

# Education — Mission of All the People

By Sister Roberta Tierney, SSND

There was a time when we believed that the work of education belonged to the "educators." Today the work of public education is shared and in many ways controlled by the structure of school boards. The involvement of a broader representative group for making educational decisions is a response to the call of the Second Vatican Council urging structures to provide for collegial decision making.

Education is not alone in believing in the need for responsible representation in decision making. The goal of parish councils is to be such a group at the parish level. We have seen the growth and development of parish councils in our diocese for more than an decade. Vital to the effectiveness of the work of the councils is the work of its committees.

We recommend that each parish have an active education committee which works with parish leadership and professional educators in setting priorities, programs and policies for the work of that ministry within the parish. Due to the scope of responsibility for these committees, it is often necessary to subdivide into particular areas for effectiveness; e.g., a committee for a Catholic school, religious education, adult education, etc. Communications between and among these groups and to the parish council is essential for the unity and effectiveness of educational ministry within that setting.

The Division of Education is sponsoring workshops for parish councils and committees during September and October in various parts of the diocese. The purpose of these workshops is to provide an opportunity for these groups as well as parish staffs to see their roles and relationships in offering services to their community.

Parallel to encouraging the formation and function of committees for education at the local level, we have studied the feasibility of the formation of a Diocesan Board of Education. The establishment of such a board was recommended by the Diocesan Pastoral Council and approved by Bishop Clark in 1981. Since that time, a committee has been developing a design for the work of the board in our diocese. This board will be composed of a broad representation of people geographically and also with varying educational



Sister Roberta Tierney, SSND, is Director of Education.

interests. This board will work with the bishop and the Division of Education to study needs, set priorities, recommend programs and policies for the educational ministries within the diocese. Through this progress of research and discussion and collegial decision making we will experience the shared wisdom and shared responsibility of Church. At the same time the bishop will have the opportunity to present his vision and direction by requesting and initiating programs and policies.

Some may ask: Are all of these committees and boards necessary? Are all of these meetings necessary? In his address to the National Catholic Education Association in April, 1982, Archbishop John Roach answered those questions in these words: "It would be simpler to do all of our decision making internally. To do so, however, would be to lose the richness of the experience of that wide spectrum of people who are serious about sharing the office in which they are empowered by their baptism and who do have their own role to play in the mission of the whole people of God in the Church and in the world."

As we continue to develop and implement these boards and committees, may we remember the prime goal is to provide the opportunity to bring the Good News to all through word and practice!

**WALDERT'S  
BACK-TO-SCHOOL  
AFFORDABLE EYE FASHION**

**\$39.95\*  
COMPLETE ACTION PACKAGE**

Featuring Youth-Proof polycarbonate single vision lenses for safety... virtually unbreakable! In the latest frame styles and colors for active girls and boys.

**\$54.95\*  
COMPLETE CELEBRITY PACKAGE**

High-style frames for the fashion conscious youth. Choose from the new fashionable "Annie" Collection and the ever-popular Pink Panthers series with new styles available this summer. All frames in this package include Youth-Proof single vision lenses for the ultimate in safety!

**Go back to school in style with frames from Waldert's!**  
Prices in effect thru September 18, 1982.  
\*Package includes frames and prescription lenses.

**WALDERT OPTICIANS**  
we'll make you look better

**READ**

# The New York Times

*The most respected newspaper in the world*

**"ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO PRINT"**

*These times demand the Times*

NEWS • BUSINESS • SPORTS • TRAVEL

**Be well informed!**

**BUY YOUR DAILY AND SUNDAY**

# New York Times

**AT YOUR FAVORITE SUPERMARKET,  
DRUG STORE OR NEWSSTAND.**

Home delivery available in certain areas.  
For information call: 244-3880, Jim Boarman

# The New York Times

IS DISTRIBUTED BY

**MANSON NEWS DISTRIBUTORS, INC.**

634 SOUTH AVE.  
ROCHESTER,  
NEW YORK **244-3880**

14620

### Deadline

The deadline for submitting news to the Courier-Journal is noon on Thursday preceding the following Wednesday's publication.

## Education is your door to new worlds.

If you've been thinking about part-time college programs, St. John Fisher College can open new worlds for you.

Fisher can open the world of business, the world of science, the world of people... the skills you need for professional growth.

Part-time programs for professional development and bachelor's degrees in several fields.

**Continuing Education**  
St. John Fisher College  
3660 East Avenue  
Rochester, New York 14618

Classes begin August 31. Call and ask for the new brochure. 566-4140, ext. 365.

St. John Fisher College admits students without regard to race, creed, sex, nationality, ethnic origin, or handicap.