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OUR 95th YEAR

20 Cents

Seeing Double

No, you're not seeing double — it's the four sets of twins who are all freshmen at Our Lady of Mercy High School. Starting from front, on left, are Kelly (older by 10 minutes) and Karen Barry; Alicia and Anita (older by two minutes) Alesso; Cathy (five minutes older) and Teresa Regan; Lisa (10 minutes older) and Lynne Foley. The girls tell about themselves and what it's like being a twin, in *RapAround*, page 16.



Priests Council Acts To Tighten Schedule

By JOHN DASH

The Priests Council took action last week to partially remedy a long-standing complaint in ministerial circles.

That complaint centers on the number of meetings those in ministry have had to attend in recent years as a result of pastoral reforms initiated by both the Vatican and the U.S. Catholic bishops.

Traditionally in this diocese the Priests Council has slated a full-day session once a month.

In a proposal unanimously accepted last week however, the council leaves to the discretion of its executive committee determination not only of the time and place of its meetings, but even whether or not a meeting will be scheduled in any particular month.

It has occurred in the past that meetings have been cancelled for want of a sufficient number of agenda items.

Last week's proposal will preclude even the scheduling of such meetings.

The council also took action last week to expand its stated purpose. While the council sees itself primarily as a consultative body, it also will take on as a "major thrust" to "fortify and promote more effective priestly ministry."

The proposal was put to the council by Father Louis Hohman, president, and was championed by, among others, Fathers Richard Tormey and Paul Freemesser.

Father Tormey said he

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Diaconate Program Opens with 27 Men

Twenty-seven men, ranging in age from 30 to 58 years, have been selected as the first class in the diocesan training program for Permanent Deacons. Msgr. George Cocuzzi announced last week. The class met for the first time on Friday.

Two of the candidates, according to Sister Mary Hilaire Gacens, RSM, administrative assistant to Msgr. Cocuzzi, have 13 children each. All but one of the candidates are married, and 23 parishes are represented in the group.

Statistics compiled by Sister Hilaire also reveal that 20 of the candidates are English

speaking and seven Spanish-speaking. The total number of children in the candidates' families is 114.

The candidates, their wives and their parishes are:

Dominick N. Abballe, Joan, St. Christopher's; Stephen D. Carroll, Barbara, St. Mary's of the Lake, Ontario; Raymond A. Defendorf, Patricia, St. Mary our Mother, Horseheads; Robert W. Dizer, Joan, St. Patrick's, Owego; William P. Dougherty, Mary, St. Charles Borromeo, Elmira Heights; Stanley J. Douglas, Joanne, St. Mary's, Elmira; Leo A. Kester, Helen, Holy Trinity, Webster; Daniel M. Kinsky,

Sheila, St. John of Rochester, Fairport; Jose N. Malave, Luz Minerva, St. Francis Xavier; Anthony P. Marini, Maria, St. Louis, Pittsford; Nemesio Martinez, Brunilda, St. Patrick's; William D. Maune, Winifred, St. Lawrence; John W. Medico, St. Salome's; Eliseo Melendez, Alicia, St. Francis of Assisi; Anthony J. Mercadel, Jean, Guardian Angels; Juan-Luis Pacheco, Gloria, St. Michael's; John Prave, Karen, St. Michael's, Union Springs; Angel Rivera, Aida, St. Michael's; Kenneth A. Scarciotta, Mary Agnes, St. Ambrose, Edward R. Sergeant, Rose Marie, Epiphany, Sodus; Robert O.

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DPC Gives Priority To Evangelization

MARTIN TOOMBS

Waterloo—"Our Church is in danger of becoming a hollow shell," Father Gerald Appelby told the Diocesan Pastoral Council (DPC) at its meeting last Saturday.

Discussing evangelization, Father Appelby listed five problems that are "eating us alive," although, he said, "I don't think we know it."

The DPC agreed to make evangelization a priority for the year after hearing Father Appelby's talk and discussing the matter themselves.

Father Appelby listed the five problems:

- Vatican II, but not "for what it said, but rather what it assumed," that the faithful had the sophisticated knowledge necessary to understand what was said.

- The pressures of an isolationist society, often resulting in a search for a secure framework, and in the rise of neo-pentecostalism.

- "Illiteracy in regard to faith," resulting from many causes, including bad instruction, and a laziness among those who should be learning.

- The "European phenomenon" in which fewer people claim any

association with a Church, and Church attendance and membership drop dramatically, a trend which foretells the "death of Christendom."

- The dissolution of the nuclear family, which historically transmitted faith to children.

Father Appelby called on Church people to conduct their good works openly for Christ, noting that "all ministries when overtly done in Jesus' name are evangelization."

Brother Brian Walsh, DPC chairman, introduced the topic, noting that evangelization had been raised by Father Appelby and all the other diocesan division directors at the DPC June convocation.

The DPC broke into small groups to discuss the issue, and then reported to the assembly.

After amendment, a resolution proposed by the DPC Executive Committee was approved with 34 voting in favor, five against, and two abstaining. The motion calls for the DPC to establish as its priority for 1978-79 "a deeper understanding of the meaning and significance of evangelization," and that a task force be formed to make a proposal at the November meeting as to how the DPC can assist evangelization efforts.

Joseph Kelly, director of the diocesan Continuing Education program, reported on the program's progress during its first year, and made two requests: that the DPC write a letter to all parish council presidents, emphasizing the importance of continuing education, and that the DPC show its support for a proposal that parishes pay all staff, as they now do priests, a \$250 professional fee to be used for continuing education.

Several members commented on specific portions of the report. A move to send a letter to the parish councils immediately was tabled until the DPC could discuss the entire issue at the November meeting.

Bishop Dennis W. Hickey opened the meeting for the ill Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, reminding members that Paul addressed the people of Corinth as the "Church of Corinth" and not the Church of Corinth. Members should remember that they are working for the Church of Christ, he said, and not just the Church of the Rochester diocese.

The DPC approved a resolution establishing an ad hoc committee to study actions that could be taken as a result of the survey on the participation of women

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