

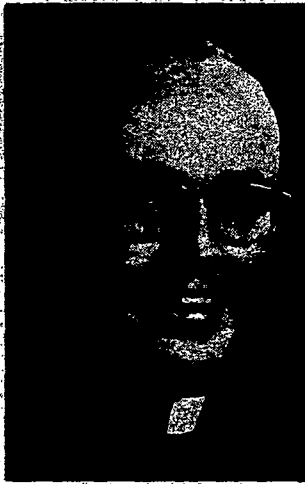
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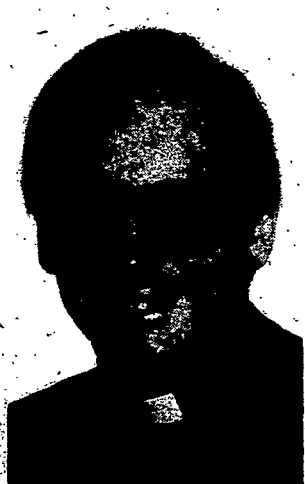
FATHER BURKE



FATHER FRAATS



FATHER LYNCH



FATHER MURPHY

Diocese Fills 4 Pastorates

Bishop Matthew H. Clark announced the filling of four pastorates last week. Father James C. Burke will become pastor of St. Mary's, Canandaigua; Father Ralph Fraats, pastor of St. John the Evangelist in Newark Valley and St. Francis in Catonk; Father John Lynch, pastor of St. Theresa in Stanley and St. Mary in Rushville; and Father Richard Murphy, pastor of St. Mary, Corning.

Father Burke is 44, a native Rochesterian, and is presently co-chaplain at Strong Memorial Hospital.

He attended St. Augustine's School and St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries. He did graduate work at SUNY Brockport, and earned a masters in theology at Princeton Theological Seminary.

Ordained in 1964, Father Burke has served at St. Mary's, Waterloo; Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Brockport; Annunciation, Rochester; the United States Army; St. Alphonsus, Auburn; and Holy Ghost.

In 1978, he was named co-pastor at St. Rita's in West

Webster, a post he held until late last year when he took on the chaplaincy position at Strong.

In addition, Father Burke has been family life coordinator for the Northeast Region, has served with the army reserve, and has sat on the spiritual needs assessment program committee of the Priests Council.

Father Fraats has been incardinated in the Diocese of Rochester since 1970. He attended St. Francis de Sales School in Utica, Niagara University, Catholic University, and St. Vincent's Seminary in Latrobe, Pa., prior to his 1960 ordination by Cardinal Patrick O'Boyle of Washington, D.C.

He has also done graduate work at Catholic University of America and St. Bernard's Seminary.

He worked in Washington in the early part of his priestly ministry and since 1970 has served this diocese at Holy Rosary, St. Anne's, Rochester; St. Patrick's, Seneca Falls; St. Lawrence, Greece; St. John's in Clyde and St. Patrick's in Savannah; St. Philip Neri, Rochester; and Holy Family, Auburn, his present post.

Father Lynch is at present administrator of St. Stanislaus in Bradford and St. Joseph in Campbell.

A native Rochesterian born in 1934, Father Lynch attended St. Monica's School,

Wider Role for Women Urged by Bishops Unit

Washington, D.C. (RNS)—Despite the Catholic Church's opposition to female priests, six representatives of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops say there are nevertheless "significant levels of the church's ministry which could be opened up to women, perhaps including the diaconate."

An NCCB committee composed of a nun and five bishops has issued its final report on Women in Society and in the Church after six dialogue sessions with the Women's Ordination Conference.

The report calls for dialogue and reflection among Christians at all levels on the issue of justice and equality for women.

"Let the focus be on women as persons and the gifts they can bring to the ministry and pastoral needs of the church," it suggests. "We believe such dialogue will reveal the existence of sexist attitudes."

The committee said they found evidence of "a clear

development in the church's teaching about justice, human rights and equality for women." But while this teaching has been applied to the civil order, "within the church itself, we discovered inconsistencies in application."

