COURIER-JOURNAL

Wednesday, Chtober 3, 1979

Workshop Spurs Ecumenis a Growth

By Martin Toombs

Geneva - A serious and hopeful dedication to the ecumenical and interreligous movement was evident at the dioceŝan ecumenism workshop at St. Stephen's Saturday.

Conducted by the diocesan Commission for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs, the workshop drew 30 representatives designated by their pastors.

In turn, the participants were challenged to return to their parishes and organize activities to increase awareness of the need for ecumenical and interreligious activities.

Bishop Matthew H. Clark visited the workshop and expressed his support for interreligious activities, and offered his assistance to the efforts of those attending in the future.

Father Harry Wallace, of the Syracuse diocese, told the participants that they should remember that a common reference in ecumenical works is the vision in John's Gospel of the resurrected Christ "drawing all men and women to himself.'

Father Wallace, a graduate of St. Bernard's Seminary and for the last five years president of the national association of diocesan ecumenical officers, was the keynote speaker.



Photo by Martin Toombs Workshop participants discuss efforts in their parishes:

convert from Α Father Protestantism, Wallace noted that he has had some Catholics ask him if the Church is "becoming more Protestant" as the result of Vatican II. That's "not true," he said, noting that the problem is that people don't realize that the Church is "dynamic," and has to be approached with more latitude than thought of in the past.

The Church also has been described as the "people of God," he pointed out, noting that the term includes all persons -- non-Catholics, Jews, and non-believers - as well as Catholics. The word "catholic" means universal, he pointed out, and as Catholics we "can't isolate ourselves." Therefore ecumenical and interreligious activities are a "tremendous ministry to all people."

to set up unrealistic goals such Murnberg, department as the conversion of the director, of their interest. world, but to make an effort

to mix with all peoples, and k! to mix with all peoples, and Father Peter Bayer, "whatever happens, happens, Pastoral Planning Departwith the gift and the power of ment director, emphasized the Holy Spirit."

<u>.</u>

Father Gerald Appelby, director of the diocese's Special Ministries Division, briefed the representatives on the position of ecumenical efforts in the diocesan organization, and noted his goal to have all of the diocese's parishes conducting interreligious activities one year from now.

Father Appelby also challenged the representatives to go back to their parishes, make themselves known as ecumenical workers, and conduct inter-faith activities under the themes of prayer, dialogue, and service. He also told those interested to join the diocesan Commission on But Father Wallace Ecumenical and Interreligous cautioned the participants not Affairs, by telling Margery

three elements that should be in parish inter-faith efforts: visibility and support, creativity.

He said that activities should be spiritually centered, and that parishes should pray for Christian unity on a regular basis.

FRuth Hauser and Marcia Shramek, members of the diocesan Commission, also 'spoke about their experiences with inter-faith activities.



THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER^I

Through our years in the funeral industry, people have confided in us their disappointment that few took the time to attend the funeral of their loved one. We understand their feelings all to well. Who among us doesn't want to think that when we die, our friends will honor us - and our family - by formally recognizing our death. And, if you have experienced the death of a loved one, you realize the comfort drawn from the presence of friends and family during those difficult first days. Few people enjoy attending a funeral - but, for the comfort it brings a few hours given to commemorate the life of a friend is little to ask.

There are many ways to express our sympathy - and all have value. But your attendance at the funeral is perhaps the most important. The support of our presence, the words of comfort you offer, let the family know your concern and understanding of their loss. Take the time and realize that although your attendance may not seem very important to you - it does to the family of the deceased.

We can answer your personal questions about attending the funeral, please call at any time.

Use our lending library of books concerning death, dying, bereavement, and related subjects.





National Family Meet To Draw Area Persons

Later this month, Frank Haughton, Father Virgilio and Sue Staropoli, directors of Elizondo, Ms. Dolores and Sue Staropoli, directors of the diocesan Family Life Office, will head up a Rochester delegation to a National Conference on Family Education and Family Ministry, in Kansas City, Mo.

The conference is sponsored by the United States Catholic Conference Department of Education, and is geared at launching Catholic participation in the 1980 Year of the Family.

Among those who will lead discussions are Dr. Rosemary Elizondo, Curran, Clayton Barbeau and Father Matthew Fox.

The conference, which will run Oct. 26-28, has been designed for a wide crosssection of the Catholic population. Conference literature states the gathering will draw religious education directors, youth and young adult ministry coordinatiors, school personnel and administrators, adult education directors, charities and social action staffs, liturgy directors, and family life staffs, as well as parish leaders.

Persons interested in attending the conference havebeen asked to call the Family Life Office, (716) 436-5450.

DSette

PRE COOKED

FROZEN

CHEESE

RAVIOL

MAKES A

LOW COST

Diocesan Choir Seeks Members

The Diocesan Festival Choir is recruiting members for its new season...

The first rehearsal will take-place from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 21, at the music room at St. Thomas More parish, 2617 East Ave., according to Sister Virginia Hogan, director.

The organization consists of the smaller liturgical

group which performs by invitation at weekend liturgies, and the full Diocesan Festival Choir which presents a sacred concert once a year. This year the concert has been scheduled for Palm Sunday, March 30.

Anyone wishing to join the choir for the new season should contact Sister Virginia at 223-9006 before the first rehearsal.

Nazareth Parents Plan for the Year

The Parents and Teachers of Nazareth Academy (PATON) started a busy year at their September meeting where Sister Judith McKay, -principal, presided over the installation of officers.

Upcoming PATON teacher theater production sponsored events for the 1979 and a dinner dance

80 school year include: Fashion Show, Oct. 21, chaired by Mrs. Meave DePerna; garage sale, Nov. 17-18, coordinated by Richard and Marylou Boss; Com-munion breakfast, May 25, and headed by Lou DiFabio. Other events will be a parent-





And the second second