

## New Religion Curriculum Ready for Grade Schools

In September, diocesan schools will begin using a new Religion Curriculum from grades 1 to 6. The new Junior High Curriculum was begun in 1981.

The curriculum, developed to teach the basic truths of the Catholic faith, is focused on clearly stated objectives for each specific grade level. The four types of objectives are Bible, Prayer, Doctrine and Social Justice. The Bible is the basic "textbook" for Christianity therefore it has a significant place in the curriculum and each child from grade 4 to 8 is encouraged to his or her own Bible.

All teachers have been introduced to the new curricu-

lum. Opportunities will also be provided during the year for teachers to attend classes and/or in service to keep them abreast on changes in the Church and more in depth study of Scripture.

A day has been planned for the teacher to focus on Social Justice and the teachings of the Church.

Each eighth grade student is required to take a Standardized Religion Inventory Test which comes from the National Catholic Education Association in Washington, D.C. It has two specific parts. The doctrinal section which includes knowledge in the areas of God, Church, Sacraments, Christian Life,

Scripture and Religious terms and an attitudinal section which reflects student attitudes on specific questions. Our students have been participating in the program since 1978. Over the past six years, administrators have seen a definite percentage increase in each area, especially Sacraments and Christian Life which reflected big increases.

The results from these tests are used to formulate the Religion Curriculum, to study the religion program in each school and to make decisions regarding the choice of religion textbooks.

## Mooney Lists New Courses

Cardinal Mooney High School has announced several changes in its course offerings for the 1983-84 school year.

New courses include a program in British literature for seniors, a program in world literature for seniors on both the Regents and the local college preparatory levels, and a new Social Studies 10 Honors program, created to link Social Studies 9 Honors and advanced placement American history.

In addition, as part of the implementation of the new Business curriculum, keyboarding and communications in business are now offered.

An accelerated program in

accounting will be available to qualified seniors, and a major unit on word processing has been incorporated.

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### Nondiscriminatory Policy

It is the policy of the elementary and secondary schools of the Diocese of Rochester not to discriminate on the basis of sex in the educational programs or activities which it operates.

The diocese is required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and the implementing regulations not to discriminate on the basis of sex. This requirement extends to employment by the diocese and its elementary and secondary schools.

Inquiries concerning the application of Title IX and the implementing regulations to the diocese may be referred to Sister Edwardine Weaver who has been designated by the Diocesan General Education Office at Title IX compliance officer. (Sister Edwardine's office is at 1150 Buffalo Road, telephone 328-3210.)

## Mercy Students Tour in Japan

Eleven students at Our Lady of Mercy High School spent a month in Japan this Summer, chaperoned by Mrs. Shirley Henderson of Brighton, a history teacher at the school.

The students visited Tokyo, Shizuoka, Kyoto, Nara, and the Izu Peninsula.

Among the cultural experiences listed for the tour were sleeping on the floor, Japanese style, eating with

chopsticks, visiting Buddhist temples, meditating Zazen style, tasting sushi, raw fish.

The tour is part of an exchange program which began five years ago between Mercy and Tokoha Gakuen High School.

The program called for students to live for three weeks with Japanese families and attend Japanese school with a student from the fami-

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