

'Fire in the Thornbush'

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Kellner, Rochester; Father James Lawlor, Rochester; Mrs. Denise Mack, Rochester; Sister Margaret Mary Mattie, RSM, Rochester; Sister Janet Korn, RSM, Rochester; Sister Ann Miller, RSM, Corning; Sister Anne Marie Lennon, RSM, Rochester; Sister Kathleen Milliken, RSM, Rochester; Sister Anne Curtis, RSM, Rochester; Father John Mulligan, Geneva;



Sister Mary Sullivan, chairperson of the task force, speaks to the committee.



Alice Pempel, left, co-chairperson of the task force, and Denise Mack during the meeting.

Sister Lisette O'Brien, RSM, Penfield; Sister Shirley Pilot, SSJ, Rochester; Sister Elizabeth Conheady, SSJ, Rochester; Sister Alice Cooney, SSJ, Spencerport; Sister Eileen Conheady, SSJ, Rochester; Sister Margaret Brennan, SSJ, Rochester; Ms.

Mary Remenicky, Henrietta; Mrs. Michael F. Bolan, Geneva; Mrs. Isabelle Fay, Seneca Falls; Mrs. Ann

Fertig, Fairport; Christopher Felo, Rochester; Sister Joan Sobala, SSJ, Rochester; Sister Judith Reger, SSJ, Elmira;

Mrs. Sheila Halton, Spencerport; Mrs. June Marie Mullen, Apalachin, and Ms. Nancy Giordano, Rochester.

Bishop 'Strongly Urges' Discussion

My dear People:

Last Spring, as you know, I issued "The Fire in the Thornbush: A Pastoral Letter on Women in the Church." It is my hope and intention that this Pastoral Letter will be carefully read throughout the diocese and that all our people will have the opportunity to engage in in-depth discussion of its contents over the coming year. Such serious reflection cannot fail to contribute to the spiritual renewal and development of our local Church and to the greater participation of all its members in the life and mission of the Church.

Copies of "The Fire in the Thornbush" were mailed to each parish and other groups last Spring. Additional copies are available at the Pastoral Center. Moreover, members of the Task Force on the Pastoral Letter on Women have just prepared a discussion booklet to facilitate small group discussion of the Pastoral Letter. Copies of this discussion booklet have now been mailed to all parishes and other diocesan groups. Additional copies of the discussion booklet are also available at the Pastoral Center.

I strongly urge all women and men of the diocese to collaborate with your pastors and other pastoral leaders in

forming discussion groups on the Pastoral Letter. I ask each of you to commit yourself to thoughtful reading of "The Fire in the Thornbush," and to open sharing of your experiences and thought in relation to its contents. It is my hope that in each parish of the diocese and in all our worshipping communities discussion groups will be formed who will devote considerable time to reflecting on the contents of the Pastoral Letter and to sharing their insights with me and with the diocese as a whole. I look for and encourage grass roots commitment to this pastoral endeavor by which the local Church of our diocese will be strengthened and renewed.

Thank you very much for your personal help in this needed undertaking on behalf of the women and men of the diocese and on behalf of the good of the whole Church.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Matthew H. Clark, DD
Bishop of Rochester

Msgr. Naughton

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parishioners worked for many long months to rebuild and refurbish the properties. By Oct. 30, 1949, when Bishop James E. Kearney arrived to observe the church's centenary, the church was completely reconitioned, the school repaired and improved, and a new convent for the Sisters of St. Joseph was built.

Father Naughton was named pastor of St. Anne's Church in Rochester in June 1950. Almost at once, he began a program which culminated, in the first seven years of his pastorate, with the acquisition of a new convent, the enhancement of the old church building, the adaptation of the parish hall for needed additional classrooms, and the construction of a rectory-administration building.

In February 1957, Pope Pius XII elevated him to the rank of domestic prelate with the title right reverend monsignor.

Msgr. Naughton was at the time completing plans for the construction of a new parish church. A highly successful fund drive was conducted during Lent that year and the new church was dedicated Jan. 31, 1959.

Msgr. Naughton inaugurated instructions in the spirit of the liturgical renewal mandated by the Second Vatican Council, in 1965. In that same year it was reported that pre-school children were being instructed in Sunday School at the parish, considered an unique program for Catholic churches in the diocese.

In 1970, the parish was reported to have paid off its debts and to have substantially endowed the Bishop Sheen Housing Foundation.

Msgr. Naughton retired in 1972 with the title of pastor emeritus. He resided for the next seven years at St. Thomas More Church. He moved to St. Anne's Home/The Heritage in 1979. It was there he died and from there he was buried.

Msgr. Naughton is survived by two nephews, Joseph N. Naughton of Detroit and William D. Naughton of Baltimore; one niece, Mrs. William (Marie) Johnson of Manhasset, N.Y.; a sister-in-law, Mrs. Joseph M. Naughton of Cumberland, Md.; and several grandnieces and grandnephews.

Catholic Rights Unit State Arts Council Ignores Its Protest

By NC News Service

The New York State Council on the Arts disregarded the concerns of Catholic taxpayers by funding an "anti-Catholic play," and has ignored complaints about the production, said the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights.

The league had protested a financial grant from the arts council which helped to meet the production costs of "Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All for You," which opened at the off-Broadway Playwrights Horizon. The league called it a "virulently anti-Catholic play."

In March, James Crowley, representing the Catholic league, and Father Edwin O'Brien, director of communications for the Archdiocese of New York, met with Kitty Carlisle Hart, the arts council chairwoman.

Father Peter Stravinskis, the league's East Coast director of development, said he wrote to Mrs. Hart in July and telephoned her office several times but his calls were not returned.

In the play, Sister Mary Ignatius gives her version of Church doctrine to several

former students, including a homosexual, a woman who has had an abortion and a man who confesses to beating his wife.

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