

# Along The Way

With Bishop Matthew H. Clark



**Some notes along the way:**

**Elmira and Hornell:** John Leary and Paul Gibbons are priests of the Diocese of Rochester. At present, both are quite ill -- Father Leary at St. Joseph's Hospital in Elmira and Father Gibbons at St. James Mercy Hospital in Hornell.

You can tell they are ill by their appearance and because they tell you they tire more and more easily now.

But you can not tell it from their spirit or their outlook. They are docile and strong and bear in their hearts the kind of faith which gives them strength in this time of testing.

Both speak with real fondness for the people of their cities and both offer concrete examples of ways in which they have been and still are built up by the affection and care for the people.

On the way home from seeing them, I remembered the visits with gratitude. What stayed with me most deeply was the awareness both had of their relationships with their God and His people

The obvious interest in and affection for others at a time so difficult for them was both a challenge and consolation for me.

The challenge? To keep in perspective those things which loom large in my life at any given time. When I meet persons like John and Paul who are coping with major issues they call me to be less preoccupied with my minor worries and more attentive to the major problems of others.

The consolation? The peace of heart which they have in the midst of suffering and the joy they bring to those who visit them. There is something of God in a spirit which grows stronger as the body grows weaker. That kind of person reminds me that God is in you and me now, inviting us to let His strength be manifest through our weakness.

Please pray for John and Paul these days -- and for all who are ill. And thank God for the strength they bring to us.

Notre Dame Retreat House, Canandaigua -- On

Thursday noon, I had the privilege of celebrating the Eucharistic Liturgy and enjoying lunch with about 80 religious education leaders from our parishes.

I stand in admiration of them for many reasons, personal and professional, but let me share one reason with you now and ask you to think about it.

I admire their commitment to learn and to teach the mystery of Jesus with greater depth and clarity.

That's what all of us are to be about in our own ways -- to grow in our likeness to Jesus the Lord and to participate in the mission of the whole Church to proclaim Him in all that we do.

If you have a moment to drop a note, could you tell me what helps you to know and love Our Lord and how you are most aware of sharing in the mission of the Church?

I would appreciate hearing from you.

When you receive the Courier-Journal this week, I'll be on retreat at Notre Dame with about 50 of our priests. Please say a prayer for us.

Peace.

## Sr. Mary Lou To Profess Vows

Elmira — Sister Mary Lou Mitchell will make her profession of final vows as a Sister of St. Joseph during the celebration of the Eucharist, 3 p.m., Sunday, June 12 at St. Mary's Church here.

Father Eugene Sweeney, pastor of St. Pius V Parish in Cohocton, will be the celebrant for the Mass for which Sister Mary Lou has chosen a theme from Colossians, "You must live your whole life according to the Christ you have received. You must be rooted in him and built on him and held firm by the faith you have been taught and full of thanksgiving."

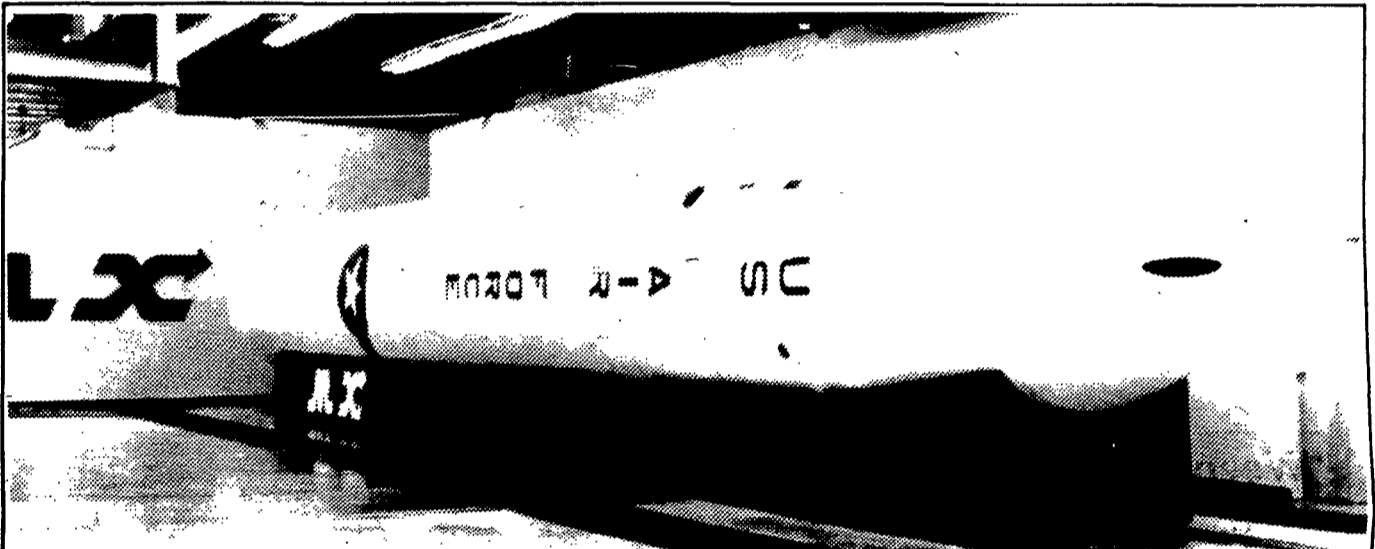
The professante is the daughter of James and Kathleen Mitchell of St. Patrick's Parish in Corning. One of six children, she also is a twin. Sister Mary Lou is nursing instructor at St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing in Elmira, but will leave there in August to begin graduate work in nursing at Catholic University in



SISTER MARY LOU

Washington, D.C. Before entering the congregation in 1978, Sister Mary Lou worked as a staff nurse and later as a nursing instructor at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Utica.

