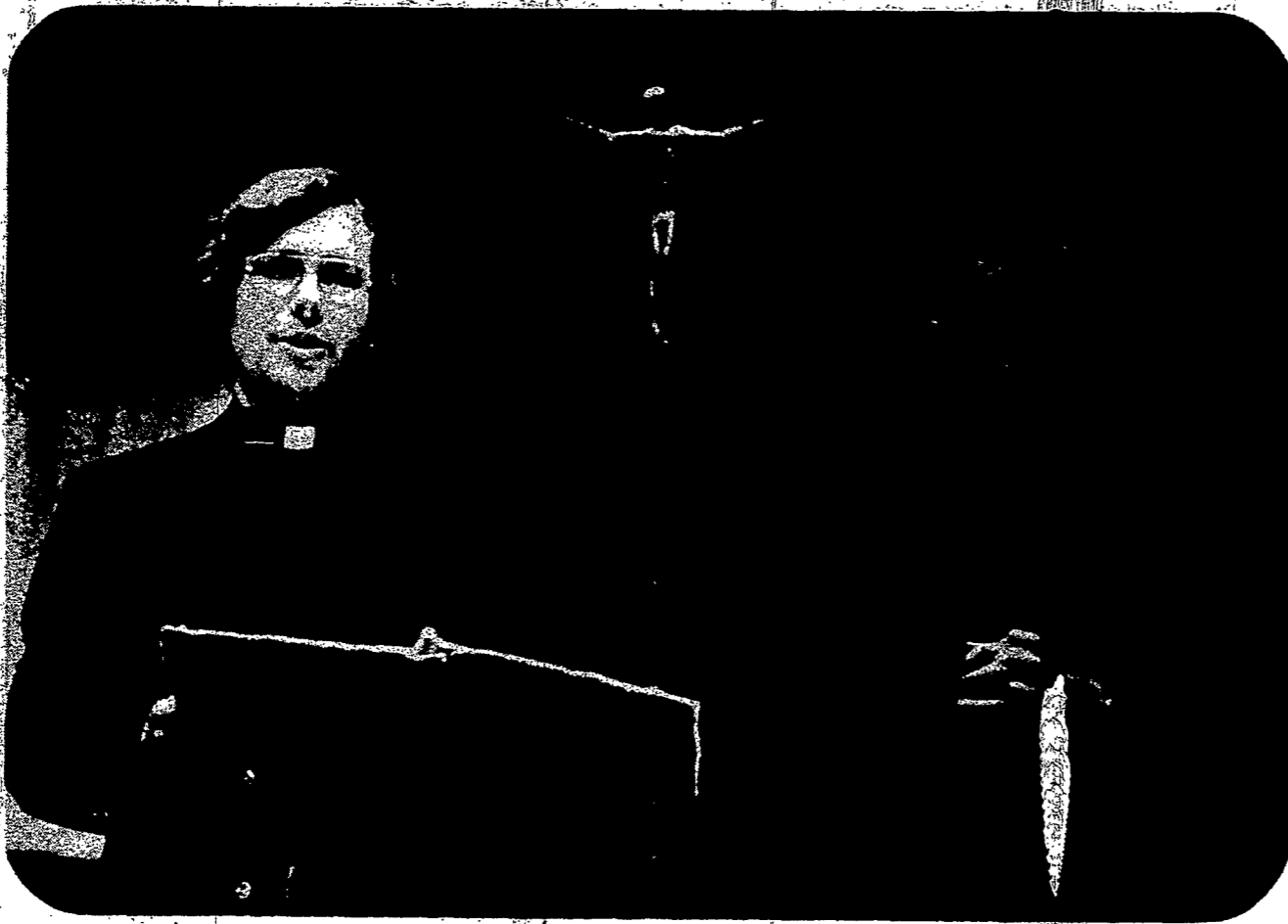


# Hundreds Gather for the Rehearsal



Father Robert Kennedy and Bishop Matthew H. Clark lead the Evening Prayer which preceded the rehearsal.

By 7 p.m. on Monday, the cavernous arena of the Rochester Community War Memorial was abuzz with activity. Banners representing nearly every segment of the diocese were being hung. A mammoth altar on the three-tiered central platform was being draped. And hundreds of people were making their way to their positions for the ceremony.

