

# Assessment Explanation, Proposals on DPC Agenda

Canandaigua—Diocesan assessments and a variety of proposals will be discussed at the Diocesan Pastoral Council (DPC) meeting Saturday, Nov. 11, from 9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. at the Sheraton Inn.

In response to questions at past DPC meetings, Thomas Weber, diocesan finance director, will address the council, explaining the process used to determine parish assessments.

Proposals scheduled for discussion are:

- A proposal from the DPC's youth members for a diocesan Youth Federation, operating under the Religious Education Department, with representatives from each region. The proposers see the body as being able to assist in the coordination of programs for teenagers in the diocese.

- Proposals from the Evangelization Task Force dealing with appointments to the National Conference of Catholic Bishops' Ad Hoc Committee on Evangelization; a DPC study of evangelization; involvement of the Priests and Sisters councils, and the regional coordinators; and that the Task Force offer a plan to the DPC for continued evangelization efforts.

- A proposal from Father Charles Bennett calling for a network of volunteer legislation watchers looking out for the interests of churches when new taxes are passed, to operate under the diocesan chancellor.

- A proposal from the ad hoc DPC committee studying responses to the survey on women's participation, which

asks the DPC to "endorse in principal the establishment of an Office for Women's Concerns" in the diocese.

- A proposal from Anthony Rosati to form a committee with the charge of establishing a "strong central diocesan school board," which, he states in the proposal, "can command a better position in quest of

financial stability, political action, quality of education and better meet the needs of all whom we propose to serve."

Also scheduled is discussion of the three recommendations made at the September meeting by Joseph Kelly, diocesan continuing education director.

Time also has been allowed on the agenda for examination of the apostolic exhortation "On Evangelization in the Modern World."

# Holland's Bishops Say No Women Priests Or Married Priests

Noordwijkerhout, the Netherlands (RNS)—Proposals to allow women to be ordained priests and married priests to resume sacerdotal duties have been rejected again by Holland's Catholic bishops.

The proposals were made at a recent three-day session here of a "consultative" assembly of bishops and 100 priests and lay people from the country's seven dioceses.

Cardinal Jan Willebrands, Archbishop of Utrecht and Roman Catholic Primate of

Holland, told reporters that the proposals, approved by two thirds of the priests and laity, were "unacceptable."

The cardinal, who is president of the Vatican Secretariat for Christian Unity, said the ordaining of women as priests would "contradict" a tradition dating from the foundation of the Church. The bishops rejected the proposal about married priests, he continued, on the grounds that the "vow of celibacy" was a blessing for the Church and should be maintained.

## DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING Saturday, Nov. 11, 9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Sheraton Inn, Canandaigua

1. Opening Prayer
2. Acceptance of Minutes and Agenda
3. Bishop Hogan's Remarks
4. Chairperson's Remarks, Brother Brian Walsh
5. Explanation of Process Used to Determine Diocesan Assessments, Thomas Weber, Finance director
6. Diocesan Youth Federation Proposal, Thomas Rosica
7. Continuing Education Program
8. Reports: Priests Council, Father Clarence Gardner; Sisters Council, Sister Francella Quinn; Selection of Bishops, Father John Mulligan
9. Vote on DPC Constitutional Amendment
10. Study on Apostolic Exhortation "On Evangelization in the Modern World"
11. Proposal from DPC Task Force on Evangelization
12. Taxation of Churches Proposal, Father Charles Bennett
13. Proposal from Ad Hoc Committee responding to the Survey on Participation of Women in the Church of Rochester, Sister Ann Miller
14. Proposal on Formation of a Diocesan School Board, Anthony Rosati
15. Prioritizing Needs Identified by Constituents
16. Open Forum

## Chapter From I

general trend in the governing of their groups toward "collegiality."

This, they say, is in line with directives issued about ten years ago from the Vatican, in the wake of the Second Vatican Council.

Sister Noreen sees the chapter as a means to "spiritual renewal through commitment to the vows of poverty, celibacy, obedience and service to the poor, the sick and the uneducated."

Sister Elizabeth Anne sees it as "an opportunity for continued growth and grounding of the religious congregation." She also sees the chapter as reflecting a "stabilization of questions

about who we are in service, here, in Selma, in Brazil."

Sister Mary Louis sees her chapter as broadening the outlook of her group to include global concerns.

While the School Sisters of Notre Dame regularly have observers at their chapter meetings, both the Sisters of St. Joseph and the Sisters of Mercy, may this year also open up their deliberations to the public.

Throughout an interview with the three sisters last week, it was evident that a principal inspiration for them is the word and work of Cardinal Eduardo Pironio, the Argentinian curial chief of religious women, who was mentioned prominently among the "papabili" at the time of the two recent conclaves.

Cardinal Pironio published two years ago "Reflections

on General Chapters," both a meditation and a directive on the conducting of chapters.

In that paper he states, "The celebration of a Chapter concerns in the first place the whole Church. It is an ecclesial event even if the Congregation is a small one and not extended all over the world. Consequently it concerns all people. It is a salvific event even if most people do not actually know what a Chapter is."

"A Chapter," he wrote, "is always a work of God's love, poured into our heart through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us." Therefore it is a new and magnificent page of the history of salvation. Let us all celebrate it with gratitude and availability, like Mary, the Lord's humble servant, in whom God worked wonders, and through whom the light from on high shone throughout the world."

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