

Bishop Clark

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 weaponry, politics or international affairs. I shall be there as a religious leader and a teacher to say as closely as I can that there are weapons which must be banned from the earth because their effect is so deadly as to stand in violation of the rights of the innocent and noncombatants to live in a truly human way."

The bishop's speaking role is only one development in the diocesan program to bring the message of the pastoral letter to as many citizens as possible. Diocesan staffers began in mid-May, at the time of the promulgation of the pastoral, to identify steps to be taken by involved departments. In June, it was decided to form a steering committee on the letter.

Bishop Clark approved of the plan and in July named diocesan staff members to the steering committee: Father Charles Mulligan, convenor, director of the diocesan Division of Social Ministries; Sister Roberta Tierney, director of the Division of Education; Sister Hilaire Gaelens, director of the Division of Special Pastoral Ministries, and Giovina Caroscio, director of the Finger Lakes Office of Social

Ministry. They are joined on the committee by the heads of five work groups established to develop response -- Political Action, Mary Heidkamp; Education and Training for Adults and Parish Staffs, Maribeth Mancini; Speakers and Special Events, James Lund; Education/Curriculum, Sister Virginia Steinwachs, and Clearinghouse, Lourdes Perez-Albuerne.

• The Political Action Committee will examine national and international issues relating to the pastoral letter and will seek to mobilize support for specific policy approaches.

• The Education and Training for Adults and Parish Staffs Committee will work to familiarize diocesan staff with the pastoral and to develop resources to assist parish staffs in responding to pastoral concerns raised by the letter. Development of a Lenten discussion program on the pastoral will be one goal.

• The Speakers and Special Events Committee will be coordinating a diocesan celebration next May on the anniversary of the issuance of the bishops' letter. The group also will work toward inviting nationally known experts

on the letter to the diocese and is working with the Liturgy Office on celebrations concerning the pastoral.

• The Education/Curriculum Committee will examine ways in which the pastoral letter can be integrated into the curricula of Catholic schools, parish Religious Education programs and continuing education programs for religious teachers.

• The Clearinghouse Committee will be the source of information for parishes, the liaison with the U.S. Catholic Conference and will maintain a calendar of events.

A series of forums to discuss the theological foundations of the document, the problems and principles of war and peace in the modern world and the promotion of peace have been scheduled throughout the diocese. They are listed in the special peace calendar on Page 5.

In addition, other diocesan departments have taken initiatives. The Office of Liturgy is planning special liturgical celebrations. At the office's "Sights and Sounds" workshops Sept. 25 in Rochester and Oct. 2 in Elmira, materials and re-

sources will be available for the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany season.

In conjunction with liturgical plans, Dec. 15 has been designated as a Diocesan Day of Prayer for Peace.

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Pastoral Council

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demonstrators and puts the question of "criminal" demonstrations against nuclear arms in the balance with the morality of creating such arms.

The movie was followed by a triad of presentations on the U.S. bishops' pastoral letter "The Challenge of Peace: God's Promise and Our Response." Father Joseph Jankowiak, political theologian and pastor of St. Stanislaus Church in Rochester, gave an overview of recent developments in theology as an aid to understanding the language and intent of the bishops' letter.

James Lund of the Diocesan Pastoral Office limned the moral themes of the letter, its call to conversion, its call to community discipleship, and its progression from discussion, to witness, to action.

He also gave the council members a list of suggested activities to further the pastoral letter in both the public and private sphere.

His wife, Mary Heidkamp, director of the Department of Justice and Peace, gave a presentation, "Justice and Peace beyond the Pastoral," again linking national and world poverty to the money spent on the arms race.

It was at that point that council dissent began to be heard. David Scholl, Southeast Region delegate, voiced his objection to the link, an objection seconded by Robert O'Gara of the Tompkins/Tioga Region.

The two men were to take the lead during the afternoon's discussions and to rally the council against the proposed endorsement of the Oct. 22 demonstrations.

The actual proposal was brought to the floor by Giovina Caroscio, director of the Finger Lakes Office of Social Ministry, an agency which has already endorsed the rally.

Council members had been apprised of the proposal through a mailing early in September.

Prior to Ms. Caroscio's talk, the council variously voiced concerns about un-

ilateral and bilateral disarmament; alternatives to the nuclear arms race; the recent disarmament proposals given by Soviet Premier Yuri Andropov, and the lack of action on them from the Reagan administration; the downing of the KAL airliner; and the unlikelihood of the bishops' pastoral being read and discussed in parishes.

Gaynelle Wethers, representing Ministry to Black Catholics, moved that a council committee draft a letter to Bishop Clark on the DPC's reaction to the pastoral, a move which carried without negative votes and two abstentions.

Ms. Caroscio took the floor and said that the Oct. 22 demonstration specifically targets the deployment of the Cruise and Pershing II nuclear missiles in Europe later this year.

She described both missiles as first strike weapons, and asserted, "They are stored at Seneca."

O'Gara countered several points in her presentation, challenging information she gave with information of his own which indicated that certain technical details were in dispute, and asserted, "The Russians have deployed 'Cruises' since 1967."

Ms. Caroscio was questioned by Janet Schwenkler of the Chemung/Schuyler Region on her office's anti-abortion activities, to which she replied that the office has not had an opportunity as yet to engage in such a demonstration, but that the same concern for life prompted the office's endorsement of the peace rally.

When the vote was taken, it was first announced that the endorsement motion lost: 15 for; 13 against; 3 abstentions. It was said that the abstentions were added to the negative votes, in accord with Roberts Rules of Order. It was then discovered that two of the affirmative votes were by absentee ballot, a procedure not allowed in the DPC constitution.

Both developments generated a great deal of discussion and the problem was solved by the introduction of



a new motion on which a clear vote could be taken.

Father Paul Tomasso of Geneva, priests' representative, proposed: "The Diocesan Pastoral Council supports peace and nuclear disarmament, but is not in favor of the Oct. 22 peace rally."

His motion carried 16-11, with 2 abstentions.

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