



### Cloisters Visited

Last Wednesday, Bishop Matthew H. Clark visited two cloisters to join them in celebration for the Feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. Left, the bishop imparts a blessing during Mass at the Trappist Monastery in Pittsford. Right, he delivers his homily during Mass at the Carmelite Monastery in Pittsford where more than 150 attended to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the cloistered sisters in the Rochester diocese.

### Abortion

Continued from page 1  
critical, as in many other hospitals throughout the state. An economic boycott of the hospital because of the abortion issue could well spell its demise, with the following results: deprivation of medical services in the community, loss of jobs to many in Waterloo.

"Therefore, those few doctors enriching themselves through abortion will impoverish the community unless they desist. The community wants its hospital, but abortion free."

Father Shamon explained that he has observed a decline in the number of surgical procedures other than abortions at the hospital, and has had persons tell him that has occurred since the abortions started. The group, he said, feels that the

### Resignations Also Strike United Way

Waterloo — Even while the community discusses the resignation of four members from the board of its hospital, a controversy with the Seneca County United Way concerning funding of Planned Parenthood continues, and also has caused board resignations.

Last year Planned Parenthood was removed from the list of agencies benefiting from the United Way campaign in a controversial decision.

Those seeking the denial of funding to Planned Parenthood argued that the drive was being damaged, as some would not donate so as not to fund a group which supports abortion on demand. Their opponents called for contributors to donate directly to Planned Parenthood instead of the United Way in protest.

And on June 10, the United Way board voted 8-7 with six members absent to replace Planned Parenthood on the list of benefiting agencies for the current drive. That action was cited as the cause for resignation by three United Way directors: Joyce Sinicropi, Joseph Petrucci, Jr., and Charles Shaffer.

hospital's use and therefore financial well-being would improve if abortions were no longer performed there.

Souhan, who was out of town and could not be reached for comment, also has pointed out that of the 13 doctors on the hospital's staff, only three perform abortions.

Father Shamon commented that while it is common knowledge in Waterloo which doctors perform the procedures, the Citizens for a Respected Hospital are concentrating their efforts on changing the hospital policy rather than pressuring the doctors.

Dr. Herbert Holden, a Seneca Falls veterinarian who is the new board president, downplays the financial impact abortions have on the hospital. They account for less than five percent of the hospital's activity, he said, and he doesn't feel that whether or not abortions are performed in the hospital is a financial issue for the hospital. He added that the hospital has operated in the black for many years.

A board member for three years, Holden noted that a study has been begun to examine how the hospital compares with other local hospitals concerning abortions, looking for factors that may influence the number performed at the 70-bed facility.

Noting that he would like to see improved education eliminate the need for abortions, Holden pointed out that the number of abortions performed at Taylor-Brown now is half of what it was several years ago.

Concerning a threatened boycott, Holden hopes "that it doesn't go that far," and doesn't feel that the local residents should "condemn the hospital based on one activity." He hopes they will work for a constructive resolution of the conflict, he said.

Holden also refuted a charge that the board has been stacked with pro-abortionists by pointing out that he was nominated to the board by Souhan, and he nominated Orsini, another member who resigned. Nobody asked him his opinion on abortion before he was named to the board, he said.

Father Shamon also detailed plans by Waterloo's clergy who are opposed to abortion. More than half of the village's clergy are participating in the project, he reported, which will include a common statement on abortion and participation of the respective churches in a "Sanctity of Life" Sunday in August.

Noting that he has received stronger support from some

Protestant clergy than he expected, Father Shamon said the group will concentrate on educating the people, changing the hospital policy, and increasing awareness of available alternatives to abortion.

The proposed common statement, still to be signed by some of the clergy involved, states:

"Human life is a gracious, unique, unrepeatable gift of God.

"The human life process begins at conception.

"Any deliberate termination of the process is murder, and since abortion terminates a human life, abortion is not a moral option."

Added to the statement will be supporting material from the Hippocratic Oath, the 1948 United Nations charter, and the Bible, Father Shamon said.

The effort will be a long-range one, Father Shamon added, and could develop in other directions in the future.

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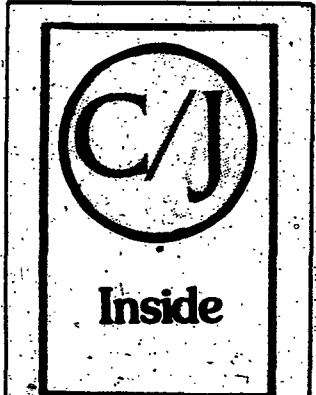
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Opinion.....	14
Pope.....	5
RapAround.....	10
Shamon.....	15
Southern Tier.....	6

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