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# COURIER-JOURNAL

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## 'Family' Group Will Air Views Anywhere

The first meeting of diocesan delegates to the White House Conference on Families and persons interested in family issues was held last week at the Pastoral Center.

According to Terry Holly, coordinator with his wife, Sheila, of the diocesan effort, three points were emphasized at the meeting.

"We don't want the government involved (in the family); if anything is really going to happen, the Church, all of us, have to become more involved and minister to each other; abortion, contraception, gays, and ERA (the Equal Rights Amendment) are not the issues and can only detract from the real family needs, i.e., housing, jobs, health care, the aged and the handicapped."

"Unfortunately," Holly said, "some have the attitude that what is done is done. That's not true, and we underline *not*, because that's defeatism, hopelessness and a 'cop-out.' We are a hope-filled people and must believe that we can reverse trends."

"While the New York State issues are drawn up, amendments or alternatives and minority reports can be raised and presented in the final round in Baltimore, before submission of any report to the White House."

"We need input, and we say it again. If you're interested and care about families and are concerned about what is going around you, come and share it with us."

The next gathering is set for March 13, at 7:30 p.m. on the third floor of the Pastoral Office. The Hollys suggested that attendees park in the back of the building.

The delegates also are planning to be part of the Family Enrichment Night hosted by the Office of Family Life on Wednesday, March 19, at 7:30 p.m., also on the third floor of the Pastoral Center.

Frank and Sue Staropoli, directors of the office, will speak on family ministry.

Holly noted that groups interested in having the delegates speak at parishes or to organizations should call (716) 381-0309.

"We have cars and are willing to travel all over the diocese," Holly said.



## JCF Luncheon

Bishop Matthew H. Clark was the guest of honor last Wednesday at a luncheon sponsored by the Jewish Community Federation at its headquarters. From left, Father Joseph P. Brennan, Bishop Clark, Etta Atkin, chairwoman of the JCF Women's Association; Nathan Robfogel, JCF vice president; Caroline Zaroff, chairwoman of the JCF Social Legislation Committee.

## Two to Be Ordained

Ordination ceremonies are slated next weekend for two men, one of whom will serve permanently in the Diocese of Rochester, the other temporarily, prior to full entry into the Servants of the Paraclete.

Bishop Matthew H. Clark will ordain Rev. Mr. Joseph E. Larrabee a priest, at noon on Saturday, March 22, in Holy Ghost Church, where the ordinand is serving as a deacon intern.

In one of the more unusual rites this season, Bishop Raphael Ndingi of Machakos, Kenya, will ordain to the priesthood his former classmate at St. John Fisher College, Rev. Mr. Richard Brown, at the Church of the Annunciation, where he is a deacon intern. Deacon Brown is being ordained under a provision of Canon Law which allows for temporary "incardination" to a diocese, of a religious who has not yet fulfilled the canonical requirements for ordination directly in the order.

Deacon Larrabee, the son

of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Larrabee of Elmira, attended St. Thomas University in Houston, Tex., and St. John Fisher College from which he received a BA in Sociology. He also is the recipient of the Pi Gamma Mu Award of the National Social Sciences Honor Society. He earned the MDiv degree from St. Bernard's Seminary.

Deacon Brown holds a BA in Philosophy from St. John Fisher College and an MDiv from St. Bernard's, earned in 1973. In that year the ordinand joined the Congregation of St. Basil, with whom he remained until 1977, then joining the Servants of the Paraclete. He last week described his congregation as a group of 50 whose main apostolate is to

Continued on Page 2.

## Courier Captures State Press Prizes

Albany — The Courier-Journal took three prizes in the annual New York State Press Association contest, it was announced at the group's annual convention here last week.

The Courier-Journal was honored for general excellence, the most prestigious prize category. General excellence judges consider "news content, makeup, typography and appearance, feature-story use and special columns, editorial page content, quality

and use of photos, and advertisement placement, etc."

The Catholic newspaper was awarded third place for editorial page from the association, which numbers well over 200 weeklies in its membership from across the state.

And in the Best Special Section category, the Courier-Journal won honorable mention for its Back to School section.

## State Bishops Set Conference On Vocations

The subject of vocations, both to the priesthood and to the religious life, will be discussed by the bishops of New York State at their two-day spring meeting, in Syracuse, next month.

And, in a related event, Sister Mollie Brown, RSM, the well-known area psychologist, will conduct a workshop this Saturday in Albany, a workshop on Ministry and Life and geared to priests, religious and laity.

Sister Mollie's topics include: Men and Women in the

Church, Coping with Losses/Changes, and Developmental Aspects of Ministry in Our Lives.

Sister Mollie maintains a private practice in Rochester, and for the past three years has been active in the diocesan Ministry to Priests program.

The bishops meeting, slated for April 18-20 in Syracuse, will also center on vocations.

According to the New York State Catholic Conference, Continued on Page 2.

## Father Wilson Resigns Position

Following a meeting with Bishop Matthew H. Clark Saturday (March 8), Father Dozia Wilson resigned as pastor of St. Bridget's Church in inner city Rochester.

Father Wilson came to St. Bridget's in mid-January from the Albany diocese. A black priest, he had held a similar position at a Boston parish before coming to Rochester.

came after two weeks of controversy following his dismissal of members of the previous parish staff, Sister Grace Miller of the pastoral ministry team; Eli Danzy, a part-time community outreach worker, and Marvin Rogers, choir director. Father Wilson said that he took the action in order to seek "new directions" for the parish.

Father Wilson's resignation

Protests followed the move. Continued on Page 2.

## Bishop's Statement

"By this announcement I wish to communicate to the parishioners of St. Bridget's that I have accepted the resignation of Father Dozia Wilson as administrator of the parish.

In doing this, I wish to affirm my continued commitment to the life of the parish.

At the same time, I call the parish community to strong efforts to promote harmony and peace. In order to foster this effort I have asked Bishop Dennis Hickey to conduct appropriate consultation and to recommend to me a new pastor.

The events of recent weeks call for a new beginning. In my judgment, a sign a new beginning is possible will be a renewal of commitment to the parish upon the part of all who wish to share in her life.

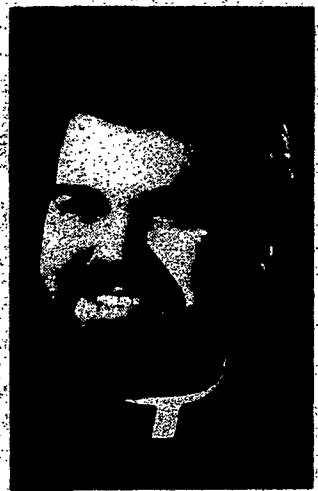
While recognizing the unique witness of St. Bridget's to the church's presence in the area, I reaffirm and insist on the fact that this witness will be authentic and fruitful only as it is rooted in and a sign of the faith life of the parish community.

What has occurred has also brought all of us a realization that no one of us is free from the need of God's healing in our lives. I ask all to be open to that healing power and to reach out to one another with a forgiving spirit of Christ our Lord.

It is with hope for the future of the parish that I place these matters before you. It is important that we face the demands of the coming days in a spirit of faith and prayer.



FATHER BROWN



FATHER LARRABEE