Directing all the activity was Father Robert Kennedy, head of the diocesan Liturgy Office, and the event was the rehearsal for the ceremonies of installation to take place the following evening.

As the Eucharistic Ministers were being deployed to their stations, Father Kennedy remarked that the distribution of Holy Communion, to more than 10,000 people, would only take 12 minutes.

The rehearsal began promptly at 7:30 p.m. with a brief rite of Evening Prayer

led by Father Kennedy and Bishop Matthew H. Clark. As the evening wore on instructions were given and, at one point, at least three groups of personnel for the rites were running through their roles at the same time.

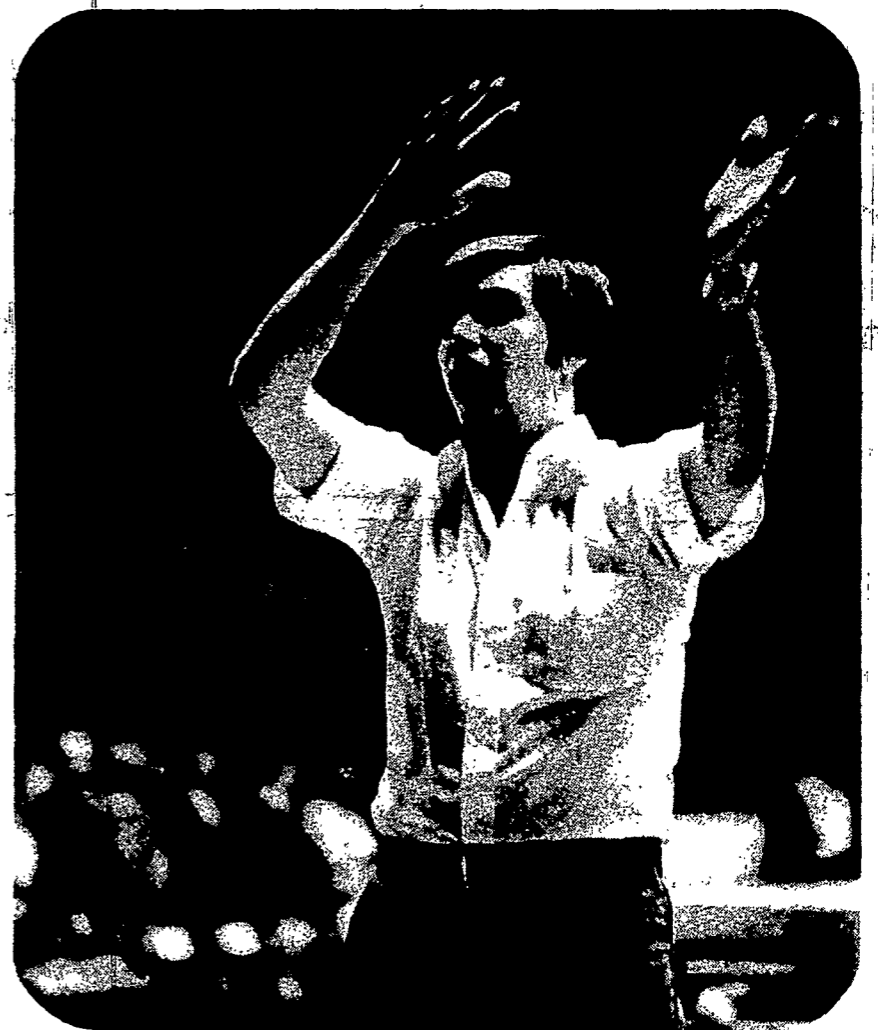
Meanwhile, downstairs, Father Joseph Reinhart was carefully checking the arrangements for the reception which would follow the installation. In evident good humor, but absolutely dead-pan, Father Reinhart was explaining to a colleague that he took his ideas for the reception line directly from a local department store, "the line to see Santa Claus."

And amidst all of this technicians were setting up the sound systems, television cameramen and commentators were taking notes and checking angles, and people responsible for all of the last minute details were carefully readying both the site and themselves for the pageantry to follow.

Photos by Susan McKinney



Bishop Clark greets a well-wisher.



Robert Dwelly leads one of the choirs for the installation.



Banners representative Catholic communities throughout the diocese festoon the arena.



A special choir whose members come from across the diocese sings at the rehearsal.