



In rehearsal for the annual Easter season concert.

Added Dimension For DFC Concert

The Diocesan Festival Choir is adding a new dimension to its annual Easter season concert this year. The four-part concert, beginning at 4 p.m., Sunday, April 5, at Holy Spirit Church, will include a "Mass for a September Pope" by William Ferris.

In addition to this piece memorializing Pope John Paul I, the choir will perform an "Exultet" commissioned by the National Association of Pastoral Musicians and a "Te Deum" which was commissioned locally for the Golden Jubilee of Father Benedict Ehmann of Holy Apostles Church. The performance will be the first for mixed voices.

The entire concert will be in memory of Anna Wohlers, a former performer with the DFC and other local church choirs.

The DFC was formed seven years ago by Sister Virginia Hogan, still its director and guiding light. Each year the



Sister Virginia Hogan has been leading the DFC since its 1974 inception.

choir recruits from parish choirs and from the wider community.

In past years, it has performed Schubert's "Mass in G," Faure's "Requiem," Mozart's "Solemn Vespers,"

Handel's "Passion of St. John," and pieces by Dubois, Benjamin Britten and Bach, including "Let Us Go Up to Jerusalem." The repertoire is enhanced by Gregorian chants and choral hymns.

paradox of death and resurrection.

Passion Sunday ... stepping into the procession ... palms, sign of victory, sign of martyrdom ... Hosannahs mingle with the proclamation of the passion ... the days in between — stepping stones to the Great Triduum.

Holy Thursday ... celebrating the meal, Eucharistic feast ... power and powerlessness, sacrifice and love revealed before us in bread and wine ... incense — prayers of praise ... Spring flowers touched by candlelight, signs of life and hope ... moving in procession with the Sacrament, leaving behind emptiness.

Good Friday ... following the cross, simple cross of wood held high — sign of redemption, sign of love ... bare branches, clay pottery — stark, silent images of frail humanity ... dark hollow stillness of death pushing through the nothingness of Saturday to the very gate of Sunday's dawn.

Easter Vigil ... dispelling darkness in the rays of paschal light ... readings — remembering God in human history ... water, oil, light, initiation into Christ, dying/rising, alive in the newness of faith ... ablaze with floral colors, bright with joyous song we acclaim ... He is risen ... He lives ... now ... today ... among us ... here ... forever ... Alleluia!

Insights In Liturgy

Sister Estelle Martijn, RSM



Holy Week Images

One of the cultural hazards of our day is that we are continuously assaulted by images which are often blatant and meaningless. To survive this bombardment with relative peace of mind we have learned to ignore much of what we see and hear, or perhaps only give minimal attention. It is therefore difficult for us to "tune in" to the images which surround us in our worship space or to draw from them anything more than superficial curiosity. But let us concentrate for a few moments, pull back from the concerns of our merry-go-round life and reflect on some of the images of sight and sound which gently prod us to a deeper understanding of God's greatest gift to us — Himself.

The liturgical celebrations of Holy Week open up new insights into the mystery of a dying/rising Savior. Listen to the Word; let it speak to

your heart, allow the words to wash over you and settle in the marrow of your bones. Receive the bread and wine; in it you are one with Him and with those who believe in Him. Reach out and touch your neighbor; by it your peace with God is shared with others. Look around at the gathered assembly; together you have come to worship the God-in-your-midst. Listen to the way the music reflects the tone of the mystery celebrated. Enter into the sacred place in a spirit of prayer and thanksgiving. Allow yourself to become part of the community and the celebration and the space.

Almost unconsciously the setting and environment integrates us with the liturgical ritual and enriches our understanding and prayer. Images probe at our vision and incite our awareness. Think about them; reflect on them. The entire week merges together as a single celebration moving through a procession of interlocking rites, each distinct in tone, yet integral to the whole story of salvation history, a

Church Groups Protest Reagan Nutrition Cuts

By John Dash

The Diocese of Rochester has joined a number of church and civic groups to protest President Reagan's proposed \$4 billion cut in federal subsidy for nutrition programs.

In addition, the diocesan Office of Human Development (OHD) has called on Reps. Barber Conable and Frank Horton to hold local hearings on the matter before the April 6 opening of congressional debate on the budget.

The protesters, The Anti-Hunger Coalition, find the proposed cuts "appalling," especially in light of proposed increases in the budget for defense, Carol Schwartz, director of OHD's urban ministry, said at a press conference last week.

A coalition press release stated that locally there would be a "direct federal dollar loss of \$6.1" in nutrition programs should the cuts be approved.

Monroe County alone would lose \$2.7 million in food stamp aid, the group said.

The group also said that 11,000 jobs could be lost statewide "due to the economic loss in the food sector."

The cuts will in addition affect child nutrition programs and a nutrition program for pregnant women.

Included in this will be elimination of the Summer Feeding Program, elimination

of the Nutrition, Education and Training Program, elimination of the Equipment Assistance Program, and curtailment of the National School Lunch and Breakfast Program.

The coalition is urging the community to write to federal legislators urging the cuts be rejected.

In the case of Sens. Alfonse D'Amato and Daniel Patrick Moynihan, however, the coalition is urging telephone calls. Senate debate on the cuts began last Thursday.

Would 'Consider' Utah Law — Carey

Albany (RNS) — Gov. Hugh Carey says he might support a law requiring parents to be notified before abortions could be performed on dependent teenage daughters.

"What I'm addressing is notification," he said at a feminist rally here. "If a procedure is going to be

performed on one of my children, they don't require my consent, but I want to know about it."

His comments followed the U.S. Supreme Court ruling upholding a parental notification law in Utah. The court said the Utah law was constitutional when the minor was still living at home and dependent on her family.

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