



Photo by Terrance J. Brennan

Mary Lou Coffey beams proudly as her husband, William, kneeling before Bishop Matthew H. Clark, declares his intentions to pursue a vocation to the permanent diaconate. Coffey was one of 17 men who participated in the Rite of Candidacy at St. Bernard's Seminary last Sunday. Officiating at the ceremony with Bishop Clark were Msgr. George Cocuzzi, director of the permanent diaconate program, and Rev. Mr. Charles Celeste.

Permanent Diaconate Groups Move Ahead

Bishop Dennis W. Hickey will formally install 25 men as Readers next Sunday at 11 a.m. in St. Bernard's Seminary Chapel. The 25 are in their second year of formation for ordination to the permanent diaconate.

According to Sister Hilaire Gaelens, administrative assistant for the program, "The Lector (Reader) is a layman permanently appointed to the function of reading the word of God in the liturgical assembly. Accordingly, he is to read the lessons from sacred Scripture, except for the gospel, in the Mass and other sacred celebrations," among other duties.

She stated that all candidates for ordination as deacons or priests must receive this ministry before ordination.

The installation rites will be bilingual. Both married and single men will be installed as Readers. Those to be installed are:

Dominick N. Abballe, St. Christopher's; Stephen D. Carroll, St. Mary of the Lake in Ontario; Raymond A. Defendorf, St. Mary Our Mother in Horseheads; Robert W. Dizer, St. Patrick in Owego; William P. Dougherty, St. Charles Borromeo in Elmira Heights; Stanley J. Douglas, St. Mary in Elmira; Leo A. Kester, Holy Trinity in Webster; Daniel M. Kinsky, St. John of Rochester in Fairport; Anthony P. Marini, St. Louis in Pittsford; Nemesio Martinez, St. Francis of Assisi; William

D. Maurie, St. Lawrence; John W. Medico, St. Salome; Eliseo Melendez, St. Francis of Assisi; Anthony J. Mercadel, Guardian Angels; John Prave, St. Michael in Union Springs; Angel Rivera, St. Michael; Kenneth A. Scariotta, St. Ambrose; Edward R. Sergeant, Epiphany in Sodus; Robert Solan, Our Lady of Mercy; Julio Vasquez, Good Shepherd; George J. Welch, Our Lady of Lourdes in Elmira; James E. Whitford, St. Mary's in Dansville; Lawrence H. Wood, St. John the Evangelist; Stanley T. Zawacki, Holy Trinity in Webster; and John G. Erb, St. Francis of Assisi.

Candidacy, formerly called Tonsure, were:

William F. Coffey, St. Christopher; John J. Cosmic, St. Mary Our Mother in Horseheads; Ramon C. Datz, St. Vincent de Paul in Churchville; J. Gregory Doyle, Holy Trinity in Webster; Joseph F. Federowicz, St. Margaret Mary in Apalachin; Joseph D. Fox, Holy Trinity in Webster; Eugene C. Fuerst, St. Margaret Mary; Patrick A. Graybill, Rochester Institute of Technology Catholic Community; Thomas J. Kluchko, Our Mother of Sorrows; Juan LeBron, Jr., St. Francis Xavier; Claude E. Lester, St. Patrick in Seneca Falls; David D. Miller, St. Lawrence; Agenol Rodriguez, St. Michael; John G. Swift, Good Shepherd; Laurence A. VanEtten, Rochester Institute of Technology Catholic Community; Albro C. Wilson, Jr., St. Louis in Pittsford; and Victor M. Yanaitis, St. Pius Tenth.

Last Sunday, Bishop Matthew H. Clark formally accepted the declarations of 17 men who intend to pursue the life of the permanent diaconate.

Participating in the Rite of

Saving Energy

Seneca Falls — The people of St. Patrick's Church have been congratulated by their pastor, Father Michael Conboy, for their "understanding and patience as we try to cut back on spending money needlessly on heating our buildings."

Reporting in the parish bulletin, *The Patrician*, Father Conboy stated that

during identical time periods this year and last, meter readings reveal the parish has saved 838 kilowatts of electricity, and 1345 cubic feet of gas.

