

# Along The Way

With Bishop Matthew H. Clark



For three years Fathers Bruce Ammering and Joe Hart have invited the priests of the Rochester area to gather on one Sunday night a month between 9:00 and 10:00 to make a Holy Hour for vocations to the priesthood. The practice began in the chapel at Saint Bernard's Seminary and continues now at Sacred Heart.

Although I have never heard them say it I believe it is their way of reminding us priests that we need to do our part to promote vocations - that we need so to work and live and pray as to attract qualified young men to the diocesan priesthood.

I go when I can and always find the Holy Hour a time of peace and strengthening. That may be because my prayer in that hour almost always includes you.

You are so much a part of that prayer for two reasons:

1. I become more firmly convinced each day that in God's providence it is loving family and parish communities which generate love for the several vocations open to us, and attract our young men and women to consider them. And so when I pray for vocations to the priesthood I

usually pray that you and I will live our own vocations with fidelity and great care.

2. Whenever I pray for vocations I am drawn to consider my own ministry. It is impossible for me to do that without thinking about and thanking God for you. The priesthood is not well considered without reference to God's people. For God calls priests from among the people for service to the people.

There was a Holy Hour tonight. As usual the format was a simple one: exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, a scripture reading, hymns, silent prayer, prayers for vocations and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

I prayed for Father Tom Valenti and the gifted team he has assembled to assist us all in appreciating the variety and beauty of all of the vocations within the church.

In my prayer as well were all of our seminarians. Above all I want them to choose well and such a solid choice will be possible only if they prepare for priesthood as for a life of service and sacrifice for God's people.

I remembered the eight new young men whom we have

accepted for theological studies this year. That number is most encouraging and I thank you for your prayers for vocations. I'll be meeting with them before the summer is over and I know I can tell them that you will walk with them through their years of preparation for ordination and that you will support them with your love through their priestly life.

It would not be fair to conclude these words without thanking Bruce and Joe for their quiet, consistent leadership in this regard. Every month they are there to remind us all that the Lord works wonderful gifts through prayer.

I can't say that we have eight new theological students because of them. But when I pray for the eight of them I can not do so without remembering Bruce and Joe, Tom Valenti and his team and you.

Did you ever wonder what bishops do in the Summer? If you have, take a look at Along the Way next week. I'll give you an idea of how this bishop's Summer is shaping up at this point.

Peace.

## OBM and UCM Condemn Killings in Pretoria

The United Church Ministry and the diocesan Office of Black Ministry have condemned the recent deaths by hanging of at least three and as many as ten members of the "illegal" African National Congress in Pretoria, South Africa.

"While it is true that the young men executed were freedom fighters dedicated to the liberty of their rightful

country, the execution were carried out against the protests and criticisms of many throughout the world," Rev. Raymond Graves, head of UCM, said. His remarks also constituted a statement delivered to the press last Friday, and subscribed to by a number of other groups including the diocesan Office of Black Ministry.

"It is therefore not suffi-

cient for us to condemn the white South African government only for their inhumane treatment of prisoners of war; indeed, history has taught us that the proponents of apartheid know only violence and death as the response against those who in South Africa demand justice and freedom," the statement said.

"We also condemn the

government of the United States and its international conspirators for its renewed friendly relations policy with South Africa that in its wake has encouraged trade, billions of dollars in loans, and aid in South Africa's military and nuclear development. This evil collusion thus permits increased human rights violations while lending silent consent for the stabilizing of apartheid which ultimately leads to the oppression, concentration, torture and death for all who would resist such tyranny.

The statement called for "the immediate end to American investment policy in South Africa, and we appeal directly to the Eastman

Kodak Co. and Xerox Corp. to divest all of their interests in that country as the South African leadership among black people has consistently asked. Failure to do this will result in the continued unchecked oppression of millions of people.

"Let us state in all candor that the martyrdom of these young men cowardly executed by that racist regime will be avenged.

"On this sombre anniversary date of the Soweto Rebellion we wish the revolution God-speed while yet hoping that external condemnation of the world's just and liberty-loving community on this most wicked government under the sun might

yet in some way agitate for liberation and peace."

United Church Ministry also affirmed its solidarity with Dr. Nelson Mandela, the African National Congress, Bishop Desmond Tutu, the South African Council of Churches.

### Correction

An item published last week concerning a dinner for Father Neil Miller incorrectly asserted where tickets could be purchased. According to Sister Rosaria Hughes, reservations must be made before 4 p.m. tomorrow, June 23, by calling (607) 734-9784.

