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Photo by Terrance J. Brennan

## 24 to Be Ordained Permanent Deacons

In what will be a momentous occasion for this diocese, its first class of 24 permanent deacons will be ordained Saturday morning, April 17, at the Cathedral.

Bishop Matthew H. Clark will be principal celebrant, the ordaining bishop and homilist. Bishops Joseph L. Hogan and Dennis W. Hickey and diocesan priests will be concelebrants.

Twenty-two of the 24 deacons are married, giving the diocese for the first time a ministry of married clergy.

Liturgically, the deacon may be called to read or preach the Word, distribute Holy Communion, officiate at Baptisms, marriages and funerals.

However, he will have other roles in what has been described by Msgr. George A. Cocuzzi as a "street ministry," tending to the needs of people. Msgr. Cocuzzi is director of the Diocesan Permanent Diaconate Program.

The new deacons are Dan Abballe, Stephen Carroll, Ray Defendorf, Robert Dizer, William C. Dougherty, Stanley J. Douglas, Patrick A. Graybill, Dan Kinsky, Leo Kester, Anthony Marini, Nemesio Martinez Vellon, Bill Maune;

John Medico, Eliseo Melendez, Anthony Mercadel, John Prave, Kenneth A. Scarciotta, Edward Sergeant, Robert Solan, Carlos H. Vargas, Julio Vazquez, Dr. James Whitford, George Welch, Stanley Zawacki.

Bishop Clark hailed the event as "a great blessing for us." He pointed out that all dioceses should share in an act of thanksgiving "for the leadership of Bishop Hogan who began the program."

The Permanent Diaconate Program began in 1978 when Bishop Hogan was ordinary.

He was forced to retire in 1979 for reasons of health.

Bishop Clark also paid credit to Msgr. Cocuzzi and his administrative assistant Sister M. Hilaire Gaelens "and all of their collaborators who so ably developed the program and helped the candidates prepare for their day of grace."

Bishop Clark added, "I would share the hope that we express our thanks by doing all we can as a community to assist the deacons in their new ministries. I'm completely confident that the respective communities to which the new deacons will be assigned will welcome them with their usual hospitality and generosity."

The bishop said, "I am also aware that the beginning of this new ministry, like any new venture, will make its own demands. The first growth of the permanent diaconate among us, I believe, will be enhanced by the love in which both the new deacons and the communities they serve meet these new challenges."

"I am very pleased that the diocese will be joining the many other dioceses in the United States and across the world in their experiences of the restored ministry of the permanent diaconate. They will embody for us in a particular way the call of the Church to be especially mindful of the ministries of charity and service which they will carry out."

Others taking part in the ordination and their roles:

Fathers Charles Latus and Robert Kennedy, masters of ceremonies.

Rev. Mr. Patrick Connor, deacon of the Mass.

Sisters Isabel Escamilla,

MSSp, Mary Hilaire Gaelens, RSM, readers.

Daniel Kester, cross bearer.

William Coffey, Thomas Kluchko, acolytes.

Daryl Mercadel, thurifer.

Stephen Carroll, crozier bearer.

Stanley Zawacki, miter bearer.

Rev. Mr. Robert King, cantor.

Mrs. Virginia Miller, director, Polyphonic Choir, St. Stanislaus Koska Church; Pedro Nunez, director, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Choir; Father Joseph Clemente, organist, music ministry.

Bishop Clark talked of the future: "It (the permanent diaconate) will give us for the first time an experience of the ministry of married clergy and I do believe that they will be a source of great grace for us and another example of the many ways God calls us to serve one another in the Church."

"I also believe it will open for us, as time goes by, new possibilities of service in administration and in the proclamation of the Gospel . . . I think it will open for us possibilities for ministry that we have not explored before — as an example, I would mention my hope that consistent with the early inspiration of the Church in ordaining deacons that this would relieve priests of unnecessary temporal burdens and free them for new specifically priestly service to our people."

