



**Earthly Chore**

When the bishop's car gets a flat tire, who changes it? Well, if the bishop is Matthew H. Clark, he changes it himself — with the help of Daniel Niver. It all happened when the bishop recently attended the opening of a halfway house in Penn Yan.

**Diocesans Get Thanks From Pope John Paul**

By Terrance J. Brennan

The date was May 13, 1981. The place: St. Peter's Square in the Vatican.

None may ever forget the horrible events of that day — the day Pope John Paul II was felled by an assassin's bullets shortly before his weekly general audience.

All the world held its breath as the pontiff hovered near death in Gemelli Policlinic, Rome's finest hospital.

Thousands upon thousands of get well wishes were telephoned, telegraphed and mailed during the period of the pope's recuperation. And millions throughout the world cheered to see the Holy Father back in St. Peter's Square last month.

For James and Hazel Izzo of Washington Avenue, Irondequoit, and Paul O'Leary of West Avenue, Rochester, the ordeal will always provide them with a special remembrance.

Izzo, 80, and his wife, 79, read the Courier-Journal (7-22-81) suggesting that readers send the Holy Father a get well card. Two days later, Mrs. Izzo mailed a votive card ("from the Association of the Miraculous Medal," she said) to the Pope, in care of Gemelli Hospital.

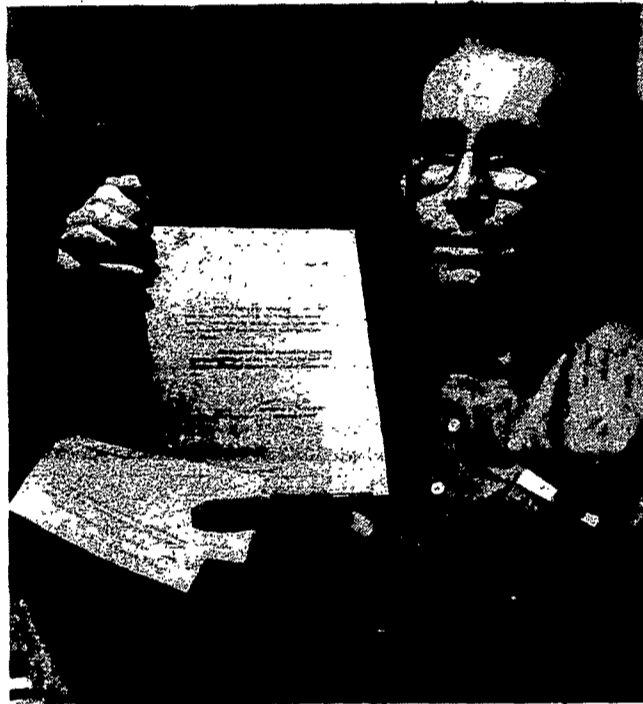
"Inside I wrote, 'We pray for you every night,' and 'May God bless you,'" Mrs. Izzo said.

Last Wednesday, the Izzos, parishioners at St. Thomas the Apostle Church since 1941, received a reply from the Vatican Secretariat of State's office via Washington, D.C.:

"His Holiness deeply appreciates the sentiments manifested in his regard, and he asks God to bless all those who have kindly prayed for him..."

"I thought it was so wonderful that they took the time to answer," said Mrs. Izzo. "He probably got thousands of letters."

O'Leary, 55, also received a similar letter from a famous person. However, it marked the second letter he has



Paul O'Leary holds letters from Vatican, in frame, and President Reagan in response to get well cards he has sent.

received from the nation's capital. The first was a reply to a get well card for President Reagan.

It states: "I was happy to receive your get well message. Knowing of your friendship and prayers encourages me

daily. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for caring to Ronald Reagan."

"I think it was a combination of the Reagan shooting and the attempt on the pope, that they were so close, that led me to send the Pope a card," O'Leary said.

**MOS Youth Group Has Busy November**

The Youth Group at Mother of Sorrows in Greece has scheduled a busy November, with three major events planned.

The group has scheduled a Hoedown party at 7 p.m., Friday, Nov. 7, in the church hall. Laurie Milton and Jeanie Agostinelli are co-chairing the event. Both country and rock music will be provided. A donation of 75 cents is asked.

The group's president, Jeff Swiatek, said a variety show is planned at 8 p.m., Friday, Nov. 20, in the church hall. Other parish groups will provide acts for the show. Admission is 75 cents per person but \$3.50 for families of five or more. Proceeds will go to providing Christmas baskets for the needy.

Finally, the Youth Group has accepted the MOS Liturgy

Committee's request to prepare the initial plans for the parish's family Thanksgiving Mass, at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 24, in the main church.

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**Rally for Budget-Cut Study**

Federal budget cuts affecting social services are under close scrutiny by several city parishes which are gathering data on requests for help formerly obtainable through government offices.

In a program devised by Carol Schwartz and Father Laurence Tracy of the Division of Social Ministry and Maurice Tierney of diocesan Catholic Charities, more than 11 parishes are keeping records on the frequency of requests for help and the type of help needed.

In addition, the diocese is preparing to aid parishes in setting up fuel funds and food cupboards.

The parishes will next meet Nov. 18 to further analyze the impact of the federal cuts on social service programs.

The present effort is an outgrowth of a letter written to all parishes last summer by Bishop Matthew H. Clark, Father Tracy said.

That letter advised pastors and parish staffs that the then proposed cuts in the federal budget would likely increase the numbers of people seeking aid from the parish church.

Earlier, the bishop had testified at hearings on the proposed cuts saying that the poor would suffer were they to become reality.

The cuts became reality Oct. 1.

According to Father Tracy, the data gathered by the parishes may be used for

**ADORATION**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will open at noon, Thursday, Nov. 5, at Blessed Sacrament Church. Rites include rosary, at 12:15 p.m. and benediction at 5 p.m. followed by the regular 5:20 p.m. Mass.

**CORRECTION**

Father Bartholomew L. Quirk's name was incorrectly given in a recent story on St. Patrick's Church in Seneca Falls of which he was pastor,

political action as well as to more funds for the poor from plead the cause of providing wealthier parishes.

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