

Black Ministries Celebrates Three Years

Happy Birthday!

The Office of Black Ministries is three years old; and the diocese celebrated the work of the office last week at Immaculate Conception Church.

The rites included the seating of a new board of directors for the office, singing by the Office of Black Ministries Choir, and a Mass celebrated by Bishop Joseph L. Hogan.

In the three years the office has existed, under the direction of Father

Jerome Robinson, a Dominican priest, 250 lectures, consultations, seminar facilitations, workshop demonstrations and in-service practicums have been held. These events have drawn 42 professional resource persons from around the world, not to mention the volunteers and staff members of the office who have helped stage such events.

The chief work of the office is to be an advocate for the concerns of the Black and Catholic community across the

diocese. This advocacy includes cooperation with social service and educational institutions, whether publicly or privately established.

And all of this costs money. This weekend a collection will be taken up in churches throughout the area to help defray the costs of the office.

The new members of the board are Dr. (Betty) Marion Anderson, teacher in the City School District and a member of the Ministerial Review Committee; Mrs. Juliet Anderson, a machine operator at Delco Products Division of General Motors Corp. and a member of St. Francis Xavier Parish; Arthur Criswell, an inventory planner at Xerox Corp. and former member of the Opportunity Industrialization project at Martin Luther King Jr. Hospital in Kansas City, Mo.; Father James Duah-Agyeman, a priest of the Diocese of Sunyani in Ghana, a member of the associate staff at St. Michael's Church in Rochester and a graduate student at SUNY, Brockport;

Mrs. Charma Domphe, a teacher in the City School District and a member of St. Bridget's Church; Thomas J. Harris,

assistant director for the Inner City Outreach Program of the diocesan Catholic Youth Organization; John W. Holmes Jr., a personnel administrator for Xerox Corp., and a member of St. Monica Parish; Mrs. Norma Holmes, a paraprofessional with the City School District and a member of St. Monica's Parish;

David F. Huddleston, a social worker at the Montgomery Neighborhood Center; Mrs. Gwendolyn Manning Jones, a social worker at Parkridge Hospital; Ms. Fredia McCray, a social work supervisor at the Montgomery Neighborhood Center; Ms. Deborah Mullen, manager of the Human Services Division of the Urban League of Rochester;

Mrs. Cynthia A. Powell, a salesperson and a member of Immaculate Conception Parish; Miss Jean Pryor, a benefits verifier for Blue Cross/Blue Shield and the Office of Black Ministries representative to the Diocesan Pastoral Council; Mrs. Valjeanne T. Reese, a social worker, the representative for the Office of Black Ministries Choir, and a member of St. Monica Parish; Mrs. Mattie Smith, a member and parish council representative of Holy Redeemer Parish and a founding charter person of the Mother Cabrini Circle.

Exofficio advisers to the board are Father Gerald J. Appelby, diocesan director of Special Ministries, and



Bishop Hogan shares a humorous moment with OBM choir director, William Crimm. "Are you going to accompany my homily?" the bishop asks.



Choir members are: (front row) Crimm, Holmes, Miss Tillman, Mrs. Criswell, Mrs. Reese, Ms. Tillman, Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Miller; (second row) Mrs. Holmes and Mrs. Anderson.



Board members pose with the bishop. From left to right, they are: (front row) Holmes, Ms. Mullen, Huddleston, Mrs. Domphe, (the bishop), Mrs. Anderson, Father Appelby, Father Duah-Agyeman (chairman); (at rear) Ms. McCray, Ms. Powell, Ms. Criswell, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Holmes, Miss Pryor, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Reese, Harris.

Rev. Dr. Gayraud S. Wilmore, a Presbyterian minister, professor of Black Church Studies at Colgate Rochester Divinity School/Bexley Hall/Crosier Theological Seminary, and chairperson of the Coalition for Justice in South Africa.

of Black Ministries Choir are Mr. and Mrs. John Holmes, Mrs. Juliet Anderson, Mrs. Valjeanne Reese, William Crimm, Mrs. Terry Miller, Mrs. JoAnn Criswell, Ms. Jeanette Tillman, Father James Duah-Agyeman, Mrs. Musette Castle, Mrs. Mattie Smith and Miss Tracy Tillman.

Members of the Office

An invitation to College Students and High School Seniors:



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Arts and Crafts

About 80 local artists and handcrafters will offer their work for sale March 10 under the auspices of the Mercy High Parents Association. Among those involved in the enterprise are, from the left, Rene Smith, committee member; Marion VanderZell, with some of her hand-decorated china; Mary M. DeWolf and Agnes Greenauer. The show will run from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. in the school gymnasium, 1437 Blossom Road.