



When the second annual Alumni Day was celebrated last Saturday at St. Joseph's Villa, Bishop Matthew H. Clark dropped by to enjoy the picnic, celebrate Mass and deliver the homily. At left, he greets Frances Pilato, in wheelchair; above, he chats with Marge Ensman Lintz. At right, Jonathan Vallone, 2, the son of Mrs. Debbie Vallone, makes friends with a kind of "mascot" for the day.



Councils Back to Work Regionalism Excellent, But... Bishop Tells Sisters Council

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Bishop Matthew H. Clark supports regionalism, the often under-fire structure which was designed to help diverse parishes solve common problems. But he feels that models recently suggested

Rita Kaufmann at the Diocesan Sisters Council last Saturday. The sisters are considering revising the bylaws governing membership on the council according to regions; and wanted to know whether or not he considered doing away with the structure.

He said that he felt regionalism is "excellent," but that service of the people and not of the structure is the primary goal for it.

He also said that while he recognizes a "need to meet" among ministerial groups, meetings should always be seen as ways to better serve people.

Mass Order 'Usual,' USCC **Aide States**

Washington (RNS) — The Vatican order that only "ordinary ministers of the Eucharist," ordained priests and deacons and formally installed acolytes, may distribute Holy Communion during papal Masses in the United States was not a deliberate prohibition against women in that role, an aide for the U.S. Catholic Conference said here.

Pope's Itinerary

Pope John Paul II will visit six U.S. cities and the United Nations between Oct. 1 and Oct. 7, according to simultaneous announcements from the Vatican and the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. He will address the U.N. General Assembly on Oct. 2. His other activities have not been definitely scheduled, but it is expected that he will celebrate an outdoor Mass in each city and visit President Carter at the White House.

The flight plan:

Oct. 1— Arrive in Boston.

Oct. 2— From Boston to New York.

Oct. 3— From New York to Philadelphia.

Oct. 4- From New York to Chicago, with a

to him for beefing up the program are "heavy and complex" and would "create a structure too time consuming" for the effect produced.

The bishop made his remarks in response to a question put to him by Sister

"I'm not putting anything or anyone down," he said in his remarks on regionalism, "but we don't want to canonize the geographic regions. The people in the regions must determine their own needs.

Priests Elect Officers

Diocesan Priests The Council elected officers for the 1979-80 session last week. They are Father Louis J. Hohman, reelected president; Father John P. Norris, vice president; and Father Thomas J. Valenti, secretary. Father Richard Tormey was named, by acclamation, liaison to the Diocesan Pastoral Council.

Prior to the Priests Council meeting elections were held for age block representatives. The age block senators are Msgr. Richard K. Burns. Fathers Thomas F. Brennan, Raymond Heisel, L. James Callan, John Norris. Bruce F. Ammering, William Trott, Robert F. O'Neill, Donald F. Schwab and Thomas Valenti.

Bishop Matthew Clark

addressed the council for the first time. He asked the assembly for consultation on the diocesan seminaries, (both Becket Hall and St. Bernard's), vocations, growth in ministries, personnel development, continuing education programs, and a broader area of personal development, including the ministry to priests.

He also asked the council members to address themselves to retirement and preretirement questions of diocesan priests.

The meeting ended with reports from Father Hohman including one from the Priests Council of New York and the next meeting agenda was discussed. That meeting will take place on Oct. 9.

The Sisters Council, once "housekeeping" certain agenda items were cleared, evolved into a free-wheeling discussion with the bishop on a number of topics. He had underlined in his copy of the agenda the sentence, "We (the Sisters Council) particularly want to share with Bishop Clark our concerns and hopes.

He alluded to that sentence in his opening remarks and said that he felt the meeting was "a very important forum for my own benefit, and for your benefit."

He also confessed that he is being seen around the diocese as "Captain Marvel," and asked the sisters to stand by him as he "settles in" with his work, and studies the various sides to questions without making decisions.

He also asked the sisters to remain open with him both in

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"The problem is not with women, the problem, if you will, is with clericalism," said Dr. Eugene Fisher, a layman.

Neither men nor-women who are "special ministers of the Eucharist" will be used to distribute Communion, Dr. Fisher commented. He is a theologian who heads up the * bishops' Secretariat for Catholic-Jewish relations.

He also said the ruling by order of the papal master of ceremonies Msgr. Virgilio Noe, is usual operating procedure for papal visits.

The use of special ministers of the Eucharist is supposed to be an "extraordinary situation," Dr. Fisher said. Pope Paul VI in 1973 gave permission to use such ministers by dispensation, as an exception.

It is estimated that at least 1,500 ordinary ministers of the Eucharist will be needed for each papal Mass in the US

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stopover of several hours in Des Moines, Ia. Oct. 6- From Chicago to Washington, D.C.

Oct. 7— From Washington, homeward.

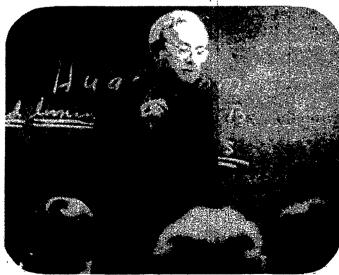


Photo by Terrance J. Brennan

Back to the Books

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan gets his point across during a lecture to his students at St. John Fisher College. The course, titled "The Idea of Reform", is a study of religious reform in our time. It marks the first time since 1965 at St. Bernard's Seminary that Bishop Hogan has taught.