

Parishes, Agencies Support Welfare Rate Increase

By Michael Groden

Sixty-five parish councils throughout the diocese have responded positively "to Bishop Matthew H. Clark's lead" in supporting an increase in state welfare benefits.

The councils, together with four convents and six diocesan agencies, adopted a resolution supporting "a substantial increase in the monthly assistance level."

Carol Schwartz, director of Urban Ministry for the Office of Human Development, said that the resolution plus a list of parishes and other groups who adopted the resolution were sent to the New York State Legislature.

Passage of the document came as a result of a series of five regional workshops, sponsored by the Department of Justice and Peace, that dealt with welfare assistance.

Two welfare hearings also took place in Rochester and Elmira. Participants in the hearings, which included Bishop Clark and Episcopal Bishop Robert Spears, heard testimony from welfare recipients and spokespersons from agencies that deal with public assistance.

As a result of the hearings



CAROL SCHWARTZ

Bishop Clark addressed state legislators March 17, urging them to support a 15 percent increase in welfare rates.

The resolution adopted by diocesan parishes and agencies stated:

"Whereas: The basic needs portion of the monthly welfare-benefit levels has been frozen in New York State since 1974, and whereas: A ravaging inflation has greatly reduced the real value of the welfare assistance grant making it increasingly impossible for people to make ends meet,

"And whereas: the \$258 per month assistance level for a family of four in New York

State is substantially below the lowest sustenance level as determined by the Federal Government, and whereas: responding to Bishop Matthew H. Clark's lead in encouraging the leadership in New York State to address this injustice,

"Therefore, be it resolved that: The Parish Council of (parish's name listed) is supportive of a substantial increase in the monthly assistance level, and urges the legislature and the Governor of New York State to support and immediately approve such an increase."

The parishes and groups which adopted the resolution are listed below.

Monroe County Region: Blessed Sacrament, Church of the Annunciation, Church of the Resurrection, Good Shepherd, Guardian Angels, Holy Redeemer, Holy Rosary, Our Lady of Mercy, Queen of Peace, St. Ambrose, St. Andrew, St. Anne, St. Boniface, St. Bridget, St. Charles, St. Joseph, St. Jude, St. Lawrence, St. Louis, St. John the Evangelist, St. Margaret Mary, St. Mark, St. Paul, St. Philip Neri, St. Pius Tenth, St. Stanislaus, Rochester Institute of Technology.

Yates/Ontario/Wayne Reg-

ion: Church of the Epiphany, St. Anne, St. Felix, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Francis De Sales, St. Gregory St. John the Evangelist, St. Mary (Canandiagua), St. Mary (Rushville), St. Mary (Ontario), St. Mary Magdalen, St. Michael, St. Patrick, St. Stephen, St. Theresa.

Seneca/Cayuga Region: Holy Cross, Sacred Heart, St. Alphonsus, St. Hyacinth, St. Joseph, St. Patrick.

Chemung/Schuylar Region: Our Lady of Lourdes, St. Peter and Paul, St. Anthony, St. Charles, St. Casimir, St. Mary (Watkins Glen).

Steuben Region: St. Ann, St. Pius, St. Patrick, St. Mary, St. Vincent, Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Tioga/Tompkins Region: St. Francis, St. James, St. Patrick, Holy Cross.

Livingston Region: St. Mary (Honeoye).

Convents (all in Monroe County): Holy Family, Holy Ghost, St. Boniface, St. Philip Neri.

Others: Southern Tier Office of Social Ministry Board of Directors, Kinship Group Home Inc. (Bath), Catholic Family Center, Catholic Charities, Catholic Youth Organization, Genesee Settlement.

At Your Parish . . .

St. Francis of Assisi

Holy Week at St. Francis of Assisi will begin this Sunday with a Palm Sunday procession beginning at 11:45 a.m., on the corner of Broad and Smith streets. The procession will end at the Church, 77 Whitney St., with a Mass celebrated in Spanish.

On Tuesday, April 14, a Lenten English Communal Penance Service is set for 7:30 p.m. The Mass of the Lord's

Holy Family Rochester

Holy Family Parish's annual German Night will begin at 6 p.m., Saturday, May 2 in the school auditorium. This year's festivities will include music provided by the Willy Adam Band, traditional German food, beer and pop.

