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OUR 96th YEAR

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BSHF Ponders Merger with Episcopal Unit

By Michael Groden

At the 11th annual meeting of the Bishop Sheen Housing Foundation, held last week at St. Louis, Pittsford, board president Georgia DeGregorio announced that discussion is now underway with the Episcopal Housing Commission in regard to a possible merger.

Mrs. DeGregorio said that the proposed merger would allow each organization to continue current housing programs in their dioceses and to expand service in the area of technical assistance for non-profit housing organizations.

She added that each step in the proposed merger process is discussed with the board of directors and the Office of Social Ministry.

Bishop Matthew H. Clark attended the meeting as an ex officio member of the board.

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan now becomes a permanent honorary member, as Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen is. A

plaque prepared for Bishop Hogan thanks him for his support of the organization throughout his tenure as Rochester Ordinary.

R. Michael Fitzpatrick, foundation treasurer, reported that because of financial support from the diocese of Rochester the Bishop Sheen Foundation is "very healthy."

During the 1978-79 year the foundation helped a total of 55 families and six organizations find and procure housing. The Sheen Foundation provides grants for down payments on homes to families provided they are able to meet monthly mortgage payments. It helps people who are unable to save enough money for the down payment.

Payments on Sheen Foundation loans so far have totaled some \$8,400, Fitzpatrick said. Loans thought of as not being recovered totaled \$2,663.60.

Reporting for the Ad-

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Photo by Terrance J. Brennan

Sheen Foundation president Georgia DeGregorio shows Bishop Clark a plaque that will be given to Bishop Hogan.



Photos by Terrance J. Brennan

'Don't Be Afraid To Pray'

Bishop Matthew H. Clark celebrated his first Cathedral Mass last Sunday, July 1, at a crowded Sacred Heart. The highlight was the seating of the new Rochester bishop in the cathedra, or bishop's chair. Above, Auxiliary Bishops John E. McCafferty, left, and Dennis W. Hickey, center, and Father Charles Latus led the applause for Bishop Clark. During his homily, left, Bishop Clark mentioned that he is "very proud and very happy to be the bishop of this wonderful diocese" and asked the congregation to be aware of their vocation to be holy and urged each "to be a person given to prayer ... don't be afraid to pray."

Family Rosary Switches Stations

The Family Rosary for Peace moves Monday, July 16, to Radio Station WWWG, 1500 on the dial, Msgr. Joseph Cirrincione announced last week. The nightly broadcasts are scheduled for 6:30-7 in Rochester and at WNIA, Buffalo. Stations WRLX, Auburn, and WCLI-FM, Corning, will continue to air the program from 7 to 7:30 p.m.

On the first night on the new station, Bishop Matthew H. Clark will recite the rosary, Msgr. Cirrincione said.

Bishop Clark On TV Mass

Bishop Matthew H. Clark will celebrate the Mass for shut-ins at 8 a.m., Sunday, July 15, on WHEC-TV, Channel 10.

Msgr. Cirrincione, who has had the program on WSAY for more than 29 years, said the policy of "3WG" to concentrate on programs of religious and ethnic interest prompted him to seek the change. The general manager, Anthony Brandon, and the station manager, John Marszalek, welcomed this contribution from the Catholic community, he reported.

The "radio priest" reminisced about his association with the late Gordon Brown, who owned WSAY and gave him a start in 1948 with a "a free half-hour in prime time every Sunday night to tell the story of Fatima." In 1950, Brown accepted the Rosary program as a Lenten project, and it continued on free time until July.

The station owner himself installed equipment and did

wiring for live broadcasts from 401 Orange St., Msgr. Cirrincione continued. He also put equipment into Bishop Joseph L. Hogan's study that enabled the bishop to speak on WSAY directly from home. Brown usually took care of technical problems, too.

"At such times, Msgr. Cirrincione said, "I would assist him in a minor sort of way, handing him a screwdriver, holding a soldering iron, etc., and it used to tickle him that he, a Protestant, had a Catholic Monsignor as an apprentice helper.

"I've had the same friendly and personal relationship with the members of his staff down through the years, in particular, John Sebaste, Annette Capitano and Sybil Reber. His organization was charac-



Msgr. Cirrincione

terized by a sort of family spirit.

"Business-wise, I suppose Gordon Brown was behind the times. But he was loyal to his friends, and they to him ..."