



Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, above welcomes participants in the annual diocesan education conference. Below, a portion of the conference assembly.



Photos by Susan McKinney

## Education Conference Draws 1700 Teachers

By John Dash

More than 1400 people rose to their feet and applauded Bishop Joseph L. Hogan last week at the opening of the annual diocesan education congress.

"You will notice a certain feeling of relief," he told the crowd, referring to the recent appointment of Father Matthew H. Clark as his successor as Bishop of Rochester.

He described the bishop-elect as "a young man of great spiritual depth and great talent."

He also said that he was relieved to learn that with the new bishop the diocese "is not going to be going backward — right on!"

Amidst laughter, the Bishop Hogan advised the assembly to "take up jogging." Running is the bishop-elect's major sport.

"This is the last time, perhaps, I will be speaking to you as the father of the family," Bishop Hogan told the group. "After June 26, I will be the grandpa."

Bishop Hogan stated that "If I had one apostolate, it would be the family." He averred that the family was his constant concern throughout his reign as Bishop of Rochester, and that without the support of the family, there is no good education of the young.

"That's old, but it's the truth," he said.

"It is in the climate largely of the home that the infused virtues of Faith, Hope and Love are developed," he said. He also observed that the family is the source of the "home virtues, as I call them, of patience, gentleness and honesty."

The family, faith for today,

### Fr. Wright Celebrates His 25th

Father Edward S. Wright, formerly of Rochester, celebrated the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on Sunday, May 6, at his church in North Aurora, Ill. He is pastor of Blessed Sacrament, which he founded in 1970. An open house followed his afternoon Mass, and in the evening there was a dinner dance for parishioners and friends.

Father Wright, who was born here, lived in Rockingham Street and attended St. Boniface School, Aquinas Institute and St. Andrew's Seminary. He continued his education for the priesthood at Holy Angels Seminary, Niagara, and was ordained May 5, 1954, in Buffalo. He has had both pastoral and teaching assignments in the Diocese of Rockford and has served as president of the Priests Senate.

hope for tomorrow, was the theme of the assembly which eventually drew more than 1750 educators to the D-Line Arena last weekend.

Featured among the speakers were Father Edward Farrell, Joseph Kelly, Maureen Gallagher, Dennis Boike, Elinor Ford, Dorothy Picot, Leonard Paganielli, Charles Gallagher, SJ, Rita Foley, John Roberto Sister Kathleen Kircher, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Lynch and Father William O'Malley, SJ.



DONALD MOLINARI

### New Deacon

Donald Molinari, a St. John Fisher College graduate, was ordained a permanent deacon for the diocese of Wheeling, Charleston, W. Virginia on April 1, 1979 by Bishop Joseph H. Hodges. Many members of Molinari's family, from St. Cecilia and St. Margaret Mary parishes in Rochester, attended the ceremony.

## Word for Sunday

By Father Albert Shamon

### The Joy Of Life In God's Love

Sunday's Readings: (R3) Jn. 15:9-17. (R1) Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48. (R2) 1 Jn. 4:7-10.

John's gospel speaks of God's love for man; his letters tell of man's love for God. Next Sunday's gospel is taken in part from John's account of Jesus' farewell address.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning wrote 44 sonnets of love to Robert Browning, her husband. When Robert Browning first came to see Elizabeth Barrett, she had only a few months to live. She had almost stopped writing, and had reconciled all her thoughts to death. Her 44 sonnets tell the story of the transformation that Browning's love brought into her life. (This same transformation is dramatized in the play, *The Barretts of Wimpole Street*.)

Elizabeth had intended her poems to be read by her husband alone. But Browning saw their great literary merit and published them. As an attempt to disguise their personal meaning, Browning titled

them *Sonnets from the Portuguese*. "My little Portuguese" was Browning's loving soubriquet for his wife, Elizabeth, because of her swarthy complexion.

The 43rd sonnet sums up Elizabeth's love. Perhaps nothing in literature has surpassed these 14 lines in defining the love that may exist between man and woman. The sonnet begins with the question, "How do I love thee? Let me count the ways." Then she enumerates the ways.

Nothing surpasses her sonnet in defining human love. But in defining divine love — the love between God and man — nothing in literature equals the farewell words of Jesus to His apostles. They were spoken after the institution of the Holy Eucharist — the glow, so to speak, of the Sacrament of Love.

"How much do I love thee," Jesus too might have asked the apostles. He tells them: "I have loved you as my Father has loved me" "Count the ways of that love, if you can," he might have challenged. "My Father's love is eternal, is unchangeable, is unselfish, is unmerited. I have loved you like that, to the depth and breadth and height of divinity and eternity — freely, purely, with all my being."

Then the Lord begged,

"Live in my love. Such love cannot but sustain you, lift you up, strengthen you." Human love helped Elizabeth Barrett Browning overcome physical handicaps, even the prospect of imminent death.

"The face of all the world is changed, I think,

Since first I heard the footsteps of thy soul

Move still, oh, still, beside me, as they stole

Between me and the dreadful outer brink

Of obvious death, where I, who thought to sink,

Was caught up into love, and taught the whole

Of life in new Rhythm."

Elizabeth's strength lay in her weakness and Browning's love. So our helplessness can be made strong in His love. A helpless baby's safety is not in its own strength, but in its mother's love.

And what will happen? "My joy may be yours." Odd, isn't it, that Jesus should talk of joy on His way to His death agony? Yet it was so. Jesus entered the world bringing joy. "I bring you tidings of great joy." He left it, giving His gospel of joy: "All this I tell you that my joy may be yours."

Is this strange? Elizabeth's sonnets sang of the joy love brought to her despite her illness. How much greater shall be the joy of all, no matter the trials, who live in His love!

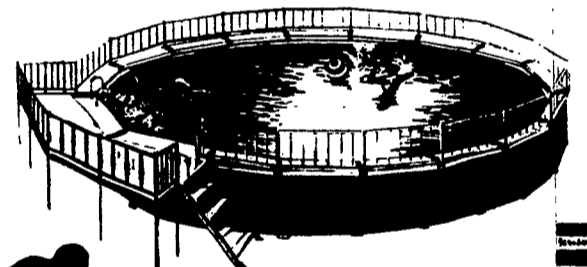
### Madrigalia

Songs from the courts and chapels of Renaissance Europe will be sung Sunday evening in Ascension Church by Madrigalia, a 16-voice choir that specializes in a capella music. The May 20 concert, scheduled as a Lilac Festival event, is free and public. It will begin at 7:30 p.m. The church is at the corner of Lake Avenue and Riverside Street. The singers perform under the direction of Robert Dwellley of the Eastman School of Music, who has been music director at St. Bernard's Seminary and is a consultant to the diocesan music commission and an advisor to the U.S. Bishops Committee on the Liturgy.

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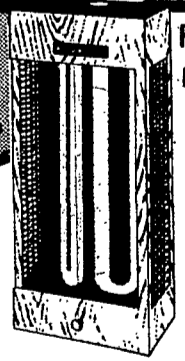
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