Tickets for the German

Supper will be celebrated at 6:30 p.m. in English and 8 p.m. in Spanish, Thursday, April 16.

Special English and Spanish services celebrating the Lord's Passion are slated for Good Friday. Easter Vigil services in both languages are also planned for Saturday. Easter Masses will be at 11 a.m. in English, and at 12:30 p.m. in Spanish.

Night must be purchased prior to April 26; no tickets will be available at the door. The cost is \$6 per person and \$3 for children under 12. For reservations or more information those interested may contact Mary Schwartz, 328-5404, or Marge Polotta, 328-1616.

Good Counsel

Plans for the 50th Anniversary celebration of Good Counsel School are under way this week. All Good Counsel graduates are invited to take part in the upcoming festivities. The parish is also looking for interested volunteers to help with reunion plans. Anyone interested may contact Vivian Kurdt, 328-7924 or Lorraine Robinson, 436-2876. The reunion is scheduled for Sept. 26.

St. Dominic, Shortsville

A home visitation program, "Outreach in Friendship," is scheduled at St. Dominic's Parish, Shortsville/Manchester. Parish volunteers will visit Catholic homes in the area from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 12.



FATHER JANUS

St. Augustine

A week of renewal is planned to begin at 7:30 p.m., Palm Sunday, with a "special event" for youth in the parish. Other parish events are planned, including two communal Penance services on Palm Sunday and Wednesday evening, April 15, at 7:30 p.m. Father Mark Janus, a Paulist priest and Rochester native, will lead the renewal. The public is cordially invited to share in the celebration. For further information, those interested may call the rectory, 328-2442.

St. John, Greece

A musical revue called "How the West Was Really Won" will be presented at St. John's Parish, Greece, on April 13-14 in the school hall. Donations will be accepted at the door. Money raised during the presentation will be used for the Eighth Grade Class Trip.

Deadline

The deadline for submitting news to the Courier-Journal is non on Thursday preceding the following Wednesday's publication.



Our Lady of Lourdes

Eighth grade students at Our Lady of Lourdes School, Brighton, will present the play, "Up the Down Staircase," at 7:30 p.m. this Friday and Saturday, April 10 and 11, in the school auditorium. From left, Dan Oberlies, Julie Tomaino, Katy Gehan, David Gefell, Ray Williams and Joan Curran-rehearse for the production.

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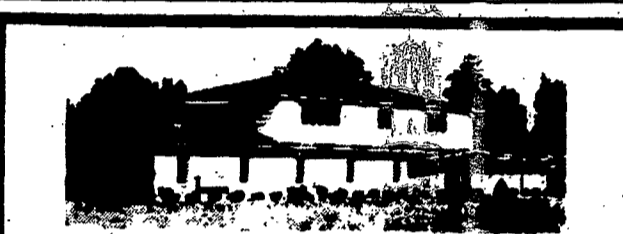


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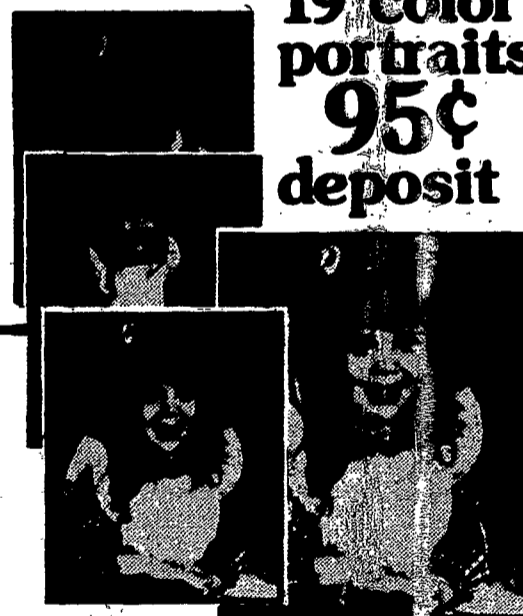
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Two U Habits

Editor:

Re the Pearte in edition, "Re heartily agree

Today, in world, resp and priests vanishing d clothes the wear.

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