

# Catholic Schools Week Catholic Schools

## Bishops to Open Week's Activity At Sunday Liturgy

Catholic Schools Week will begin in the Diocese of Rochester with a concelebrated Mass on Sunday, Oct. 14, at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 2 p.m. Co-host of the Mass, the annual statewide Parents Mass of Recognition, are the Rochester Federation of Catholic School Parents and the General Education Department.

Main celebrant will be Bishop Matthew H. Clark, assisted by Bishops Joseph L. Hogan, Dennis W. Hickey, John E. McCafferty, Bernard McLaughlin of Buffalo, and James Daly from Rockville Centre. Local and state clergy have been invited to concelebrate and superintendents from the dioceses in the state will be in attendance.

Special awards will be given to Senator Fred Eckert, Assemblyman Gary Proud and Mayor Thomas Ryan, for their legislation and support of the bills which guarantee city students transportation to the parochial schools of their choice outside the city limits.

Representatives of parents from every school in the state have been invited to the Mass, plus student delegations. There will be a reception for the general public in Sacred Heart School after the services.

## Newark School Fosters Values

In a world being flooded with substandard work and informality, the faculty and students of St. Michael School, Newark, decided to do something to upgrade the world around them.

During their goal setting process the faculty focused on a fast-growing problem in society — the lack of respect and courtesy among all peoples. To try to alleviate the problem and to encourage respect for each person, a year-long courtesy campaign was initiated at the Opening Liturgy.

Each homeroom procured a "Courtesy Tree" and during the liturgy Father Eugene Sweeney presented each homeroom representative with a fruit, symbolizing the

action the school community would work on during September. As the entire school family works toward making this practice a reality in their lives, a new action will be chosen for each succeeding month. Homeroom projects, school liturgies, para-liturgical services, public address announcements, and articles in the school newspaper will all help the school meet the goal of developing "people aware of people".

It is anticipated that by June everyone at St. Michael's will have brought into fashion age-old principles of Christian courtesy and will be deeply aware of the respect they should have for themselves, their fellow human beings, and the value system we hope to instill in each child.

## Sharing is Goal At St. Andrews

You had the nerve to take the whole school on a picnic at Ellison Park? Yes, St. Andrew's grammar school did! For three years there has been a school picnic in June and it is a way of building community. The picnic idea grew out of the idea of multi-cultural days; Irish, Italian, Indian, Afro-American rumor has it the Polish are "in" this year.

Other ways St. Andrew's builds community are involving parents in events like a science fair, language arts fair, and a family ice cream social. Also getting them involved as aides. Mothers

and fathers working around school in a variety of capacities adds a unique dimension to school life.

At school, liturgies by small groups of primary, middle school and junior high students encourage spiritual community.

The sacramental programs also build community by bringing together the clergy, parents, teachers and students. Building community is work, but it makes a school a home-like and God-centered place where everyone can share those things so important — life, talents, self.

**Prosper the  
Work of  
OUR hands  
Oh LORD!**

## Three Corning Parishes Pull Together for Education

The Corning Catholic school is unique; the two buildings that make up the consolidated school welcome, as weekly instructors to their classroom, the eight priests who minister in the three Corning parishes — St. Mary's, St. Patrick's and St. Vincent de Paul. These priests spend from 30-45 minutes each week in religious instruction and in helping to prepare students to celebrate the Liturgy. During the seasons of Advent and Lent, the sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated for the various grade levels. All the priests are present to help the student understand and participate fully in the sacrament.

Sister Edna Slyck, the coordinator of religious activities for the school, works with students to prepare the monthly school liturgies and special Masses for small groups.

"I feel," she said, "that our

boys and girls have a real understanding of how to prepare the liturgy from selecting a theme to finding the appropriate readings and songs to carry out this theme. The students," she explained, "function as lectors, readers, song leaders, and organists, as well as adding beauty to the liturgy with flutes and violins. They also create and design their own banners."

Involving everyone is easy when, as the Catholic Schools Week slogan says "one of the family". St. Vincent de Paul parish recently blessed a new statue of their patron saint for the school corridor. The whole school participated; the older students planned the prayer service and the kindergarten children decorated the float that carried the statue.

The school's traditional May Day has an added dimension — it's Grandparents Day. After the crowning of Our Lady all

grandparents are invited to tour the school and enjoy refreshments with their own grandchildren. An annual school Mass brings together families from all the Corning parishes to appreciate the gift of Catholic education.

The students serve the area by singing at nursing homes and the hospital, writing letters to the shut-ins and elderly, participating in Operation Bread Box and trying to cooperate in any way possible with the work of the Human Development committees of the three Corning parishes.

