



# Special Report

# The Divisions... Education

## Director's Statement

The mission to proclaim the Good News and to fulfill that proclamation by action is the mandate of the Teaching Mission of the Church. Education touches all of us and, in a broad sense, we are all responsible for education — the ongoing formation and development of ourselves and others.

The Division of Education serves the Diocese of Rochester through the Departments of Religious Education and General Education. Recognition that Catholic Education is a life-long process of deepening our relationship with God through knowledge and understanding of the Word; participation and unity

through worship and extension of these gifts through service is the overarching goal of the division.

As a division, we hope to address the educational needs of the diocese through a variety of services and modes. The rhythm and pattern of life calls for different experiences and responses toward growth. Sensitivity to these variations is reflected in the reports that follow. We are also aware of needs not met and potential not explored. Hopefully, our own continued education will enable us to respond to the "signs of the times."



SISTER ROBERTA TIERNEY, SSND

## General Education

**"Of the educational programs available to the Catholic community, Catholic schools afford the fullest and best opportunity to realize the threefold purpose of Christian education among children and young people." (To Teach as Jesus Did).**

In response to our affirmation of this statement of the Bishops of the United States, the diocese offers services and direction to our seventy-six elementary schools and nine secondary schools through the Department of General Education. It is our belief that the schools are first and foremost Catholic schools with a unique mission within the Church; secondarily they are institutions of academic excellence responsible to prepare our young people to meet their future as value-oriented citizens.

Key to the success and effectiveness of the school system is the local administrator and faculty. Therefore, the General Education office is involved directly in the screening and referral of both teachers and principals.

Ongoing professional development and opportunities for personal renewal and growth are offered through in-service programs for teachers and administrators. During the '78-'79 academic year in-service programs were held in several areas of the diocese for the teaching of Religion, Early Childhood Education, Gifted and Talented, Library Services, Metric Workshops, Learning Disabilities and Art Education. The Principals' Workshop centered on Leadership Training.

Sixty-two schools participated in formal visits from Assistant Superintendents. During these visits each school's goals, programs and evaluations were discussed. Action steps for the future were then developed and monitored.

Cooperation and collaboration with the Rochester Chapter of the New York State Federation of Catholic School Parents has continued through policy review, program planning and public assistance projects.

Through the efforts of staff personnel, schools continue to participate in Federally funded projects under ESEA Title I, IVB and IVC and ESAA programs. Payment for Required Services from New York State was received for the 1975-76, 76-77 and 77-78 academic years. Legislation to require transportation for city residents to schools of their choice (within 15 miles) was passed and signed into law.

The third year for the Diocesan Tuition Subsidy was completed. One hundred sixty-three students in Catholic Secondary schools throughout the diocese were assisted in tuition payments for a total of \$44,780. One hundred fifteen families with students in the Catholic elementary schools in the city of Rochester were assisted with \$32,500 from funds from the office of Urban Ministry. Implementation of a program for elementary students in the diocese outside of the city of Rochester was planned for the 1979-80 academic year.

Research and study of the method of financing the schools is underway. Assistance for planning for the future of the schools is available.

## Religious Education

**"The education mission of the Church is an integrated ministry embracing three interlocking dimensions: the message revealed by God (didache) which the Church proclaims; fellowship in the life of the Holy Spirit (koinonia); service to the Christian community and the entire human community (diakonia). While these three essential elements can be separated for the sake of analysis, they are joined in the one educational ministry. Each educational program or institution under Church sponsorship is obliged to contribute in its own way to the realization of the threefold purpose within the total educational ministry. Other conceptual frameworks can also be employed to present and analyze the Church's educational mission, but this one has several advantages: it corresponds to a long tradition and also meets exceptionally well the educational needs and aspirations of men and women in our times." (To Teach As Jesus Did).**

The scope of the teaching mission served by the Department of Religious Education reaches every age and status of people in our diocese.

The strength of the personnel serving on parish and regional level is most important to the impact of programs and values. A "Blue Ribbon Committee" composed of priests, parish religious educators, and department staff researched the role and responsibilities of parish religious education personnel as input toward revised personnel policies.

Opportunities for continued education in theology and methodology were offered through the CERT Program (1980 people attended 77 sessions throughout the diocese) and Teacher Training Program (470 participants).

In addition to these programs, the Department initiated service to the regions through designated Field Representatives from each region and the Hispanic Community. Over \$11,000 was channeled

into thirty-six activities tailored to the programs designed in each area participating.

The use of media in education was evident by upgrading the materials in the A-V resource center and the introduction of the use of television for adult education programs with home study group follow-ups. Over one thousand orders were processed in the Buffalo Road A-V center; coordination with the centers in the Auburn and Elmira areas was pursued.

Parish adult education programs were sponsored and materials made available. Satellites in Special Education were partially financed through contributions from the Knights of Columbus and serviced by staff.

One thousand seven hundred eighty-two young people participated in the forty-six retreat opportunities offered in the Genesis, Seminar and Antioch programs. Recognition that this experience is one aspect of youth ministry led to a diocesan study of where we are and where we need go for total youth ministry. This study has been completed and awaits further direction.

## Interdepartmental Projects

**"The educational mission is not exhausted by any one program or institution. By their complementary functions and cooperative activities all programs and institutions contribute to the present realization of the Church's educational mission. All should remain open to new forms, new programs, new methods which give promise of fuller realization of this mission in the future." (To Teach as Jesus Did).**

Recognition of the need for cooperation and collaboration in the educational ministries was actualized through some programs and projects.

The Educational Congress held in May, 1979 attracted over 1700 participants from various Religious Education programs. Planning for the Congress involved personnel from several departments as well as parish and parent representatives.

Education Committee Training is co-sponsored by the Departments. Training was conducted in over fifteen parishes. In addition to this, assistance was given to several committees for problem solving or policy development.

The Education for Justice Task Force continued to monitor the program in sixteen parishes. Participation in this committee includes members from the Office of Human Development, Peace and Justice, Religious Education and is sponsored by General Education.

Staff was involved in the Family Life Training Program and Human Life Commission. In-service to educators in the needs and relationships for divorced and separated were sponsored by education and offered by staff from Family Life.

State and national meetings were attended and participation in projects and policy development at these levels was accomplished.

Greater realization of the cooperative efforts and services from various departments divisions in the diocesan structure was evidenced through projects with the Departments of Liturgy, Continuing Education and Pastoral Planning and Offices of Urban Ministry and Pastoral Ministries.

### DIVISION OF EDUCATION — OVERVIEW 1978-79

Department	Staff	Income	Expense
	Division Director	Diocesan Subsidy — \$1,000	Office — \$9,000
General Education	Superintendent	Diocesan Subsidy — \$99,735	Department — \$118,058
	5 Assistant Superintendents	Tuition Subsidy — \$10,000	Tuition Subsidy — \$44,780
	2 Secretaries	Program Generated — \$18,323	
Religious Education	Director of Religious Education	Diocesan Subsidy — \$9,529	Department — \$112,771
	4 Consultants/Directors for Services	Program Generated — \$17,141	
	1 Secretary		
	1 Part-time A-V Librarian		