



# Special Report

# The Divisions . . . Special Ministries

## 'To Enable and to Free'



Father Jerry Appelby

### Introduction from the Director

Dear Friends,

Have you ever had a very special conversation with someone you care for deeply? A conversation in which the scheduled "agenda" is called off, because the other needs you to hear something, and respond to something, right now? The Church is in this kind of conversation with all of God's children. And sometimes, the scheduled agenda of the dialogue needs to be changed, or added to, or redirected, if the conversation — and the caring — is to be believable. For needs arise that, in another time or another place, might be part of the ongoing "agenda" — the ongoing conversation. Perhaps the work of parishes. Or other existing structures or services. But right now, the need presses so much that an immediate and direct response must be given. A Special Ministry.

Let me with the greatest of pride introduce to you the Division of Special Ministries. The men and women who staff these Ministries are the voice, and the heart, of the Church — listening in the conversation to people the Church cares for deeply, and saying her "yes" in the most direct and most immediate way. Be it learning how best to pray in Community, or speak to other Faiths; or speak of belief to the learning society; or advocate for the dignity of races and cultures that may be in the minority in American society; or reach out with comfort and caring to the misunderstood and stereotyped.

To enable and to free. That's what friendship means. And these are the ministries that do so, now, in very special ways, for very special people.

### "To Liberate and Empower" Black Ministries

"To Liberate and Empower"

The Office of Black Ministries is committed to developing programs which reflect as much as possible the needs of the communities it serves. The function of OBM is to address those issues and critical conditions which tend to oppress, dehumanize and alienate. The mission of OBM is to liberate, spiritualize, politicize and empower with the holiness of the Church, symbolizing the visible witness of Christ in the world.

Evangelization, education, family life, liturgy, youth development and care of the institutionalized have high priority. A social ministry actively functions among those caught in the criminal justice system, or ensnared in the vice of prostitution, or suffering the depths of despair of the mentally disturbed.

Father James K. Duah-Agyeman, Board Chairman  
Rev. Dr. John S. Walker, Executive Secretary

### "Serving Present and Future" Campus Ministry

Campus Ministry serves people involved in higher education within the diocese, providing the presence of the Church to undergraduates and graduate students, faculty and staff.

There are 18 institutions of higher education with more than 90 thousand students in this diocese. Each campus is different. Each institution approaches education in a different way. Each of our diocesan Campus Ministry placements responds to the particular needs and challenges of each campus.

In our day, institutions of higher education have become the place where three spheres of life interact — the academic sphere, the economic-political sphere, and the religious sphere. At this intersection, ideas, values and theories are tested, questioned and challenged. At this intersection the future directions of business and government are shaped. At this intersection many competing visions of the meaning of life demand the attention of all.

Father William Lum, Director

### "A Ministry of Healing" Dignity Liaison

DIGNITY builds religious community for "gay" men and lesbians who feel alienated from God and Church. It provides spiritual, social and educational services to members and friends. Additionally, it serves as an ecumenical organization in confederation with

INTEGRITY, an Episcopalian organization. DIGNITY provides outreach to the larger community on several levels, working to neutralize fear, hatred and ignorance.

Members of DIGNITY-INTEGRITY help the Catholic Worker houses and contribute to other institutions, such as the School of the Holy Childhood. The organization provides peer counselors for men and women who are trying to reconcile their religious faith and sexual orientation. It provides speakers for parish and diocesan groups that wish to learn about the gay and lesbian community — estimated variously to number from 20,000 to 40,000 persons in the diocese. A spiritual program centers around a weekly liturgy, which has been celebrated every Sunday since Easter 1976, and monthly educational forums. All concerned persons seeking greater understanding of issues involved are always welcome.

Ms. Margaret Mary Lau, President,  
DIGNITY-INTEGRITY

Dr. John Noble, Liaison to Special Ministries

### "A Respectful Listening" Ecumenism

The Office of Ecumenism maintains and coordinates the diocesan commitment to the Genesee Ecumenical Ministries (GEM) and to the Judicial Process Commission. It guarantees the presence of and the response to diocesan concerns in their deliberations.

