

St. Patrick's Holds Third Parish Renewal in a Year

Victor — More than 40 members of St. Patrick's have completed the parish's third eight-night Renewal in a year. This brings the total number of participants to more than 160, according to lead couple Jim and Nancy Johnstone.

The Johnstones brought the program to Victor when they moved from St. Catherine of Siena in the Buffalo suburb of West Seneca. The program was written by Father Ber-

nard B. Mach while at St. Gerard's in Buffalo. In the Rochester Diocese, it has also been presented by Holy Name in Greece and is scheduled at other parishes, too.

Renewal is known as Mission in other parishes because it is patterned after the traditional Mission, while incorporating activities from such new renewal movements as Cursio and Marriage Encounter.

The Victor Renewal drew clergy from throughout the diocese as speakers. The list included Bishop Joseph Hogan, Fathers John Mulligan, Daniel Condon, Thomas Hoctor, Peter Clifford and John Walsh, as well as Father Jack Zierbert, OFM, from Christ the King Seminary, East Aurora. Lay witnesses were also given by Genieve Patla, Rick Walton, Marty and Barbara Wheeler and Ellen Saunders.

"During the eight nights," Nancy Johnstone explains, "the program helps participants develop insights, first into themselves, then Jesus and the Church. The next phase is to understand prayer, the Word and the sacraments, followed by a rededication to Jesus, one's family and a commitment to the parish."

Mrs. Johnstone emphasizes that the entire eight-night Renewal is parish-oriented and the objective is to interest participants in making a commitment to becoming more involved in the spiritual and social aspects of their parish. Because their mission is wholly within their parish, the support and assistance required in any renewal program comes from within the parish.

A fourth Renewal is planned for the February school break, according to the Johnstones.

Assumption

About 175 children attended the fourth annual Vacation Bible School at the School of the Church of the Assumption in Fairport recently.

The classes were held at the Father Kelly School of Religion and were led through a program called "Living Jesus," a week of skits, songs, readings, prayers, crafts and a Seder supper. The week ended with a Mass prepared by the students and celebrated by Father Leonard Kelly, pastor emeritus.

conference. As a farewell gift I donated some tapes of Jesuit Father Basset and Fulton Sheen to the infirmary cassette library.

Father William Cosgrove invited me to care for the Clyde and Savannah parishes Aug. 2-15. I was especially glad since I had spent 11 happy years there, from 1956 to 1967 as pastor. It was good to be with my spiritual family again. It surprised me, after 14 years absence, how little changed the adults were and how greatly changed the children had become.

Few in the diocese have seen St. Patrick's Church in Savannah, with its three exquisite Eucharistic mosaics hovering over the tabernacle of the Blessed Sacrament. It is a devotional church, with a fine hall and kitchen. Fathers Adamski, Gaynor, Egan and I were greatly involved in erecting this church in the 60s. But it is to the parishioners to whom the greatest praise is due. There are only 44 envelope users in Savannah, which indicates a small parish. But these men and women and children used their time and talent carpentering, painting, erecting, besides raising the cash, long before the Stewardship program came to be. The parish is debt free, active and enthusiastic. At a raffle at the Sunday picnic I won a case of beer!

Saturday and Sunday were at Trinity. However, Father Joseph Donovan, the fisherman, invited me to care for St. Mark's, Greece, Aug. 17-31. Summer is quiet there, and the great activities were: Sunday Masses, well attended; the Friday bingo at 8 p.m., which has a great clientele; and two false fire alarms, one at 1 a.m. from a faulty alarm system dramatically answered by zealous firemen, police and sirens.

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Come Oct. 16-28 we have a trip planned to Kenya, Africa, which has not only splendors of nature and interesting natives, but cities vying with Tel Aviv and London. By special arrangement, we will visit missions at the invitation of local bishops and missionaries. It should be an unusual trip. Perhaps some readers could join us.


NEW CHAPLAIN

Rev. Elizabeth Stroop has been appointed interim chaplain and coordinator of religious services at Monroe Developmental Center. She replaces William C. Gaventa, who will attend a chaplaincy program at Yale New Haven Hospital for a year. The appointment of the American Baptist minister was announced by Sylvester P. Zielinski, director of the Developmentally Disabled Service Office.

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On the Right Side

A Summer In Retrospect

Since our diocese retires its priests at the age of 70, I reached that magic age September 1978, and have been happy to be useful and to be used. Thanks to my pastor, Father William Hart, I have continued to live at Holy Trinity, Webster, and to be of help in the parish. The parishioners consider me a symbol of the Old-Church-Ever-New, and a kind of clerical grandfather. Because I am peripatetic by nature and have experience in many pastoral services, I am also available where a priest is needed. July was a light month; two weeks filling in for Father Don Schwab at Rochester General Hospital. This is demanding work: 540 beds with care not only of patients, but also worried relatives. Having served five years in Hornell, hospital service is compatible. Since Father Schwab has to be near the hospital for emergencies, he lives at St. Ambrose, seven minutes from Rochester General, so I took his quarters. I have a policy not to alter programs where I supply. However, in his room Father Schwab had a large pot of plants so pathetically bedraggled I gave them to a parishioner with a green thumb. Mrs. Rose Wolf who was on our first Courier Holy Land tour in 1972. "Do you think you could revive these?" She laughed and said, "Those plants look like Father Schwab's sickest patients." But she both revived them and added to them.

August was busy: three days at St. Joseph's Motherhouse Infirmary for Father Peter Bayer, Director of Planning at the bishop's office. He is also chaplain for the infirmary. I stayed in his quarters and celebrated Mass each day in their lovely chapel. The devotion of the Sisters made it a kind of retreat for me. These wonderful women — some old and infirm, some bedridden, others retired but active and busy — were an edification. In visiting those confined to their rooms, I was thrilled to find Sister St. Mark, who founded Holy Childhood for the handicapped, seated in tranquil dignity, with a cassette player on her lap, listening to a spiritual

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