The bishops' delegates also stressed an "urgent need" for the church's magisterium to develop its teaching on women as persons.

"Church documents speak of the 'complementarity' of the role of women to that of men. In theory, this word refers to a differentiation of roles — separate but equal," they explained. "In effect, however, the term can also involve an implied subordination of women to men."

Accepting assertions of many Catholic feminists that women experience a deep sense of discrimination and alienation because of sexist attitudes of Catholic Church leaders, the committee members said the dialogue sessions had given them a clearer understanding of how patriarchy — the social

system inherited by the church from the Hellenistic-Roman culture — had deeply influenced its laws, theology and ministry.

That understanding led them to "question the church's later identification with patriarchal systems," the committee indicated. "In our dialogue about an authoritative apostolic ministry given by Jesus to the church, we were confronted with a new perspective: does the hierarchical nature of the church necessarily have to be patriarchal?"

While the NCCB representatives agreed that the theme of the dialogue constitutes "an urgent pastoral concern" for the church, a companion report issued by the Women's Ordination Conference (WOC) said its representatives felt at times that "the bishops did not share our sense of urgency on the question of women in the church."

However, the WOC representatives termed the dialogue "a positive experience" and said they

believed considerable communication did take place over the two years that the sessions went on. They said they were hopeful because the dialogue "took place under official mandate and was extended beyond its original time limit at the request of the bishops."

"We believe we communicated the need for some practical steps on the part of the hierarchy and the symbolic importance some clear gestures will have for women in the church," they added.

NCCB representatives in the dialogue were Sister Agnes Cunningham and Bishops Michael McAuliffe of Jefferson City, Mo., George R. Evans of Denver, P. Francis Murphy of Baltimore, Amedee W. Proulx of Portland, Maine, and Ernest L. Unterkoefler of Charleston, S.C.

Among the representatives of the WOC was Ada Maria Diaz of Rochester. Others were Rita Bowen, Sister Anne Carr, Sister Jamie Phelps, Rosemary Radford Ruether and Sister Marjorie Tuite.

Sisters of Mercy Slate Mass, Reception to Note 125 Years

The Sisters of Mercy will celebrate the 125th anniversary of their establishment in the Diocese of Rochester June 6 at Old St. Mary's Church, downtown, at the site of their first foundation.

Bishop Matthew H. Clark will be the principal celebrant of a Mass at 2 p.m. A reception will follow at the motherhouse, 1437 Blossom Road.

Sisters Mary Ann Binsack and Mary Hilaire Gaeleins chair the jubilee year committee planning the celebration. The committee members are Sisters Margaret Deegan, Margaret Mary Mattie, Elaine Kolesnik, Barbara Moore, Joyce McGinn, Mary Alice O'Brien and Mary Estelle Martin.

The celebration commemorates June 9, 1857, when Mother Mary Frances Wardé and six companions founded the first convent of Mercy at St. Mary's, occupying a building, no longer standing, which adjoined the church.

Led by Mother Mary

Frances, the American foundress of the Ireland-based congregation, the Sisters began a program of visiting the sick, an academy for girls, a "free" school for poor children, a soup kitchen, a "house of mercy" for

unemployed and homeless women and an employment bureau.

Today the diocesan congregation numbers 285 women who serve in a wide variety of ministries.

Last Dec. 12, the Sisters of Mercy worldwide celebrated the 150th anniversary of their founding in Ireland by Catherine McAuley. They number about 22,000, the largest such congregation in the English-speaking world.



Getting Ready

Smiling youngsters unveil T-shirts, posters, candles, photos, sculptures, balloons and jewelry — among souvenirs being readied for the scheduled visit of Pope John Paul II to Great Britain May 28-June 2. The marketing will be supervised by a management group authorized by the British Catholic Church. (RNS Photo)

Bishop to Say TV Mass

The diocesan missions will be the theme when Bishop Matthew H. Clark celebrates a special Mass for St. John at 8:30 a.m. Sunday, May 16, over WHEC-TV, Channel 10.

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