The entire ordination ceremony will be bilingual (English and Spanish) as well as interpreted for the deaf. Attendance is by ticket only.

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### On Track

Father William Amann, second from right, pastor, and some of his helpers have been busy preparing a former railroad station as temporary home for the new St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parish in Hamlin. From left are Paul Amann, Ed Beers, Anthony Barone, Father Amann, and Chris Amann. Beers and Bill Mnoia fashioned the altar from railroad ties. The picture of St. Elizabeth and the sign will decorate the outside of the station. (Other photo, story, Page 14.)

## Diocesans Asked: Send Hatch Support Letters

With debate on the Hatch Amendment imminent in the United States Senate, the diocesan Human Life Commission is asking all diocesans to request this state's two senators to work for passage of the anti-abortion proposal.

The commission has composed two letters — different versions are necessary because the two senators have taken different views of the legislation — and is asking diocesans to clip them and mail them to Sens. Alfonse D'Amato and Daniel Moynihan.

(The letters are on Page 3 of this issue.)

Sen. D'Amato has indicated his support of the amendment but has stated that he doesn't

want to be listed as a sponsor. The human life commission letter tells him that "we oppose any language changes which would weaken or add specific restriction to abortion within the amendment."

"Your past record is appreciated," the letter to D'Amato states, "but the time is now to end the factions and work in a united fashion for the sake of the unborn and the millions of women who are being exploited by the abortionist."

D'Amato is asked to reconsider his position concerning sponsorship of the amendment.

Sen. Moynihan has indicated his reluctance to support the amendment, and

the letter to him says, "In the past you have stated your personal opposition to abortion but have not been reflective of this stance by your voting record . . . We ask that you reconsider your position and vote according to your personal opposition."

"You have implied that anti-abortion legislation is imposing one religious community's belief upon the nation," the letter states and then goes on to list many religious groups which have opposed abortion.

"The Hatch Amendment will return the decision on abortion to the elected representatives of the people," the Moynihan version states. "Even if you refuse to support the Hatch Amendment," we ask "that you respect the voter's rights and not oppose its passage."

## Rejection of Vatican Council at Root of Rift

By Father Joseph A. Hart, STD  
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"Schism grows among Catholics," newspaper headlines announced recently.

Catholics, who did not even know that there was a rift, were invited to discover that a small splinter group has been celebrating the "old" Latin Mass in a converted Protestant church on Winton Road in Rochester.

The "Holy Name of Mary Chapel," as it is called, is staffed by priests of the International Society of St. Pius X. The group is under the leadership of Archbishop Michael Lefebvre who was suspended in 1976 and forbidden by Paul VI to celebrate Mass, administer the sacraments, or to preach.

This harsh sentence was handed out to this former Archbishop of Dakar (Senegal) and superior general of the Fathers of the Holy Spirit because of his total and repeated repudiation of the Second Vatican Council. During the council Lefebvre fought against many reforms, but at the end he did sign the dogmatic constitutions with the more than 2,500 other bishops. He even wrote to the Holy Spirit Fathers that "certain liturgical reforms are necessary and it is wished that the Church continue in this matter."

From hindsight, the bishop sees things differently. "It was not the Holy Spirit who inspired the council," he says, "but possibly Satan." He considers the actions of the council null and void and downright destructive to the life of the Church. He angrily asserts that "the council, in order to join Protestants, has dismantled the Mass . . . eroding the rite fixed forever by the Council of Trent."

He swears total obedience to the councils of the Church and to the popes, but will not submit to "innovations" of Vatican II because he feels the bishops were duped, nor to the directives of John Paul II because he believes that the pope is misinformed about his true positions.

By his own admission, Marcel Lefebvre's concern with collegiality and the Latin Mass are only peripheral to his wider concerns. The archbishop wishes to return the world to the "old order." He is a monarchist. His monthly newspaper calls for the restoration of the Bourbons in France. He claims that "it is only with the establishment of Christian monarchies that Europe and the world can retain their stability and true peace."

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