## Blessed Sacrament Post Goes to Father Ammering

Father Bruce Ammering, chaplain for the past 20 years at Monroe Community Hospital, has been named pastor at Blessed Sacrament Church.

Bishop Matthew H. Clark made the appointment earlier this week.

Father Ammering is widely known through the diocese for helping establish a sense of "parish community" among the hospital's long-term residents.

MCH has its own parish council and extraordinary ministers of the eucharist. Parishioners there take an active role in diocesan af-

fairs. Several participated most recently in the diocesan Harvest a Hundredfold evangelization event.

Father Ammering was ordained in 1954. He had attended St. Monica's School, and the diocesan seminaries.

He was first assigned assistant pastor of St. Patrick's Church in Owego, and then to the same post at St. Aloysius Church in Auburn.

Saturday, June 25, marks his 20th anniversary as chaplain at MCH.

He is a member of the diocesan hospital chaplains'

group, and of the National Association of Catholic Chaplains.



## Holy Year Q. and A.

Provided by the diocesan Holy Year Committee

### 1. What are the "community celebrations"?

They are public jubilee services to which are invited any Catholics who choose this as their "public act of devotion." Our first such celebration will be a Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 22, at the cathedral. Other community celebrations will be announced in the Courier-Journal as they are scheduled. Not all need to be Eucharistic liturgies.

### 2. What do the pilgrimages involve?

Pilgrimages may be made at the set hour to any of the designated pilgrimage churches or chapels. Individuals may make them, but group pilgrimages are more inspiring --

families, friends, societies or delegations officially representing whole parishes. The greater the distance covered, the stronger (usually) is the pilgrim spirit. Go by bike, by car, by bus, or best of all, on foot -- at least part of the way. Longer walking pilgrimages should be led by a crossbearer. To keep a spiritual mood, it is good to recite prayers and sing hymns en route. Pilgrims arriving at the church will find copies of a brief prayer service available.

### 3. When are the jubilee confession and Communion to be made?

Any time within several days before or after one's community celebration or pilgrimage, but the ideal day for the jubilee Communion is the very day of that act of devotion.

### 4. What prayers are required for the pope's intentions?

One Our Father and one Hail Mary are enough. Any other approved prayers may replace them.

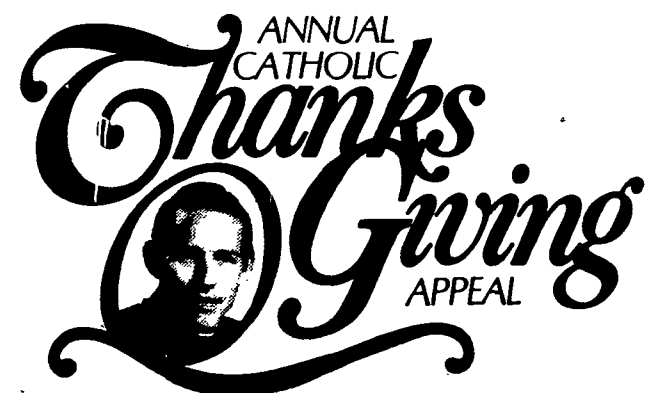
### 5. May the jubilee indulgence be applied to a soul in purgatory?

Yes, we may lovingly offer it through God. He will apply it if He sees fit.

### 6. What act of mercy are we to perform to show our commitment?

Normally, it would be a "spiritual work of mercy" (such as comforting the afflicted or praying for the living and the dead) or a "corporal work of mercy" (such as helping the poor or visiting the sick and lonely). We might also abstain from meat one Friday or fast one day for world peace or another merciful cause. How fitting if whole families should undertake one act of mercy together!

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### Diocesan Appointments



#### Bishop Matthew H. Clark appoints:

Father Bruce Ammering, from chaplain at Monroe Community Hospital, to pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church.

Father Frank Falletta, from associate pastor at St. John of Rochester Church, to associate pastor at St. Michael's Church in Newark.

## Maryknoll Missioner 25 Years a Priest

Maryknoll, N.Y. -- Father Francis J. Taney, a Maryknoll missioner from Geneva, N.Y., will celebrate the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on July 3. He will join others from the class of 1958 in a mass of Thanksgiving at the Maryknoll Center Chapel. Born in Geneva in 1929,

the son of the late Cornelius F. and Alice (Riley) Taney, he entered Maryknoll in 1948.

He is archdiocesan coordinator for campus ministry, chaplain to five non-sectarian colleges and works a team providing retreats, pilgrimages and counseling.