



Father James Marvin, right, former president of the Priests Council, served as resource person for a workshop for the new Priests Council, chaired by Father Robert O'Neill, second from left. Others, from left, are Msgr. John Maney, Fathers Eugene Weis and Robert Miller.

## Priest Council Endorses Natural Family Planning

By Michael Groden  
At the initial meeting of the 1980-81 Diocesan Priests Council, members passed a resolution supporting Natural Family Planning (NFP) programs and gave reports to Bishop Matthew H. Clark on the possibility of a single ordination ceremony each year, as opposed to the present system of individual ceremonies for each ordinand.

Father John Norris, newly elected council president, reported that he had received a letter from the Natural Family Planning office in August. The letter, co-written by Richard T. O'Hara, NFP board president, and Therese Petracca, director, came in response to a priest council request on how the council can help NFP.

The letter listed financial aid as the first priority. The NFP office may have to close this month due to lack of financial support. Natural Family Planning is currently seeking money from the Community Chest. The council asked Father Joseph D'Aurizio to serve as liaison between the Chest and NFP.

After discussion Father Eugene Weiss proposed a resolution in support of the NFP programs. The resolution, accepted by council members 14-3, states that the Priests Council extends its support to the

programs and activities of NFP, Inc., which corresponds with Vatican and Church principles and directives on Morality and Spirituality in married life. The resolution also recommended that individual priests in the diocese support NFP through financial contributions from their own resources.

Father Robert O'Neill recommended further that the council appoint an ad hoc committee to study the NFP programs. The committee will give specific suggestions to Bishop Clark on the program in regard to financial and educational support of NFP.

In response to an earlier request by Bishop Clark, council members gave reactions and suggestions from their blocs on the question of one diocesan ordination per year for the entire graduating class at Sacred-Heart Cathedral.

The majority of the responses favored the present system of individual ordination ceremonies, usually at the parish where the new priest spends his internship.

Father Norris read two written replies to Bishop Clark and council members: one from the St. Bernard's graduating class of 1980 and the other from Father Edward Steinkirchner, director of the intern program. Father

Steinkirchner's letter was signed by intern supervisors.

Both letters supported the present system.

Several priests pointed out that although the individual ordinations were well received at participating churches, there are many parishes that never have the opportunity to host an ordination. They felt it unfair to the majority of parishes.

Father Paul Schnacky favored the Cathedral ordination because "priests are not being ordained to serve that parish, but rather the diocese as a whole." He felt that the one ordination concept would show this in a more meaningful way.

Bishop Clark thanked council members for their responses and stressed that no action on the issue is planned. The individual ordinations will continue for the present. Bishop Clark said he now wants to look into the ordination question in regard to the theological aspect.

In other priests council action Fathers Elmer Heindl and Robert Bradler were elected to represent priests in the Diocesan Pastoral Council. Father Otto Vogt was selected to replace Father Charles Bennett who resigned midway through his term because of health problems.

Sarah Child



All in the Family

### Ah, the Smell Of Nostalgia

I don't know if you've noticed, but places of business don't smell anymore — at least not the way they're supposed to.

Before I was ten — and maybe for a while after that — someone could lead you blindfolded into one establishment or another and you would know where you were by the smell of the place.

On nice summer afternoons when I was about six and my sister was four my mother would dress us in clean, freshly ironed dresses, put the baby in the stroller and we would go downtown to Hernquist's Drugstore.

Our nostrils already

sensitively attuned by the white polish on newly daubed sandals and the starch in our pinafores, we would walk into Hernquist's to meet the exquisite blend of bulk ice cream made with the real vanilla, cream and eggs mingling with the antiseptic odor of drugs being ground under a pestle in the back of the store.

After we had eaten the ice cream — the baby getting into an empty cone — we would head up the street to Gilroy's where my father presided over the meat department.

There the scent of fresh sawdust on the floor assailed our noses, its presence, along with shining knives and newly scrubbed butcher block, attesting to the cleanliness of the place.

If we stopped in at Higgins' Variety Store next

door, skeins of yarn, crochet thread and piece goods bespoke of a technology not yet progressed to the synthetic stage. It smelled a lot different than fabric stores do today.

My favorite among all the odiferous establishments of my childhood was located in Conrad, my grandparents' home.

Before my day Indry's General Store had been a blacksmith shop as well and no doubt a bit of horse still lingered in the wonderful melange of smells that arose from the black, oiled, wooden floor to greet all comers.

Add to that the satisfying aroma of kerosene oil (for the lamps), barrels that once held crackers and pickles and a hog's head or two, plus the most tantalizing of all, a penny candy case where the fragrances of two-cent Baby Ruths, licorice sticks and root beer barrels fought for prominence.

It is hard nowadays to smell the difference between grocery and hardware, drugstore and fabric shop. Somehow I think we've lost a lot.

## Fr. Collins To Be Honored

The late Father Vincent Collins will be posthumously recognized for his work among alcoholics at the Rochester Area National Council on Alcoholism Recognition Assembly, Sept. 26.

Rochester Church will be his sister, Margaret Collins Owen.

Father Collins authored "Acceptance," a major volume in the library of rehabilitation from alcohol.

The assembly will be held at noon at the Arena Banquet Center. Other honorees are Joseph Coughlin, Rochester

General Mental Health Center; Rev. Robert Hathaway, Monroe County Continued Care Unit; and the late Tom Jarrett, "whose later life was devoted to providing a place to sleep, good food, genuine friendship and endless hours of caring to countless alcoholics in the Rochester area," the organization's release stated.

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