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COURIER-JOURNAL

NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

12 Pages

Wednesday, August 6, 1980

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Eight of the signatories explain their statement concerning abortions in Waterloo's Taylor-Brown Hospital at a press conference in St. Patrick's Rectory, Seneca Falls. From left, Father Albert Shamon and Father Robert Doell of St. Mary's Church, Waterloo; Rev. Sidney Rowland, First Baptist, Seneca Falls; Sister

Christine Lloyd, St. Patrick's, Seneca Falls; Rev. Herbert Schumm, Calvary Lutheran; Rev. Gail Von-Wald, Church of God, Waterloo; and Father Michael Conboy, St. Patrick's, Seneca Falls. Partially blocked from view by Father Conboy is Rev. Kenneth Crowe of Assembly of God of Seneca Falls.

End Abortions, Hospital Asked

By Martin Toombs

Seneca Falls — Clergy and a religious sister of the Seneca Falls and Waterloo area issued a statement condemning the abortion policy of Taylor-Brown Memorial Hospital in Waterloo at a press conference in St. Patrick's Rectory, Seneca Falls, July 29.

The announcement came the day following an hour-long picket in front of the hospital by 100 persons protesting the abortions performed at the facility. Four hospital board members resigned from the board in June following their unsuccessful effort to restrict abortions.

Eight statement signatories explained their stand at the press conference, speaking also for three others not present.

The statement called abortion "a moral evil," and regarding the hospital, stated:

"We are committed to promoting the growth of Taylor-Brown Hospital, wanting it to offer the best of medical services to the community, provided that it stop what is contrary to medical purposes — the abortion of babies. Let the board be held responsible, then, for the economic hardship that will come to the hospital should people decide

that they cannot in good faith receive medical attention within an institution in which the killing of the unborn is a condoned policy. Therefore, we request that the board of the hospital, which is meeting tonight (July 29), reverse the present policy regarding abortion at Taylor-Brown Hospital."

No action on the abortion policy was taken at the hospital's board meeting. Dr. Herbert Holden, the Seneca Falls veterinarian who is board president, indicated previously that any further action by the board probably will not occur until a study of abortion statistics and policies at area hospitals is completed, probably sometime in the next few weeks.

Responding to questions at the press conference, the clergy stated that their statement was not intended to support a boycott of the hospital. One member of the group said that they had considered the wording carefully in an attempt to insure that the statement would not be considered a call for a boycott.

Rev. Sidney Rowland of the First Baptist Church, Seneca Falls, explained that the group had some difficulty agreeing on a definition for "therapeutic" abortions, and finally approved the statement calling for an end to abortions

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Refugee Fund 'Over the Top'

Parish and individual contributions to the Cuban/Haitian Emergency Relief Appeal have "gone over the top," Father Joseph Reinhart announced last week.

As of July 31, he said, 82 parishes have contributed \$33,548.47, and individual donations amount to \$3,605, making a grand total of \$37,153.47. The appeal's goal had been set at \$35,000.

Father Reinhart is the head of the office at 123 East Ave. Rochester, N.Y. 14604.

the mailing address to which contributors may send funds.

The fund was formally established July 4 by the Rochester Community Committee for Cuban and Haitian Refugees, to respond to the plight of this latest influx of persons seeking political and economic justice.

That committee is headed by Timothy Sullivan of Waldert Opticians. Membership includes a broad range of religious and civil organizations.

Sanctity of Life Sunday Aug. 10

Father Albert Shamon's column, Word for Sunday, has been published this week as a Special Report on Page One, because of the nature of the information it contains.

By Father Albert Shamon

Waterloo — In the Seneca Region, Catholic, Evangelical and Fundamentalist clergy have designated Aug. 10 as Sanctity of Life Sunday.

We agreed that the area clergy must give clarion leadership in the field of morality. St. Paul warned ministers of the word, "If the

bugle's sound is uncertain, who will get ready for battle?" (1Cor. 14:8).

We used the title "sanctity of life" Sunday because this "sanctity of life" ethic is in danger of being replaced by a cheap "quality of life" ethic. Advocates of this new ethic maintain that some persons should be "terminated" because they are unwanted, unplanned, imperfect or perhaps not properly productive.

On this Sunday, homilies in all churches will address themselves to sanctity of

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SSJs See a 'Rebirth'

By John Dash

Religious communities are "on the threshold of a rebirth of the deepest meaning of religious life," Sister Elizabeth Moslander said recently.

The Concordia, Kans., Sister of St. Joseph was in Rochester delivering her views of the future of religious life to the annual Summer Institute for sisters, hosted this year by the diocesan St. Joseph congregation.

Sister Moslander sees the rebirth as "a simple necessary grace for the Church." Her colleague in assessing the future, Sister Patricia Byrne of Baden, Pa., described it as a process in which "the old dies to give way to the new."

Sister Moslander said that "religious are moving out of maintenance functions for the Church. They were necessary (functions); but not necessarily for the Sisters of St. Joseph who were founded with an active apostolic function."

The institute, which drew more than 350 to four special programs, two lengthy spiritual formation exercises and two special weekends, is the outgrowth of a research project undertaken several years ago by Sisters of St. Joseph. That project involved translating the original documents connected with the foundation of their congregation. The summer institutes explore those documents in an attempt to renew the original spirit of the group.

Interviewed earlier this summer, Sister Eileen Quinlan of Wichita, Kan., and Sister Phyllis Di Fuccia of Erie, Pa., both members of the research group said that the work was the answer of the American Federation of the Sisters of St. Joseph to the Second Vatican Council's call to renew and return to the spirit of the foundations of particular religious communities.

Sister Quinlan said that research proves that "The spirit and vision of the founder provides the impetus for the future."

"The values we state," she explained, "are Gospel values. The function of our research is to try to bring those values into the present."



Father Robert Sears, SJ, discusses the question of mission as it appears in the Gospel of St. John at the annual summer institute.

Sister Di Fuccia commented that the research indicates that "our spirituality is basically a lay spirituality," distinguished by the vows. But the vows

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