

DSC 'Commends' Nun Who Spoke To Holy Father

By John Dash

At the very close of a gruelling day of debate on such "housekeeping" matters as revision of their by-laws, sponsorship of sisters' finance services and sponsorship of a Spring convocation of women religious, the Diocesan Sisters Council last week unanimously voted to charge its executive committee to write a letter "commending Sister Theresa Kane."

It was not clear, however, whether the vote signalled the council's endorsement of Sister Theresa's statements at a recent gathering of women religious and Pope John Paul II.

At that gathering, in Washington, D.C., Sister Theresa challenged traditional Church practice of admitting only men to the priesthood. She asked the pontiff to provide "the possibility of women as persons being included in all ministries of our Church."

The motion to write the letter of commendation was passed by the council without debate.

Earlier in the day, the sisters heard a report on the recent convention of the National Association of Women Religious which passed a number of resolutions, supporting, among other things, boycotts of non-union produce, personal commitments to work for disarmament, and the U.S. bishops' program for the Year of the Family.

A second report, from the sisters' own social concerns committee, revealed that information packages on the boycott of J.P. Steven products would be presented to parishes in November. The committee also encouraged the sisters to write congressmen, in an effort to enact legislation to send food assistance to the people of Cambodia.



Fashion Show

Inez Ringholz and Maeve DiPerna review plans for a fashion show at Nazareth Academy sponsored by PATON, the parents' and teachers' organization. The show is scheduled for 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 26, in the school auditorium, at 1001 Lake Ave. The price of admission is \$1.50 for adults, \$1 for students.

Deaths

Fr. Loeven

Father Paul C. Loeven, CM, who was chaplain at the Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Emmitsburg, Md., from the time of her canonization until his death last August, was a native of Corning.

He also was a much-decorated veteran of World War II, and he had served with the Congregation of the Missions in Bilbao and Cristobal, Panama, for 21 years.

Father Loeven died Aug. 23, 1979, while on vacation at St. Vincent's House, Cape May, N.J. Burial was at Princeton, N.J.

He was born in Corning in 1917, a son of the late Paul F. and Genevieve Ryder Loeven. He was in the Army Air Force from

March, 1942, until October, 1945, and served as a turret gunner with the 792nd Bombardment Squadron in the Asiatic Pacific theater. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Service Medal and five bronze stars.

After the war, Father Loeven studied for two years at Niagara University. He entered the Congregation of the Missions in 1948, was ordained to the priesthood May 27, 1954, and sent to Panama, where he served until his appointment to the Seton Shrine in November, 1975.

Mrs. Schledorn

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Mary's Church in Dansville for Mrs. Mary A. Schledorn who died Sept. 28, 1979. At the time of her death, Mrs. Schledorn, a

Priests Discuss Seminaries, Salary Adjustment

By Michael Groden

Discussion centered on the status of St. Bernard's and Becket Hall seminaries and the possibility of a cost of living adjustment for priests in the diocese at last week's meeting of the Diocesan Priests Council.

Council members were also asked to weigh the possibility of meeting six times each year instead of twelve. The move to six Priests Council meetings per year would allow a more concentrated effort in the work done by the six Priest Council committees.

Bishop Matthew Clark also addressed the council briefly describing his meetings with Pope John Paul II in New York City and in Chicago.

Fathers Frank Lioi and Thomas Statt, rectors of St. Bernard's and Becket Hall respectively, gave short reports on how each seminary had fared during the past year and answered questions ranging from the number of students attending the seminaries to the financial status of each.

Father Lioi said that he and Father Statt were in the process of visiting diocesan priests to bring them "up to date on both seminaries." The reception from priests visited so far had been positive, Father Lioi said, and the visits have resulted in "a greater appreciation of the seminaries."

Father Lioi continued saying that financially St. Bernard's was "getting in better shape," and that he expects the school to be "on a balanced budget" in the next fiscal year. He added that the recent diocesan wide seminary collection was a real success bringing in some \$56,000 so far. He projected that the final tally could reach \$125,000.

Most of the questions from council members dealt with the seminary's student curriculum. Father John O'Grady, academic dean at St. Bernard's, fielded most of the questions and briefly described the newer courses St. Bernard's now offers.

There are currently 55 students studying for the priesthood at St. Bernard's, 28 of them from the Rochester Diocese.

Father Statt reported that there are 30 students studying for ordination at Becket Hall, 25 from the diocese. He added that the financial deficit of 1977-78 had been reduced by some \$30,000 during the 1978-79 school year.

Both priests attributed this year's improved picture to the renewed interest in the diocesan seminaries and the return of the annual collection.

Bishop Clark, commenting on the papal visit, said that "the common note of people in New York City and Chicago was one of great joy and love for Pope John Paul." He added that it was apparent the pontiff felt the same way towards American Catholics.

The bishop praised the work being done at the diocesan seminaries and was encouraged with the interest shown by diocesan priests.

Following the seminary report, Father Kevin Murphy updated the council on the work of the priests personnel finance committee.

He said the committee had found a sizeable loss of income, for diocesan priests, due to the widespread inflation in the country. Using the Consumer Price Index (CPI), he said that priests' salaries had slipped some 15 percent in actual buying power, and that a recommendation for a salary adjustment was probable.

Father Murphy stressed that the adjustment was not actually a raise in pay. It would be, rather, a return to the amount priests had received before the nation's

inflation rate had risen so high.

Father Murphy added that no formal request for the adjustment had been made by the committee to Bishop Hickey, chairman of the personnel board. However, the committee had looked at the facts and had concluded that a request for the adjustment should be made for the next fiscal year.

The last issue brought up at the meeting was the question of whether or not the Priests Council should meet every other month.

Council members agreed to look into the matter and Father Hohman promised a proposal on the issue for next month's Nov. 5 meeting.

THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER

"As Seasons Change . . ."



EDWIN SULEWSKI
FUNERAL DIRECTOR

We have all watched the seasons change year after year — and yet, each time, we are able to appreciate the beauty as though we had never seen it before. Fall — with its brilliant colors, crisp days and promise of winter, a resting period for all life. We become accustomed to the unfolding of each year — and it becomes a part of a natural life process that we expect to continue — in many forms. But perhaps a life that you loved best, that was very dear to you, has ended — and you feel the emptiness that comes with that loss. You know that you are not alone; that there are many who have experienced a similar grief that they once felt was unbearable. And the time will come when you, too, can pick up the pieces and take up your own life again. Making yourself aware of nature — its beauty and its continuance — can be a comfort during a time of great sadness. Enjoy fall — share its beauty with someone who may need your help or comfort. Helping someone else is one of the best ways to help yourself.

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