

# Today's Courier Feb. 13, 1980 Squabble Over? . . . . . I

Our Vatican analyst, Jesuit Father Robert A. Graham feels that the recent synod of Dutch bishops in Rome may go down as the most successful instance of collegiality since Vatican II. He writes of "frank exchanges" on both sides, of true dialogue and of a final meeting of the minds which defied pre-synodal odds. He admits that it remains to be seen how the 5.6 million Dutch Catholics will react, but the hierarchy seems to have ended its squabbles.

## It's Working . . . . . II

At least four parishes that took steps last fall to reduce their heating requirements are now benefitting from that work: Holy Cross, Ovid; Immaculate Conception, Ithaca; St. John the Baptist, Elmira and St. James, Waverly. Different approaches to the problems of heating churches and schools has earned reductions in fuel use exceeding 20 percent for the buildings in which the projects took place. And with ever-increasing costs for heating fuels, the savings will continue to increase as each heating season goes by.

## Bad Mixers . . . . . 7

The students in two classes at the Father Kelly School of Religion in Fairport learned about the volatile combination of alcohol and driving recently. The students took part in a special program where they could experience, in fantasy, the consequences of drunken driving ending in death of an innocent person. Philip Yawman, a county mental health director led the students through the exercise.

## Cutting Costs . . . . . 18

St. Mary's Hospital is one of the institutions involved in what organizers hope will become a model for cutting health costs nation wide: the HEP program. The experimental program guarantees member hospitals a fixed income thus enabling them to better plan for the future and to contain costs to consumers.

## Love Abounds . . . . . 18

The bishop told participants in last week's Teen Seminar, "I am able to love better because you have loved me," in a homily closing the two day event at Notre Dame Retreat House. Bishop Matthew H. Clark also stressed the importance of young people in the Church and asked the teens "to be persons who love Christ."

## Again, the Question . . . . 15

Last week's Equal Time question, "Do you think women should be drafted?" was answered by the young ladies at St. Agnes. This week the question went to the young men at Cardinal Mooney. Their answers, their reasons, and what they think of reinstating the draft are in this week's RapAround.

## Home Planning . . . . . 6

St. Bridget's Church has again started something new. This "new stage in growth," began with the appointment of Albany's Father Dozia Wilson as administrator, and includes "pulling in and home planning," the 34-year-old priest said last week. There are other changes in the offing, he said, including beefing up the parish religious education program.

## Council Acts . . . . . 3

The Diocesan Sisters Council took significant steps last week to broaden the forum for sisters' concerns. The DSC not only identified three times sister-observers may address the council, it also established a system whereby DSC representatives gather the concerns of women religious outside of meeting time.

# Family

Continued from Page 1

dissolving. As I see it, the family is alive and well, but assuming new shapes."

"The challenge for government policy makers today, then, is to mount a concerted response to the tremendous behavioral changes that are redefining the American family."

First on her agenda was employment, as she stated: "Is it too much to ask that government provide every American who wants to work with an opportunity to do so? I think not."

She also called for true equality for women in employment.

Secondly she spoke for an increased availability of child care, a statement punctuated twice by applause: "Child care must be seen as a public responsibility in this country," she stated, "as fundamental and necessary as providing public schools, police, fire and sanitation services."

Thirdly, commenting on the educational system, she noted that "we can not pretend to offer a decent future to our children if we fail to make them literate."

And fourth, she called for health care to "have a family orientation," and for "a national health insurance system." She also called for government to guarantee "the reproductive freedom of all women."

Child care was the predominant theme of the workshops, as recommendations were approved seeking improved availability of child care in neighborhood centers and at the workplace. Employers were called upon to provide child care, and for the government to aid them in that endeavor with business tax deductions. Proposals also surfaced in more than one workshop for employer-employee committees to comment on company policies, such as forced overtime, and their effect on employees as family members.

During the day delegates elected eight representatives to the state and national conferences; the voting has been a controversial point during the five regional

conferences, with delegates being backed on either side of the abortion issue.

The two factions took different paths at the Ithaca meeting. Eight nominees were backed as being "pro-choice" on a flyer that was distributed with the names of 18 supporting organizations. Those

delegates did not staff a table during the day. A table was staffed sporting the title "pro-family," and although they were seeking signatures on a statement on the family, no list of delegates was being distributed.

One flyer with the "pro-choice" nominees listed three

delegates labelled as "known to be anti-choice."

Of the eight elected, six were from the "pro-choice" list. One of the four alternates elected was listed as an "anti-choice" nominee.

None of the nominees was from the Rochester diocese.



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## Ash Wednesday

Bishop Matthew H. Clark will officiate at the 12:10 p.m. Mass on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 20 at Sacred Heart Cathedral.



Calendar . . . . .	21
Child . . . . .	17
Classified . . . . .	23
Cuddy . . . . .	21
Editorial . . . . .	4
Hohman . . . . .	7
Liturgy . . . . .	20
Opinion . . . . .	4
RapAround . . . . .	14-16
Shamon . . . . .	11
Southern Tier . . . . .	10