



Ronald Keller speaks to the DPC after the group elected him their chairperson for the coming year. Listening at the head table are, from left, Father Charles Latus, Bishop Clark, and Brother Brian Walsh, outgoing chairperson.

## DPC

Continued from page 1

program. It will involve a survey of the presence of retarded persons and programs for them in parishes, which will be supplemented by information compiled by staff working in the field. They will prepare a report, which will be the subject of a hearing at the March DPC meeting, with a final report to Bishop Clark scheduled for May 1.

The afternoon program included the election, presentations on DPC committees, and a forum with Bishop Clark.

During the forum, Bishop Clark expressed his thanks to last year's DPC Executive Committee, and especially to Brother Brian Walsh and Marilyn Muench, chairperson and vice-chairperson last year.

A lengthy discussion during the forum involved the Vatican document "Inaestimabile Donum" (Priceless Gift), which sought to end "abuses" in liturgy.

Bishop Clark stated that the diocese does "need to obey" the general norms of the Church in liturgy, and the diocese does not have the right to ignore the document.

He did criticize the document on two points: that it mixed important issues with those much less important, and that it is not written well. Some have found the tone

"insulting," he said, noting the problem with the word "abuse," when used to describe some of the practices.

He sympathized with the difficulty of ending such practices as altar girls in a parish where they have been established, but called for parish staffs to work toward compliance with the document.

Beth Stefano expressed her wish that the Vatican be made aware of "our difficulty in understanding" the document.

Bishop Clark noted that with that document, and the one recently issued concerning acceptance of Episcopal priests into the Church, he first learned of the statements from a newspaper reporter.

He reported that at the program for bishops he attended in August, a way for the bishops to assert their interest in having an opportunity to study and comment on such documents before they are issued was discussed.

Related items were raised by Bishop Clark on Friday evening and by Bishop Dennis W. Hickey on Saturday morning. Bishop Clark noted the need for a "well established and understood process" to "consolidate resources," noting especially under-utilized buildings.

Bishop Hickey echoed his



Rose Reichard of Auburn, a Seneca-Cayuga delegate, receives a candle from Bishop Clark symbolic of her commissioning as a DPC member at the DPC convocation opening Mass Friday evening.

comments Saturday morning, noting the excessive demands being placed on some priests. He emphasized the need to look both at the distribution of priests, and at an "amalgamation of parishes" to get the most efficient assignment of priests possible.

To point out the problem, Bishop Hickey noted that on Aug. 14 and 15, one priest in the diocese said Mass nine times.

The convocation ended with a prayer service featuring the members' call to leadership they have accepted with DPC membership.

## More DPC Members Named

Several members not previously announced began memberships on the DPC at its convocation.

Additional representatives of the sisters in the diocese will be Sister Sheila Walsh, Sister Rita Sullivan, and Sister Eileen Broad, all of Rochester.

Additional priest representatives are Father Elmer Heindl, recently retired and now living in Rochester, and Father Robert Bradler, pastor of St. James, Rochester.

Beatrice Montgomery, of

Rochester will represent the ministry to the elderly on the council, and Gaynelle Wethers, who is an elected representative of the Southwest Region, has been tabbed as the representative of the ministry to black Catholics.

## Pastoral Ministry Revamped

The new allocation of responsibilities of the former Office of Pastoral Ministry was explained to DPC members at their convocation.

Taking over the duties as bishop's liaison to the three consultative bodies will be

Father Charles Latus, Bishop Clark's secretary. Father Latus explained that he also will chair meetings of the division directors and the regional coordinators.

Judith Ann Kollar, DPC executive secretary, will also

be the Pastoral Office's representative to the DPC executive committee.

And Sister Jean Rodman, who did parish council training for the Pastoral Ministry Office, will continue that work as part of the diocesan Education Division.

## Yard Sale

St. Bernard's Seminary first yard sale will take place Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 13 and 14 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Rain dates are Sept. 20-21.

Among sale items are old furniture pieces, old used books, plants, pictures, rugs, shelves and other items. Proceeds will go toward supporting the Students Activities Center.



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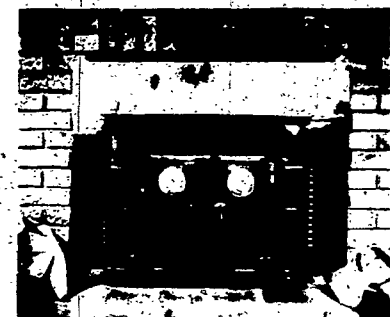
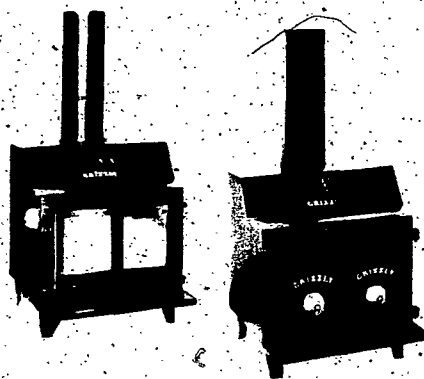
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