

# COURIER-JOURNAL

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OUR 95th YEAR

20 Cents



Photo by Terrance J. Brennan

## Called To Serve

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, suffering with pneumonia, left his sick bed last Friday night to officiate at the ordination of six deacons at St. Mary's Church in Elmira, a first for the parish. The new deacons are Jorge Jimenez of Cochabamba, Bolivia; Tony Velivil of the Order of Our Lady of Mercy; and Joseph Larrabee, Timothy McCluskey, Michael Schramel, Gary Schummer and Michael Sullivan, all of the Rochester diocese. Fathers Frank E. Liot, rector of St. Bernard's Seminary, and Father Thomas R. Statt, rector of Becket Hall Seminary, were the principal concelebrants with Bishop Hogan. Deacon for the service was the Rev. Mr. Robert Werth.



Photo by Anthony J. Costello

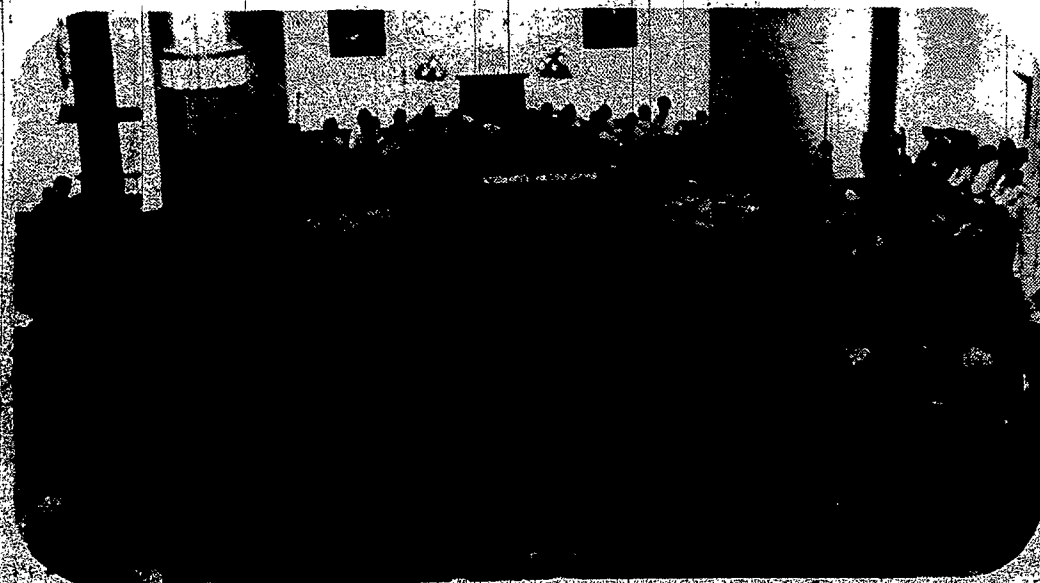


Photo by Terrance J. Brennan

## 40 Parishes Begin Stewardship Census

By MICHAEL GRODEN

The Christian Stewardship Program, designed to motivate greater participation in all phases of parish life, formally begins the second stage of operation next week with some 40 parishes throughout the diocese participating.

The program's goals are to find parishioners willing to donate their "Time, Talent and Treasure" as well as finding out what individual parishioners need in the way of service from their church.

John Foley, Stewardship staff worker for the diocese, explained how the program's second stage "Program Implementation" will begin in October, Stewardship month.

Participating parishes will conduct a survey of parishioners to determine which talents each may be willing to donate. If, for example, a parishioner is an accountant, he or she may want to donate some time working with the parish finance committee or helping plan the parish budget. Those who are teachers may want to help in CCD programs or youth counseling. Other Time and Talent categories include ushering,

Eucharistic Minister, newcomer welcoming groups, office help, general maintenance, etc.

The census also will attempt to determine what that parishioner may need himself in terms of service from the parish, such as home visitation, Adult Religious Ed., etc.

In addition the canvassers (stewards) remind those people they contact of the necessity of donations to their church so that it may continue its work. This third stage is optional.

All three elements of Time, Talent and Treasure are of equal importance Foley explained. The ultimate goal is to "broaden the base of involvement of parishioners with their parish," he said.

Art Farren, Stewardship staffer, added that many parishes not participating in this year's program indicated that they would next year. Foley explained that the program has been very well received throughout the diocese. He hopes that the number of participants in next year's program will more than double.

Father Conrad Sundholm, program director,

stated that when he conducted the Stewardship program in his parish, St. Salome's, last year, it became "one of the most heartwarming experiences in my priestly career."

Oct. 8 and 15 have been designated as Stewardship Sundays. On these dates the parish volunteers will conduct their surveys. With the successful completion of the census each parish should have a much clearer idea of the resources it has at its disposal, thereby vastly improving parish ministry and parishioner participation.

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, in a letter of Stewardship volunteers said "Christian Stewardship is designed to motivate greater participation in all phases of parish life.

"It offers parishioners opportunities to evidence their love of God and neighbor by becoming good stewards -- by returning to God, through the parish, a reasonable portion of time, talent and resources. It is 'thanksgiving.' It seeks to attain individual parishioner participation -- more persons giving more to the parish so that the parish community can give more to parishioners."

## State Right to Life To Meet in Elmira

Elmira — Pro-life expert Father Paul Marx, OSB, Ph.D., and Assemblyman Roger Robach (D-C, Rochester), who led the battle to restrict Medicaid funds for abortion in New York State this year, will be guest speakers at the New York State Right to Life Committee's 11th annual convention at Elmira's Holiday Inn Friday and Saturday, Oct. 6 and 7.

They will be joined by National Right to Life leader Felicia Goeken, ethics authority Father William B. Smith, and John F. Hillabrand, MD, medical director of Alternatives to Abortion International (AAI).

will kick off the convention Friday at 8 p.m. Saturday's workshops will begin with a keynote address at 9 a.m. by Father Marx director of the Human Life Center at Minnesota's St. John's University and author of "The Death Peddlers," "The Mercy Killers," and "Abortion International." The day's workshops deal with such topics as current federal legislation, care of the dying, political strategy, abortion alternatives, public relations, and such educational tools as the "Population Puppet Show" which recently enjoyed considerable success in the Syracuse area.

Workshop speakers will include AAI's Dr. Hillabrand, Father Smith, academic dean

of St. Joseph's Seminary, Dunwoodie, and NYSRLC's second vice chairman; Mrs. Goeken, secretary of both NRLC and the Life Amendment Political Action Committee, and national director of NRLC's Voter Identification Project. Also participating will be NYSRLC's state legislative director Joan Allgaier, and NRLC delegate William Polito of Rochester, who will speak on upcoming political strategy.

Saturday's activities will close with a banquet featuring Father Marx, Polito, and Assemblyman Robach.

Polito's remarks will center