The Corning schools have another unique factor: each of the three parishes has a full-time religious education coordinator responsible for the sacramental preparation of all children in the parish. Because of the diversity of the parishes, good communication must take place at all times. Each coordinator is a frequent

visitor to the school and meets often with the school principal, Sister Ann Miller. The four of them meet several times a year to plan. Last spring they sponsored an in-service workshop for teachers in both the Catholic school and the religious education program.

Sister Agnes Catherine, the pastoral assistant at St. Patrick's parish attends all special school functions especially the Masses that open the school year for both teachers and students. For the last two years she has given a Day of Recollection to the graduation class.

"I am sure," Sister Ann said, "that we don't do any more than any Catholic school — maybe not as much as some, but I think one thing we really try to do is love one another — teachers, students, priests, and families and to appreciate and share the gifts of each one."



Members of the St. Louis school community who have been planning the Oct. 13 liturgy include: Todd Haven, Marlina Mendola, Cheryl Chambers (front row); Amy Feol (behind them); Sister M. Agnes Theresa, Benjamin OuYang, Patrick Koen, John Connor and Mrs. Beatrice Hack (top row).

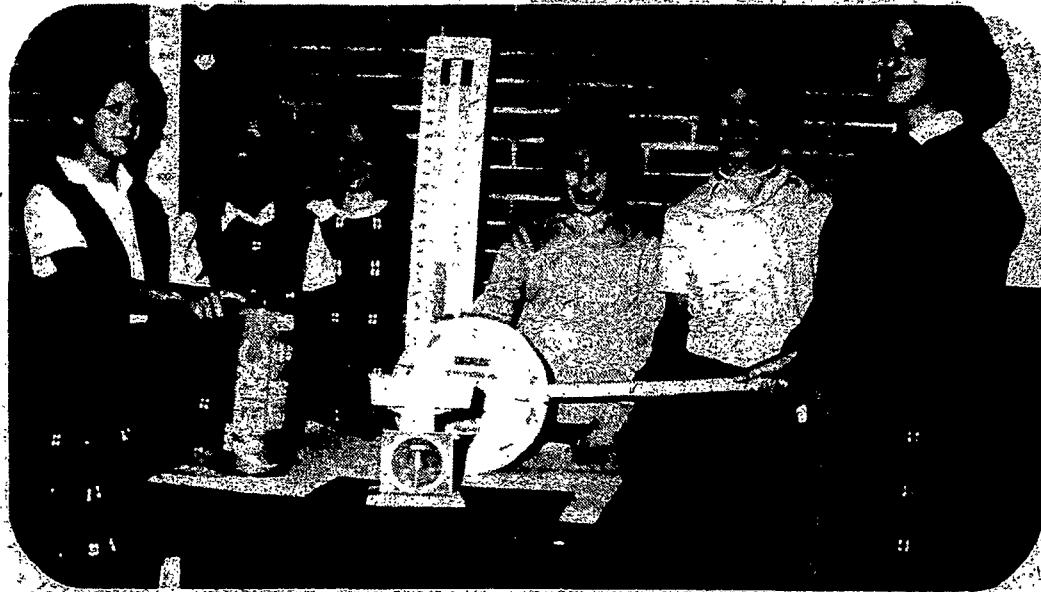
## St. Louis Week

St. Louis School, Pittsford, has been providing a quality educational service to the community since 1950 when it opened its doors to 68 students. Today, over 440 students take advantage of its fine program.

In celebration of Catholic Schools Week and its theme, "The Catholic School: One of the Family," St. Louis School will commence the week with a special familial service, Saturday, Oct. 13, 5:15 p.m. Father Richard Kinsky, CSB, superintendent of Rochester Catholic Schools, will address the congregation. Afterward, a reception will be held in the gym featuring special class projects in conjunction with the theme that the school is a member of the entire community family.

Sister Barbara Hamm, principal of St. Louis, is proud of the school's service to the community and wants to share its accomplishments with everyone. A walk-through day is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 17, 9-11:00 a.m. and 12:30-1:30 p.m. This will enable interested com-

munity members to observe the school in its on-going spiritual, academic and civic actions. An open house will be held that evening, 7-9:30 p.m.



## Keeping Up With Changes

The metric system has arrived and like it or not ways of computing distances and weights are undergoing a drastic change. But the students at St. Thomas More as well as others in the Catholic School system, through the diocesan metric curriculum, are right at home in the metric world.

**One of the Family One of the Family One of**