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Bishop Joseph L. Hogan speaking to the St. Mary's fund drive workers.

Half of Parish Volunteers for St. Mary's 'Drive'

By Martin Toombs
Southern Tier Editor

Corning — Approximately 360 workers, representing nearly half of the parish, received their instructions for the St. Mary's fund drive during a program in the church Oct. 21.

But before they learned how to fill out pledge cards, they participated in benediction, and were shown slides of the deterioration of the church with an explanation by Mark Bennett, the architect designing the project.

The slides showed the deterioration, shifting, and elderly heating and electrical systems in the 114-year-old structure, as Bennett explained the processes which will be necessary to preserve the church for future generations.

Bennett, who grew up in the parish, explained that the church is built of local stone, and was completed after five years of work in 1871. But ten years later a major addition and renovation took place, and it is from that project that many of the problems in the

Christmas Sale Planned

Elmira — The St. Joseph's Hospital Auxiliary's Annual Christmas Sale will be Thursday, Nov. 6, and Friday, Nov. 7, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the Doctors Meeting Room.

Featured for the sale will be a handmade doll house complete with furnishings and electrical wiring. This child's delight will provide someone a big surprise on Christmas morning. Among the wide selection of handmade items will be crochet, knitting, ceramics and a selection of doll-house furniture, rugs and linens.

Mrs. Helen McInerney is chairing this year's event.

foundation and ceiling date.

Included will be strengthening of the superstructure above the church's ceiling, and major rebuilding of the foundation and supports for the columns. Also included, he said, will be a new heating system, the addition of insulation, and updating of the electrical and lighting systems.

Helping kick off the \$400,000 drive was Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, who noted the parish's history, dating from 1848. He also described the "Lima connection," noting that in 1896 when the Southern Tier counties were changed from the Buffalo to the Rochester diocese, the transition was eased by Bishop Quigley of Buffalo, who had lived between the ages of 5 and 16 in the Rochester diocese, in Lima.

And now when the parish faces a crisis in its physical plant, the bishop noted, it is being guided by another priest from Lima, their pastor and his brother Father Michael Hogan.

It was only logical, he said, that they invite a third native of Lima (himself) to help with the program.

Bishop Hogan concluded by stating that the church is a "beautiful tribute to the faith of the pioneers" who settled the area, and to those who have continued their work.

The workers, many of whom had only one call to make because of the number who volunteered, made their calls during the past week. The drive is the first in St. Mary's parish in 20 years.

Christmas Sale

The Hospital Auxiliary at St. Joseph's, Elmira, will host its annual Christmas Sale on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 6, 7. The sale will take place in the doctor's meeting room of the hospital between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. each day.

The Meeting Goes to Him

By Martin Toombs
Southern Tier Editor

Waverly — The St. James Human Development Committee doesn't meet at the church, but at "Paul Jordan Plaza," according to a recent parish bulletin.

"Paul Jordan Plaza" is more commonly known as the Tioga Nursing Home, where Jordan has lived for the past two years. The committee meets there so he can participate in their meetings, and be better able to carry out the function he fills as a member of the group.

For three years now, Jordan has been doing the telephoning for the committee and for other parish functions, primarily arranging transportation for parishioners to meetings, to Mass, and to such things as doctor appointments.

A life resident of Waverly, Jordan has never walked, and is only able to leave the nursing home a few times a year when he visits his brothers and sisters. Except for four years, as a child, he has never attended school, having a tutor at home. His disability didn't prevent him from holding a position as a taxi dispatcher for a time, or from living alone for 17 years, before moving to the nursing home.

He remembers growing up



Oppy Award winner Bruce Brennan was surprised both at his selection for the award and by the appearance of his parents to help celebrate. With Brennan are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Brennan of Mineville.

Brennan Gets 'Oppy'

Elmira — The director of dietary services at St. Joseph's Hospital received the "Oppy" award in ceremonies Oct. 20.

Bruce Brennan, who joined the hospital as assistant director of dietary services in 1977, was cited for outstanding service to patients, employees and the community.

The Registered Dietitian is a 1973 graduate of Purdue University. He is actively involved in the Chemung County Extension Service's nutrition efforts.



Paul Jordan at work on his telephone.

in the same neighborhood as Mrs. Marguerite Conroy and her brother, Father Joseph F. Hogan, and points to pictures of Father Hogan's 40th anniversary celebration on the wall over his bed.

Mrs. Conroy noted that "both our families have always lived here," and that most of the older parishioners know Jordan. His life, she commented, has been a "lesson to a great many" on patience.

Jordan always was close to the parish, getting his first wheelchair when he was a teenager from Father Edward Dwyer, St. James pastor at the time.

As Jordan discusses his life, he includes information about his brothers and sisters, noting where each lives and pointing to their pictures around his room.

During the relation, he commented that "I'm glad it happened to me" rather than one of his brothers or sisters, noting how good his family has been to him, and how they also have the responsibility of their own children.

It was a year before moving to the nursing home that he began his telephoning duties, when Father John Morgan asked him to do the work. Jordan noted that when he had surgery recently, Father Edward Foy, the current pastor, urged him to continue his work after his return from the hospital.

The personal telephone makes Jordan something of an exception at the nursing home. Jordan said that his additional contact with the community through the telephone has engendered the saying around the nursing home that "if you want to know anything, just ask Paul."

Jordan also noted his new work with a monthly senior citizen program at St. James, describing the effort by noting that "we try to get them out once a month" to a Mass and luncheon.

An active member of the Human Development Committee, Patricia Redman, noted that Jordan's involvement with those providing transportation has

resulted in his making a valuable suggestion to the group. Following his idea, group members now donate to a fund used to reimburse volunteer drivers for their gasoline if they have to make a trip out of town.

Mrs. Redman also noted that his work making and receiving phone calls "has been a great help." It was in recognition of the role he plays that the committee started meeting at the nursing home last June, she said.

Jordan has praises for the two Sisters of Mercy who work in Tioga County, Sisters Sheila and Mary, noting that "I don't know how they keep going." He commented that "every time I see them coming I can see the twinkle in their eyes," and he knows they've got something they want him to do. He never says no, he added.

Sister Sheila returns his compliment, noting that Jordan is providing a real service in making and receiving phone calls. "He does it quietly," she stated.

Luncheon Scheduled

Ithaca — The next ladies PEACE luncheon will be Saturday, Nov. 8, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Immaculate Conception School. The PEACE (Peace Enters After Committing Everything) luncheons provide an opportunity for women of the parish to share their faith. Participants are asked to make reservations by telephoning 273-6121 by Nov. 5. They also are asked to bring a dish to pass and a \$1 donation. Babysitting will be available upon request.

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