A 1971 graduate of West High School in Corning, Sister Mary Lou graduated from St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing in 1974 and received a BS in nursing from Alfred University in 1976.



## The MX War Reagan Has Won Battles But the Fight Goes On

By Jim Lackey

Washington (NC) — House and Senate approval in late May of identical MX missile-funding resolutions were victories for President Reagan's defense policies, but they also were mere battles in a major war that continues over MX deployment.

Though the MX first was proposed 10 years ago and has been through an intense period of research and development, Congress has yet to approve one penny for purchase of the first batch of missiles. Instead, the \$625 million for the MX that was approved in Congress May 24-25 was simply for basing studies and test flights of the new missile.

Battles over the actual procurement of the first set of missiles will come later, beginning as soon as this summer. This means that Congress still has the opportunity to reverse itself on the controversial system, which is opposed by a number of Catholic bishops and other church personnel.

Policy shifts and reversals have been the rule for the MX missile, primarily over the question of how it should be based. President Carter wanted to spread 200 missiles among 4,600 missile shelters in a "racetrack" scheme designed to keep the Soviets guessing as to the missiles' exact locations.

But when President Reagan took office in 1981, the racetrack plan was promptly abandoned. However, Reagan's proposals to temporarily base the missiles in existing silos while developing a "dense-pack" basing mode were quickly shot down by a Congress unsatisfied that the new plans would be any better.

In the wake of that defeat Reagan appointed the 11-member commission headed by retired Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft to study the future of America's aging intercontinental ballistic missile system and to propose a new basing mode for the MX. That commission, made up of both Democrats and Republicans, made the current suggestion that deployment of the MX in existing silos proceed but that a smaller mobile single-warhead missile also be considered for future development.

What tipped the congressional scales in favor of the MX this time was Reagan's announced willingness to accept changes in the U.S. negotiating position at the Strategic

Arms Reduction Talks on limiting the number of giant ICBMs held by the United States and Soviet Union. But opponents of the MX wondered if that was not, in the words of Rep. Thomas J. Downey (D-N.Y.), like trading "a very explicit missile for some very vague promises."

Downey objected to the argument that Congress could back down later if Reagan doesn't come through on arms control, saying weapons systems take on a life of their own that is difficult to reverse once production begins. He also said by placing the MX in vulnerable silos the missile becomes useful only as a first-strike weapon since a Soviet attack would make it unavailable for retaliation.

But others in Congress were more willing to give Reagan the benefit of the doubt.

Rep. Dan Glickman (D-Kan.), who cast one of the Democratic swing votes for the MX, argued that the chance to link arms control negotiations to defense policy was too important to pass up. He admitted that basing the missile in existing silos makes it vulnerable to Soviet attack, but said there is no other choice for the next 10 years.

And he said he hopes the MX vote he cast in May means he'll never have to vote for MX deployment itself because Reagan and the Soviets will have reached an agreement on arms reduction by then.

A number of U.S. bishops, meanwhile, continue to be vocal in their opposition to the MX. One, Bishop Lawrence McNamara of Grand Island, Neb., who will have a number of the missiles in his diocese if deployment takes place, said the decision to test, develop and deploy the MX is contrary to the call in the bishops' new war and peace pastoral for a halt to the introduction of new weapons systems.

And Bishop Joseph Hart of Cheyenne, Wyo., where MX missiles also would be placed, said his opposition to the MX is, if anything, even stronger now that the pastoral has been approved.

The key to the future of the MX, though, may lie in the public attitude toward Reagan's arms control proposals. If congressmen who cast the swing votes for the MX start getting nervous about support for the missile back home, they may want to back away, if for no other reason than to have the luxury of being able to say they've supported both sides of the issue.

### Diocesan Appointments



**Bishop Matthew H. Clark appoints:**

**Special Assignment**

**Father John Hempel, to temporary associate at Nativity of The Blessed Virgin Mary, Brockport, to assist during the sabbatical of Father John Philipps.**

**Dual Assignment**

**Father Joseph McCaffrey, from St. Lawrence in Greece, to associate pastor, St. Mary, Dansville, and to a part time chaplaincy to be announced later.**

**Special Assignment**

**Father Thomas Corbett, from St. Mary, Canandaigua, to an extended sabbatical leave.**

**Associate Pastor**

**Father William Endres, from St. Jerome, East Rochester, to associate pastor, St. Thomas the Apostle, Rochester.**

**Assistant Pastors in Internship**

**Father Patrick Connor, from St. Michael, Newark, to St. Mary, Elmira.**

**Father George Norton, from Our Mother of Sorrows, to St. Mary, Canandaigua.**

**Father Dennis Sewar, from St. Pius Tenth, to St. Helen.**

**Father James Willsey, from St. Charles Borromeo, Rochester, to St. Ambrose.**

**Deacon Interns**

**Rev. Mr. Frank DiSano to St. Michael, Newark.**

**Rev. Mr. David Faraone to Our Mother of Sorrows.**

**Rev. Mr. Richard Farrell to St. Pius Tenth.**

**Rev. Mr. Scott Kubinski, to St. Charles Borromeo.**