

Education, Parish Panels Established by DPC

By Martin Toombs

Geneva — The Diocesan Pastoral Council (DPC) established two standing committees to deal with parish and education issues at its meeting Saturday in St. Francis DeSales School.

The council also heard several reports, discussed possible evangelization programs, and the semi-annual reports of the diocesan departments in preparation for its budget discussion Saturday, June 7, at Bishop Kearney High School.

The Task Force studying the feasibility of a diocesan Board of Education gave its final report. Its recommendation that the DPC's Teaching Mission Committee be revived received approval by a vote of 24 to 0, with 4 abstentions.

The task force, convened by Anthony Rosati of Rochester, listed what it saw as advantages and disadvantages of such a board, and concluded that the Teaching Mission Committee should be reactivated to encourage the development of parish education committees and to continue to research educational needs and models for collegial decision making.

Rosati noted his wish that the committee's further study include consultation with Dr. Mary Angela Harper, head of the National Association of Catholic Boards of Education, noting that her travel expenses, \$200, would have to be paid. His amendment to allocate the money for her visit was defeated; the discussion concerned the DPC's power to spend money, and not the advisability of seeking her assistance.

A proposal by Father Douglas Hoffman calling for a standing committee to "research, recommend and communicate ways for parishes to grow and develop in understanding and living out of their apostolic mission" also was approved, in a unanimous voice vote.

Father Hoffman had distributed materials from the National Conference of Catholic Bishops Parish Project, and the proposal had been discussed at previous DPC meetings. Several members noted their feeling that such a project is needed, and also stated that the diocese's priests, and the Priests Council, need to be involved.

Through the leadership of the Evangelization Task Force, the DPC also conducted group discussions, of what type of message should be delivered as part of a diocesan evangelization program, that is being tentatively planned for Lent, 1981. The program would be paid for through the diocesan share of the national Communications Collection.

Members offered suggestions as to how the message could be delivered. Marilyn Muench of Pittsford, chairing the meeting in the absence of Brother Brian Walsh, noted her preference for television during prime time, and the need for the shows to be professionally produced.

Hilda Stebbins of Horseheads spoke for a wide distribution of a prayer card as part of the drive. Beth Stefano of Dryden noted the importance of the message people receive at Mass, calling for an effort to ensure "spirit-filled weekend liturgies."

Sister Ann Miller of Corning reported that she asked her students how such a message should be delivered, and they told her the "back of cereal boxes." She noted that the seemingly humorous response did illustrate a point — the effort has to "fit into the schedule" of the people it is trying to reach.

Members also suggested many and varied programs to reach more people; the possibility of short television spots instead of long programs, and the need for parish involvement.

The discussion of the semi-annual reports was conducted by Richard Wardell and Sister Josepha Kennedy of the Ministerial Review Committee.

Responding to earlier concerns about the Stewardship Program, Wardell, although noting difficulty in separating Stewardship expenses, noted that the diocese has had approximately a \$72,000 deficit for the three years it has conducted the program.

As to parish results, he noted that a study of 1978 parish profiles, when 40 parishes participated, reveals that those parishes had increased collections by \$200,000, an increase that was 69 percent larger than they had had in the previous year. Other diocesan parishes averaged an 8 percent increase, he noted, adding that some of the Stewardship parishes hadn't emphasized the "treasure" portion of the program.

And Sister Josepha reported on adjustments that have been made in the instruction of the Spanish-speaking candidates in the permanent diaconate program that have made it possible to merge two small classes.

At the meeting's conclusion, the members also discussed issues raised in a letter distributed before the meeting by Michael Fitzpatrick of Rochester.

Fitzpatrick, a member of the group studying the Board of Education, questioned the difficulties the committee had in duplication of materials and in its relationship with the DPC Executive Committee.

Father Hoffman noted that those committees with long-term needs have received secretarial services through the DPC budget; and members noted they have had materials duplicated by asking Judith Ann Kollar, executive secretary, to do them. Fitzpatrick stated that provisions

should be made for shorter-term needs for such services.

The discussion, coming after the planned agenda time, did not deal with other issues Fitzpatrick raised in his letter.

In other action, the DPC:

- heard plans for a diocesan convocation Sept. 19, followed by a youth festival Sept. 20;

- heard a report on the work and function of the diocesan Human Life

Commission from Ange and Peg Turiano;

- and discussed a proposed constitutional amendment to change the term of office for regional representatives from two to three years.

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- 1/4 cup salad oil
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- 1/2 T. salt
- 1/8 T. pepper
- 12 slices bacon
- 1 lb. scallops fresh or frozen
- 1 can (13 1/2 oz.) pineapple chunks, drained
- 1 can (4 oz.) button mushrooms, drained
- 1 green pepper, cut into 1 inch squares

Thaw frozen scallops. Rinse with cold water to remove any shell particles. Place pineapple, mushrooms, green pepper and scallops in a bowl. Combine oil, lemon juice, parsley, soy sauce, salt and pepper. Pour sauce over scallops and let stand for 30 minutes, stirring occasionally. Fry bacon until cooked but not crisp. Cut each slice in half. Using long skewers, alternate scallops, pineapple, mushrooms, green pepper and bacon until the skewers are filled. Cook on moderately hot coals for about 4 minutes or longer, or until bacon is crisp. Serves 4 to 5.

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Cenacle Sisters Elect New Head

The Sisters of the Cenacle, the international religious congregation based in Rome, Italy, which has a center for spiritual renewal in Rochester, recently elected a new superior general, Sister Lidia Noto of Turin.

A General Chapter, now in session in Rome, elects a sister for this office every six years, after wide consultation, Sister Betty Rogers, who is stationed here, said recently.

The Rochester Cenacle's Sister Barbara Heanue is

representing the Northeastern membership of her congregation at the Chapter. Rochesterians Sister Annette Mattle and Sister Joan Fitzgibbons are also participating as current and future provincial superiors of this area.

Speaking on behalf of her congregation, Sister Betty asked prayers from diocesans "for this important event in (the Cenacle Sisters') efforts to respond to the growing demand for renewal."

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