

Diocesan Pastoral Council:

Parish Spiritual Life Seen as Top Priority

Parish spiritual renewal and an emphasis on drawing young married couples into the life of the parish will be a focus for future diocesan planning, a report given to the Diocesan Pastoral Council last week said.

The report, prepared by the council's Needs Assessment Committee under the chairmanship of Sister Mary Wintish, also asserted, "While progress is being made to enable families to share and pass on the gift of faith, this is a very important priority (of the diocese) and should continue to be emphasized."

In addition, "Little progress has been made to reach the 15-25 year age bracket and this needs much more emphasis."

The report, which will be

condensed for DPC action in November, is a summary of information gained in a survey of parishes earlier this year.

Sister Mary said that a questionnaire was sent to leaders in all parishes and that the 42.6 percent return was considered a good one.

The questionnaire, she said, asked how the leaders perceived the diocese was performing in several areas previously defined as priorities.

The data also revealed that "little progress has been made toward nurturing religious vocations and this priority also requires more emphasis," in the view of parish leaders.

Finally, the report said, "Not enough progress has been made in reaching out to the inactive Catholic and

those who have no religious affiliation and this also requires more emphasis."

Last week's council meeting was an unusual one in that it spanned two days and that the material presented was largely one of reporting rather than items to be acted upon.

The meeting, formally entitled a convocation, also saw the installation of new council members and the installation of regional coordinators and their assistants.

The DPC has as priority the encouragement of regionalism

in the diocese, and this summer asked Bishop Matthew H. Clark to advise the priest regional coordinators to appoint a religious or a lay assistant coordinator.

Reports on the council agenda included presentations by Sister Mary Wintish on the Office of Urban Ministry, by John Brophy on the Ministerial Review Committee, by Father Peter Bayer on diocesan demographics, by Sisters Edwardine Weaver and Mary Ann Binsack on the Division of Education, Father Gerald Appelby on the Division of Special Ministries, Father Charles Mulligan and Maurice Tierney on the Division of Social Ministries.

Father William Flynn on the Division of Support Ministries.

In addition, the council saw a multi-media presentation on the Southern Tier prepared by Ray Defendorf and heard a report from Sister Ann Habershaw on the national bishops' Parish Project Program which is being introduced into the diocese.

Other reports included one on the progress of the bishop's forthcoming pastoral letter on the role of women in the Church, an accounting by the council's Evangelization Task Force, and an update on the proposed diocesan board of education.

Fall Concerts Begin

The Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, under the baton of Isaiah Jackson, will swing into action with its elementary school concerts at 10 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 30, at the Eastman Theater. Other concerts in the Series I program are scheduled for Tuesday, and Wednesday, Oct. 6-7.

be made by calling the bus line at 674-1030. City schools must arrange for Golden Arrow transportation through the City School Transportation Office.

For further information contact Mrs. Robert Horn at 342-3565, or Mrs. Audrey Beck, 454-2620.

Cathedral Slates Adult Education

Headlined this fall in Sacred Heart Cathedral's adult education program is "Sacredness of Life," an eight-week course presented by the Human Life Commission. It will begin from 8 to 10 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 29, in the rectory hall.

the Eucharist and its profound influence on the spiritual life. Provision will be made to meet in the rectory recreation room, with bag lunch, after the 12:10 Mass.

From 8 to 10 p.m. beginning on Wednesday, Sept. 29, in the rectory recreation room, Sister Carol Cimino, SSJ, assistant principal of Nazareth Academy, will offer "Science Fiction: Literature of Liberation."

From 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. on Tuesdays beginning Sept. 29 in the rectory, Father Thomas Wheeland, associate pastor of Sacred Heart, will resume his eight-week class, "The Eucharistic Church." This course will study the dogma of

From 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Wednesday beginning Sept. 30, also in the rectory hall, Paul McVey of Family Service of Rochester will teach the course, "Growing with Your Child." Primarily for the parent with children from birth through 12 years old, this six-week course is designed to help parents become more familiar with concepts of child growth and development and family interaction.

Sister Kathleen Weider, SSJ, a teacher of theology at Nazareth Academy, will direct "The Church: Our Heritage, Our Hope," beginning at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 28.

Registration for these courses may be made at the first meetings, or by calling 647-1900. Evening classes are \$6 a person for the series; \$3 for the the daytime series.

Reasoner

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one about a pool hustler in Texas.

Although Reasoner began his reporting career in the print media he considers the electronic news "great journalism." It was the demise of the Minneapolis newspaper he worked for that catapulted him into broadcasting and he's never regretted the move. But no matter whether it's in print or broadcasting media he had words of advice for would-be journalists.

"Learn to write," he said, "and if you don't go to a college with a good journalism school get a good liberal arts education — be aware of what is going on in the field."

Business in Diocese

Constance B. Reagan has been named postmaster of Keuka Park. She has been a career employee of the Keuka Park Post Office for the past 13 years.

Mercy Sisters Fete To Span Two Days

The annual Mercy Day celebration of the Rochester Sisters of Mercy will span two days this year and will include a ceremonial proclamation, read by a Rochester City Council member, designating Sept. 26-Oct. 3 as Mercy Week in the city.

Hensler's reading on Sept. 26 at the Motherhouse will be followed by a program for the Sisters on the fourth vow of service.

The Sept. 27 events include a Mass, a dinner honoring the congregation's jubilarians, and a commissioning ceremony.

Councilwoman Joan

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