



COURIER-JOURNAL

NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

20 Pages

Wednesday, February 18, 1981

OUR 97th YEAR

25 Cents



Photo by Terrance J. Brennan

Welfare Hearing

Sarah Jones was one of the speakers at the meeting on public assistance at St. Michael's last week. Story on Page 3.

Diocesan Agencies Urge 'Apache' Boycott

By Michael Groden

A number of agencies, including the diocesan Office of Black Ministries and the Spanish Apostolate, have joined forces with other social

groups in the state in urging a viewer boycott of the film Fort Apache: The Bronx.

The movie, currently being shown at Loew's Theaters in Greece and Southtown, deals

with a police precinct that patrols the South Bronx that was dubbed Fort Apache by police working there. All Puerto Rican and black residents portrayed in the movie are seen as "prostitutes, junkies and cop killers," according to Father Timothy McCluskey, pastor of Mount Carmel Parish and a member of the Spanish Apostolate.

Father McCluskey said that the movie takes "a myopic look at people living in the Bronx," and does not portray the total picture of life there.

He said that although prostitution, murder and drug addiction do occur in the South Bronx, there are also many hard working, responsible people who are trying to lead decent lives. The movie does not show both sides, he said.

Rev. John Walker, executive secretary of the Office of Black Ministries, said that although he has not viewed the film, the information he has received on it is very negative. He said that he is "in full support" of the boycott. Rev. Walker added that if reports he has received are true, the movie is "certainly racist and extremely one-sided" in its depiction of those living in the South Bronx.

He said that he is "stunned that Paul Newman (who stars in the film) would participate in it. I have always thought of

Continued on Page 2

'Catholic Magazine' Begins in March

The diocese will present an eight-week, half-hour television series titled "Real to Reel" during March and April.

The program will be broadcast on Sunday at 10 a.m. on Channel 31 in Rochester beginning March 1; on Monday at 7 p.m. on Channel 36 in Elmira beginning March 2; and on Saturday at noon on Channel 9 in Syracuse starting March 7.

"We will broadcast from Rochester, Elmira and Syracuse in order to reach the 12 counties which comprise the diocese," said Sister Roberta Tierney, chairperson for the project.

This new venture is made possible by the local share of the nationwide Communications Campaign Collection initiated by the U.S. Catholic Bishops in 1979. Some of the monies have been used to fund a national Catholic production project using the popular television news magazine format.

The national segments will focus on a wide variety of topics and personalities such as the Sisters of Mother Teresa in America, Father Bruce Ritter's work with runaways in Times Square in New York City and the People of Carville which confronts many commonly held beliefs about leprosy.

Interspersed with these nationally produced segments will be professionally produced local features spotlighting persons, events and celebrations around the diocese, including appearances by Bishop Matthew H. Clark.

The television project was initiated by Bishop Clark last spring when he established a Communications Committee with Sister Roberta as chairperson. "We are going to focus more on the people of the diocese," commented Bishop Clark. "There are many wonderful things going on in our diocese and we hope to make more people aware of them."

Vicar for Religious Approved by Bishop

By Michael Groden

Bishop Matthew H. Clark last week told the diocesan Sisters Council, "I am prepared to implement an office of Vicar for Religious as soon as possible."

The religious vicar team, one full-time sister and one part-time priest, will work directly with Bishop Clark on matters concerning sisters, brothers and order priests working in the diocese.

The vicariate decision ends lengthy process to establish the office that began prior to Bishop Clark's installation as ordinary.

Bishop Clark asked council members to prepare a list of nominees for the job. He asked that the nominations be made promptly so that the vicar can begin work July 1. He also requested that the vicar nominees "not be members of the Sisters

Council," to avoid any possible conflicts.

Council members decided that nominations should not come until all religious groups in the diocese are consulted.

In other council action, two proposals were discussed dealing with racism in the Church and the establishment of a summer internship program in the Hispanic community.

The racism recommendations included the diocese's hiring more employees from minority groups, the continued support of the Office of Black Ministries and Spanish Apostolate, and the establishment of a diocesan holiday honoring Martin Luther King.

The final wording is being prepared. The Hispanic internship proposal was passed unanimously by the council and sent to the Inter-Congregational Council.

The proposal will establish a four-week training program for interested sisters that "will deepen the participants' appreciation and love of the culture and life."

During the afternoon session, council members heard a report from Father Charles Latus regarding action taken as a result of the closing of St. Bernard's Seminary.

Father Latus said that the diocese is working on four major areas of concern on the seminary: personnel, continuing educational programs, placement of "our seminarians in other seminaries," and what to do with the seminary buildings. Father Latus said that the bishop is committed to keeping established educational programs for religious and laity. He is also concerned with how to utilize seminary personnel in the "best way possible."

Father Richard T. Tormey, Editor, Pastor, Dies

Father Richard T. Tormey, former director of communications and the last priest-editor of the Courier-Journal, died Wednesday, Feb. 11, at the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse after a long battle with cancer. He was 64 years old.

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, a seminary classmate of Father Tormey, celebrated the Mass of Christ the High Priest last Thursday at St. Thomas More Church.

Father Tormey was pastor of St. Mary's in Bath at the time of his death and Bishop Matthew H. Clark celebrated the Mass of Christian Burial at that church last Friday.

Father Tormey was a forerunner among churchmen in the use of the media to spread the Church's message. In 1947, he was named associate editor of the Courier-Journal. At the same time, he conducted "Morals Behind the Headlines," a Sunday radio series over WHAM.

He evinced an early interest in television and when the first TV equipment arrived in Rochester for the establishment of WHAM-TV in 1949, Father Tormey was on the scene studying the technical aspects.



FATHER TORMEY

He left the diocesan newspaper in 1950 to become assistant pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes in Rochester.

He, however, was to return to the diocesan newspaper as its editor in February of 1968.

In December of 1969, Bishop Hogan established the Office of Communications and Father Tormey became its first director. He remained with the Courier-Journal as executive editor and Carmen J. Viglucci became its first lay editor.

In 1971, he went to St. Stephen's in Geneva to serve as pastor, a position he

described as "the desire of every priest."

He served there until 1977 when he became pastor of St. Mary's in Bath.

He has served two separate terms on the Priests Council, has been the regional coordinator of the Yates-Ontario-Wayne Region and a member of the Diocesan Conciliation Council, among other key diocesan positions.

Father Tormey was born Oct. 11, 1916, the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Francis J. Tormey. He attended Holy Rosary School, St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries. His first assignment was as assistant pastor at St. Mary's in Auburn in 1942.

He served as moderator of the Boy Scouts, the Holy Name Society, directed the recreational program and was moderator of the Lyceum Players and the League of the Sacred Heart.

In 1945, Father Tormey was commissioned in the U.S. Navy as a chaplain. He was the 52nd chaplain to enter the armed forces from this diocese. He served in the Pacific Theater of Operations.

While in the service, Continued on Page 2