



Robert Dizer, right, pledges his obedience to Bishop Matthew H. Clark.

24 Permanent Deacons Ordained

To the triumphal strains of "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today," 24 men marched into Sacred Heart Cathedral Saturday and were ordained deacons, the first permanent deacons for the Diocese of Rochester.

The Cathedral was packed. Father Thomas Wheeland, associate, estimated that 925 family members, friends and well-wishers of the new deacons were present.

In his homily, Bishop Matthew H. Clark noted the crowd, and told the deacons, "The local Church supports you with full heart."

In the midst of the grandeur of the ceremonies, however, a light note was also struck.

At the opening of the Rite of Ordination is a ceremony of "calling of the candidates," in which each ordinand is called by name to stand and his wife is asked for her consent to his ordination.

The men were called alphabetically — almost. As the role was sounded by Msgr. George Cocuzzi, director of the Permanent Diaconate Program, one man, vested in his alb, nervously remained seated as all around him his classmates rose up to be counted.

At the very end of the role call, Msgr. Cocuzzi looked up



Deacons Dan Kinsky, William Dougherty and Ray Defendorf are assisted with their vestments by their wives.

and called, "Stanley Douglas!" The assembly burst into laughter as Douglas roared a heartfelt and relieved, "Present!"

"Of all the people that had to happen to," Bishop Clark joked during his instruction to the candidates.

The note of Easter celebration pervaded the rites; and Bishop Clark remarked, "That's our celebration today: life renewed."

The permanent diaconate is an ancient institution in the Church, though fallen from fashion through the centuries until the Second Vatican Council which mandated the diaconate's renewal. The ordination by Bishop Clark marked the first results of a long process of such a renewal in this diocese, launched under the directive of Bishop

Joseph L. Hogan, then ordinary.

The permanent deacons are Dominick N. Abballe, Stephen D. Carroll, Raymond A. Defendorf, Robert W. Dizer, William P. Dougherty, Stanley J. Douglas, Patrick A. Graybill, Leo A. Kester, Daniel M. Kinsky, Anthony P. Marini, Nemesio Martinez, William D. Maune.

John W. Medico, Eliseo Melendez, Anthony J. Mercadel, John Prave, Kenneth A. Scarcioffa, Edward R. Sergeant, Robert O. Solan, Carlos H. yargas, Julio Vasquez, George J. Welch, James E. Whitford and Stanley T. Zawacki.

Concelebrating with Bishop Clark, who also was the ordaining prelate for the rites in both Spanish and English, were Bishop Hogan and

Auxiliary Bishop Dennis W. Hickey. Also at the altar were Father Charles Latus, Father Robert Kennedy and Rev. Mr. Patrick Connor. The readings were done by Sister Isabel Escamilla, MGSps; and Sister Mary Hilaire Gaelens, RSM, administrative assistant to the diaconate program.

Others in the sanctuary were Rev. Mr. Robert Ring, cantor; Daniel Kester, William Coffey, Thomas Kluchko, Daryl Mercadel, Stephen Carroll, Stanley Zawacki.

In addition, special arrangements were made by Mary Gutberlet and her family, Francis, Theresa and Francis Bernard; deacon candidates and their wives, of the classes of 1983 and 1984; Sister Estelle Martin, RSM; Sister M. Borromeo Povero, RSM; Fathers Robert Miller and Thomas Wheeland; the SHAG Youth Group of the Cathedral; the parish Men's Club; and Margot Van Etten and Mark Wambach, interpreters for the deaf.

Ministers of music were Mrs. Virginia Miller, director, and the Polyphonic Choir of St. Stanislaus Kostka Church; Pedro Nunez, director, and the Choir of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel; Dennis Fleisher, Glen Call, Suzanne Govier, Robert Kalwas, and David Mear, members of the Brass Ensemble; Father Joseph Clemente, organist.



Eliseo Melendez and his wife, Alicia, get a hug from Bishop Clark.



Paula Welch beams as husband, George, is ordained.

DON'T FORGET

The Office of Continuing Education at St. John Fisher College will offer a noncredit course this summer designed to teach a system for remembering names, dates,

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