

A Human Care Delivery System

By Sister M. Edwardine Weaver, RSM
Superintendent of Schools

"Private Schools Look to Bright Future." "Why Private Schools Retain the Fire of Excellence." "Catholic Schools Make Differences with a Special Magic" — these are but a few of the many headlines that have appeared in national newspapers and publications in recent months that reflect the national upsurge for private and parochial education in this nation. The American public is increasingly aware of the fact that education is not neutral when it comes to values. Catholic schools have moved from the turbulent days of the late 60s and early 70s into a period of relative calm. Enrollments are stable, in parts of the nation new schools are being erected, and a renewed confidence in Catholic schools as a valuable and viable ministry of the Church as it faces the



SISTER EDWARDINE
challenges of the 1980s is felt.

As school doors open across the 12 counties of the diocesan school system for the beginning of another school year, we renew our commitment to maintain quality Catholic education in the Diocese of Rochester. We are proud of our academic record which ranks with and above those

of national, state and local standards. The implementation of a new Junior High Religion Curriculum will increase the doctrinal and theological quality of our program. Plans are in process for ongoing evaluation of the academic quality of our religion programs and for the revision of our K-6 religion guideline. In addition, local development of long-range planning and improved management techniques are part of our administrative goals.

We are proud too of our dedicated teachers and administrators who are the key to the definition of Catholic education. It is they who make it possible to describe the Catholic school as a community of faith formed by Gospel values, whose purpose is service to others. This integration of religious truth and values with the rest of life, this synthesis of faith and life, of culture and faith, depends not so much on subject matter or methodology as on the people who work in our schools. Every effort will be made to encourage and support our teachers and administrators in this endeavor.

John F. Kennedy once said, "Children are the world's most valuable resource and its best hope for the future." Motivated by this awareness we look forward to the challenges of this school year and to the potential it holds for influencing lives of people for generations to come. We welcome your interest, cooperation and support and ask your prayers for all those who labor in the ministry of education in our diocese.

Plans Abound For DeSales

Geneva — The DeSales Board of Trustees has embarked on a five-year plan that "will insure the high quality of Catholic secondary school education for the Finger Lakes region," the financially pressed high school has announced. In addition, board members have assumed additional areas of responsibility; and, "The board is confident that it will balance its budget."



FATHER SHAMON

Father Albert Shamon, pastor of St. Mary's in Waterloo, is chairman of a recruitment committee which has set a minimum goal of 200 students for the 1981-82, school year, and will attempt to double that figure in the next five years.

This will be DeSales' 70th year of operation when it opens its doors on Sept. 8. Ann Liberatore, a Niagara University parent, is the sole new teacher and will teach science.

DeSales will field a varsity football team once again after a one-year leave of absence from the Finger Lakes League — Western Division. DeSales had only a junior varsity football team last year because of a lack of players. In 1979 DeSales won the Section V, Class C, championship.

The development office, directed by Frank Delamere, is expecting a banner year. Several events have been expanded and the scope of the program will cover a wide variety of fund-raising affairs.

On Sunday, Oct. 11, the

McQuaid Names New President

Father James F. Keenan, SJ, president and rector of Xavier High School in New York City, will assume the post of rector and president of McQuaid Jesuit High School Oct. 8.

Father Keenan succeeds Father John A. Boland, SJ, who is awaiting reassignment within the Jesuit educational system. Announcement of the appointment was made by both the McQuaid board of trustees and Father Pedro Arrupe, SJ, superior general of the Society of Jesus.

Writing to the people of the diocese in 1968, Bishop Fulton J. Sheen said, "Never before in our history have schools been so needed. Once we had to build them to preserve our faith in a kind of civil war of religious sects. That day is passed. Now we are face to face with an invasion of barbarism, not active barbarism from without, but passive barbarism from below. It is not the state of the Church which requires schools of morality and religion; it is the state of the Nation. The school that was once the bulwark of the Church is now also the bastion of our Republic."

Catholic schools will continue not only to survive but to thrive in the years ahead, as long as they continue to be truly an extension of the Church's teaching mission and a resource for future leadership in the Church and in society.

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