

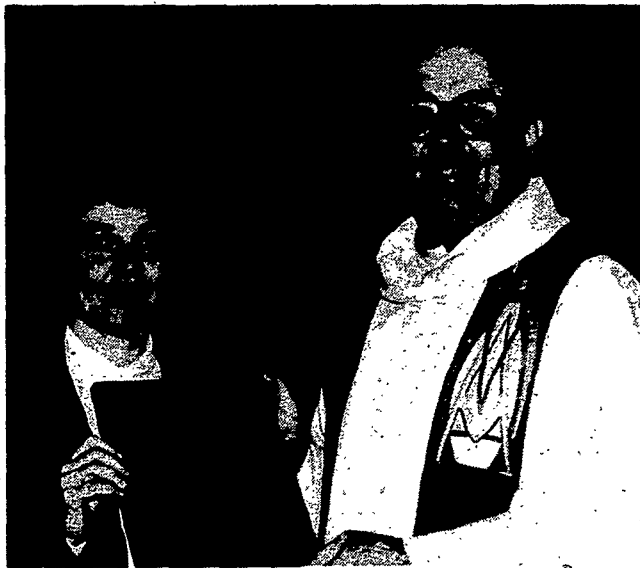
At Your Parish . . .

'Awards' Highlight Reunion

The 25-year reunion of the graduating class of St. Helen's School took place recently at Tavern on the Mall in Pittsford. Eighteen of the original 39 graduates, together with their spouses, took part in the festivities which included dinner and an award ceremony for "special" members of the class.

For example, Neil Gilmartin received an award for traveling the farthest to attend. He lives in Atlanta, Ga. Pat Bromley Grattan took most children honors, and Jim Weller received a prize for having the "second least amount of hair."

Other class of '56 members in attendance were Tim Hart, Mike Hotra, Charlie Kreuzer, Dick Lipka, Jim Werth, Bea Cocuzzi Wolford, Kathy Farrell Reynolds, Janet Gallipeau, Marie Nunn Kolb, Sue Roth Monagan, Sharon Dooley Sweeney, Matt McConville, Carol Klein Clar, Elaine Smith Parker and Bonnie Pinkerton.



Celebration

Father Walter Cushing, pastor of St. Cecilia's parish, marked the 25th anniversary of his ordination in a special way recently. During an anniversary Mass the students from St. Cecilia's School presented him with a special plaque commemorating the event. Sister Kathleen Ward, school principal, made the presentation.



MICHELE



STEVEN

Holy Redeemer

A chicken barbecue is planned at Holy Redeemer parish from 3 to 9 p.m., Saturday, June 20. Tickets for the barbecue are \$3.50 for adults and \$2.50 for children 12 years and under. Holy Redeemer parish is located at 634 Hudson Ave.

St. Pius X, Van Etten

Parishioners at St. Pius X are planning a Rummage Sale from 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., Thursday and Friday, June 18-19, and from 9 a.m. to noon, Saturday, June 20. The sale, which features clothing, books, toys, kitchen wares and a white elephant table, will take place in the church hall on Main Street.

St. Anthony of Padua

Three students were given the Father Charles Bennett award during graduation ceremonies recently. The award is usually given to one student who "best exemplifies qualities of good character" but this year there was a three-way tie.

Bennett award are Michele Marchetti, Filomena Paternoster and Steven Terrigino. The award, named after Father Bennett, former pastor of St. Anthony's and now pastor of St. Agnes parish, Avon, is presented each year.

Recipients of the Father



Planners for the annual parish festival include, front from left, John Hodgetts and John Mendel. Top row from left are Msgr. Richard Burns, pastor, Sue Masters and Don Foley.



FILOMENA

St. Thomas the Apostle

The sixth annual parish festival at St. Thomas the Apostle parish begins tomorrow evening at 6 p.m. on the parish grounds. Funds raised from this year's festivities will go towards the parish energy conservation

program, according to John Hodgetts, festival chairman.

Improvements planned for the church buildings include storm windows, roof repairs and improved heating efficiency, he said.

St. Rita, Webster

Parishioners from St. Rita's, Webster, recently participated in a training session for Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist. Some 20 men and women from the parish will distribute Holy Communion at weekend liturgies for a period of two years. The session was conducted by Sister Patricia Norton, RSM.

Centering on Service

Justice and Peace



Webster's Dictionary defines advocacy as the art of speaking, writing or acting in support of someone or something. During the past several months, the diocesan Department of Justice and Peace has played a prominent role locally and nationally in advocating for and with people in need on a variety of issues.

Labor issues played a dominant part in diocesan staff and parish involvement. In addition to organizing and leading a coalition to prevent a strike at a Rochester health center (while supporting justice for the workers) and helping to sponsor a conference on corporate power and community decisions in the 1980s, the Department of Justice and Peace led the way locally in promoting justice in a bitter labor dispute.

The J.P. Stevens Textile Co. had been embroiled in a fight in 10 of its plants in the South with the workers who had voted to join the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union. After vowing it would never sign a collective bargaining agreement, a nationwide consumer boycott of all its textile products was launched in 1976. Diocesan staffers brought the issue to the parishioners through an educational packet which detailed the specific issues of the dispute and the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church regarding the rights of workers to unionize. Joining the thousands of groups throughout the country in support of the boycott were the Office of Human Development and Bishop Matthew H. Clark. A contract was signed on Oct. 19, 1980, covering the next two and a half years.

Another significant issue confronting Monroe County consumers has been the involvement by a coalition of individuals and groups to intervene against Rochester Gas and Electric Co.'s rate increase before the State Public Service Commission. The only access consumers have against a utility's rate increase is through a rate case intervention which consists of preparing written testimony why RG&E should not be given a rate increase and submitting to cross-examination by the company's attorneys. The Office of Human Development, along with representatives from Immaculate Conception and Holy Redeemer parishes in Rochester, joined the efforts of the Genesee Valley People's Power Coalition, Local 1199 of the Health and Hospital Workers Union, Group 14621 and the Rochester Safe Energy Alliance to empower ordinary citizens to learn and participate in the process that attempts to influence rate decisions.

The Public Service Commission voted 4-3 in favor of granting a 16 percent electric and 5.1 percent gas rate increase. However, for the first time, with three dissenting commissioners voting against the rate increases.

the PSC paid significant attention to the economic impact on consumers as brought out in the testimony by Rochester diocesans.

Farmworkers in and out of the diocese were helped by the establishment of an emergency fund for those in acute distress.

The other farmworker issues that Human Development advocated has included the boycott of Campbell soups and urging all diocesan schools to withdraw their support of the Campbell's Labels for Education program. This issue continues to demand the attention of social justice advocates.

And the diocese has pushed the state legislature for a comprehensive package of laws governing farmworker concerns (e.g., minimum wage, benefits, telephones in camps). Hearings, hopefully, will begin this year in Albany.

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