The director convenes the Roman Catholic GEM caucus, attends regular GEM meetings and acts as liaison to executives of other GEM judicatories. Projected for the Spring of 1980 is an ecumenical retreat and clergy conference for prayer and dialogue beyond the primarily social action of GEM.

The office is continuing the prayer league begun with the Episcopal diocese and hopes to develop with the Lutheran communities the same kind of dialogue.

Ms. Margery Nurnberg, Office Coordinator

### "A Very Special Response" The Hermanas

For the past 10 years our diocese has been graced by the ministries of some very special people — the Hermanas Misioneras Guadalupanas del Espiritu Santo, a missionary order of Sisters from Mexico, here to serve the Hispanics of the diocese.

Within the past year, the Sisters have become affiliated with the Division of Special Ministries, entering into closer structural contact with the Office of the Spanish Apostolate.

Over the years, the Sisters have served in parish ministries and special programs among the migrant farm workers in Geneva, Newark and Rochester.

Sister Rosalie Nunez, Superior  
Sister Aida Sansor, Division Liaison

### "Lord, Teach Us to Pray!" The Office of Liturgy

The Office of Liturgy is the resource center for liturgical celebration, education and planning in the diocese. Its three-person staff (and its volunteer helpers) provide programs that attempt to fulfill the call of the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy for the "full, active, conscious participation of all the faithful" in liturgical celebrations. Efforts are especially directed toward parish liturgy committees and liturgical ministers (priests, musicians, lectors, eucharistic ministers, ushers) who take responsibility for liturgies which foster and nourish the faith of the community.

Programming includes an annual Liturgy Institute, an annual music workshop, introductory Lector Ministry and Eucharistic Ministry Formation programs, clergy conferences, a parish liturgy committee formation program, music repertoire workshops, and seasonal planning workshops. In 1978-79, the Office of Liturgy visited 72 individual parishes in single or multiple sessions with programs ranging from Christian Initiation and the Liturgy of the Hours to Lenten planning and hymnal selection and preparation.

By Father Robert Kennedy, Director

### "To Advocate and to Free" Spanish Apostolate

The Spanish Apostolate raises a distinct voice on behalf of the Hispanic Community in the Diocese of Rochester.

It actively advocates the integration of the Hispanic peoples and their cultures at all levels of church activity.

It opposes an assimilation that would result in the loss of the Spanish heritage.

It studies and generates programs that would serve the Hispanics' profound commitment to family life — programs dealing with leadership, evangelization and youth ministry.

This year brings a greater outreach into the Hispanic Community, through the opening of a Spanish Apostolate office at one of its crossroads — Clifford and Clinton avenues.

Italo Rodriguez, Director

#### GENERAL BUDGET

Dept.	Expended	Percent of Total*
Director Office	1,000	.5
Black Ministries	33,000	16.0
Campus Ministry	80,000	38.5
Dignity Liaison	0	0
Ecumenism	11,000	5.0
Liturgy	50,000	24.0
Spanish Apostolate	33,000	16.0

Actual Budgeted: 212,000

Actual Expended 208,000

\* Percentages generally rounded

#### EXPLANATORY NOTES

1— The Hermanas Misioneras Guadalupanas del Espiritu Santo, an order of Sisters from Mexico, have become affiliated with this Division. They will appear in its budget in subsequent reports.

2— The Office of Liturgy generates some 20 percent of its own budget of \$50,000.

3— Funding for the Office of Black Ministries comes from the annual Black/Native American Collection, with the balance of that collection going to national services and ministries.

4— \$20,000 of the Spanish Apostolate budget comes from the annual diocesan Missions Collection.

5— The budget for Campus Ministry is in subsidy form. The local Campus Parishes raise the remainder of the department's \$250,000 budget.

6— \$9,500 of the Ecumenism budget is given as a participatory subsidy to Genesee Ecumenical Ministries and the Judicial Process Commission.

7— The ministry of Dignity to sexual minorities is at present entirely self-supporting.