"We didn't get a figure on the cost of electricity, but the gas rates are about 50 cents a cubic foot, so we realized a savings of about \$670. This is especially encouraging as our Christmas and New Year celebrations were included in this time period. We may even realize a larger savings next month," Father Conboy reported.

FCC Move to Streamline Draws U.S. Bishops' Fire

Deregulate Radio? Not if Church Has Way

By John Dash and Diane Farrell

Radio deregulation has become a hot topic in Church circles.

Several months ago the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) sent out a proposal to deregulate radio broadcasting, fully expecting to get reactions from both radio producers and consumers across the country.



The deregulation would eliminate advertising limits and news and public service requirements. It also would eliminate the burden of filing, in the words of one Rochester broadcaster, "tons" of reports to the FCC.

It would also, in the view of religious critics of the proposal, render virtually all public interest broadcasting commercially unfeasible.

Bishop Thomas C. Kelly, OP, the Rochester-born general secretary of the United States Catholic Conference, has said that if the proposal goes through, "radio would serve the marketplace in which it broadcasts and programming would be determined by the marketplace forces."

Three local broadcasters agree, and also say that that is not a bad thing.

Jack Palvino said last week that in the event of deregulation, "what will dictate local broadcasting will not be a threat from the federal government, but the market place in which the broadcaster serves."

"And," he said, "as far as public service broadcasting, it's good business to be a good citizen."

Palvino, long one of Rochester's radio personalities, is station manager of WVOR.

In the wake of the FCC proposal, the U.S. bishops conference, the National Catholic Educational Association and the National Council of Catholic Women, have started a letter-writing campaign to protest the deregulation plan. An advertisement to that effect appeared in *Courier-Journal* Jan. 9 proclaiming, "FCC Blacks Out the Public Interest."

"Radio stations are now required to serve you, in the public interest, convenience and necessity. The FCC has proposed to repeal that law and reduce your interest in radio to that of a consumer of purchased products."

Under the FCC plan there would be elimination of licensing guidelines on the maximum air time given advertising; elimination of guidelines on all news, public affairs, religious and public service broadcasting; eliminating the surveys each radio station must conduct to ascertain community broadcasting needs and interests — and eliminating the daily program logs used to evaluate the broadcaster's performance against local broadcasting needs.

It's the possibility of the last that seems most to cheer area broadcasters. Rand Gottleib, station manager for WMJQ and WBBF, said that he needed a person just to fill out those forms.

Carol Saj, program director at WPWN-WPXY, said she would "accept joyfully" the proposal, "just for the reports. They are legion."

And to that point, Gottleib said that "on the reports we sent to the FCC, I'd say 99 per cent of them we never heard about." He also suggested that the FCC does not read the reports filed.

Palvino agreed that one of the top problems faced by the local broadcaster is the "red tape involved in the public ascertainment."

Should the proposal go through, none of the broadcasters feel there would be significant changes in what the audience hears.

Ms. Saj said that her programming would not change. "If we're not giving the public what it wants, it won't listen to us," she stated.

Palvino insisted that public service programming would not be eliminated by the proposal. He cited in his own instance the recent broadcasting of a ski-a-thon which netted the charity fund of a local Rotary group \$5,000. "We didn't need to do that," he said, "but it's good business."

Gottleib was emphatic on the point of public service announcements. When asked if he would comment on the critics' assessments that they would be eliminated, he said "Baloney. There'll be just as much. I don't envision any changes at all."

The FCC says that its proposal is not an attempt to drop the public interest obligations first set forth in the 1934 Communications Act, but to re-interpret those obligations in the vastly different setting of today. Under the proposal, radio licenses still would have to be renewed every three years; and "We still expect licensees to serve the public interest in all their operations," an FCC spokesman has said.

Nevertheless, both Catholic and, under the leadership of the United Church of Christ Office of Communications, Protestant groups continue to balk at the move. In order to accommodate public comment the original cut-off for letters on the proposal, Jan. 25, has been extended two months by the FCC. The FCC spokesman, Roger Holbert, has said that, so far, "the edge numerically is in opposition" to the proposal.