. 16, at St. Agnes Church in Avon. Italian, Mexican, Polish and German dishes will be offered, along with the American hot dog. Home-made specialty items will be featured in a country-store atmosphere, and there will be a garage sale.

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