

# Peace Initiatives Bring Bishop Heavy Mail

His decision to speak Oct. 22 at the Rally for Peace in Sampson State Park along with the U.S. bishops' pastoral letter, "The Challenge of Peace: God's Promise and Our Response," is bringing Bishop Matthew H. Clark a deluge of mail, most of which is warmly supportive.

The bishop himself has called the response the largest outpouring of support he has received for any one position he has taken.

While many of the letters are from individuals, some have multiple signatures, signifying support from groups, such as school classes.

The bishop has eschewed form letters and has been replying individually to the writers, with longer letters going to those who express disagreement with his position.

One parish, Assumption in Fairport, prepared a covenant of support for the U.S. bishops' pastoral letter, "The Challenge of Peace: God's Promise and Our Response," for parishioners to fill out and file with the bishop. A project of the parish's Education Committee, the message offered five specific pledges of penance as well as a box

marked "other" so parishioners could indicate their support in individual ways. More than one box could be checked. Sixty-two chose "fasts and/or abstain on all Fridays"; 32, daily rosary; 22, daily Mass; 33, daily scriptural reading (at least 15 minutes), and 88, acts of charity to the poor or ill.

Many of those who checked "other" promised prayer in some form. But there were also some unusual pledges, such as giving up watching TV "soaps"; "raising a puppy for the blind," and giving up or cutting back on cigarettes.

Some of the supportive letters came from priests and religious but many came from concerned laypersons. They affirmed either Bishop Clark's decision or the pastoral letter or both. And many not only applauded the bishop's decision but pledged their own participation in the cause.

While most of the critical letters to the bishop concern either his or the U.S. bishops' involvement in the cause of nuclear disarmament, many use that as a stepping stone to criticize other aspects of Church activity, such as its opposition to capital

punishment, or a perceived lack of dedication to pro-life causes. Some absent the presence of Bela Abzug and Dr. Benjamin Spock on the same Oct. 22 dais.

Some of those in opposition repeat the mistaken notion that the pastoral letter and/or Bishop Clark advocate unilateral disarmament. Neither do.

The bishop answered each criticism specifically. He consistently requested all to read the bishops' challenge of peace document and always offered prayers.

Another false notion expressed was that the bishop has endorsed the civil disobedience planned for Monday, Oct. 24. The bishop has previously noted that he does not support that activity, so naturally will not participate in it.

To those who charge apathy regarding life causes, Bishop Clark points out that this is not the case and assures that he will include the topic of abortion in his Seneca Falls address.

The bishop has previously stated that his presence on the same platform in no way signifies his support for the positions of any of the other speakers.

## Nazareth Hosts Metro Debate

Brighton Town Councilwoman Marion Brown and Rochester City Councilwoman Joan Hensler will debate the Metro Police Proposal at a downtown luncheon sponsored by the Nazareth College Alumni

Association, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, Oct. 26, at the University Club.

Moderator will be Dr. Mary Bush, professor of history and political science at Nazareth College.

Nazareth College.

The luncheon and debate are open to the public. Tickets are \$6 per person and reservations can be made by calling the Nazareth College Alumni Office.

## DEATHS

### Father Ambrose Blouin, OCSO

Piffard — Funeral rites were celebrated at the Abbey of the Genesee for Father Ambrose Blouin, a Cistercian of the strict observance, who died Sept. 21, 1983.

Father Ambrose was a pioneer Trappist, aiding in the foundation of the Genesee

abbey, from Gethsemani, Ky., April 5, 1951.

Earl Blouin was born Aug. 17, 1906 at Lafourche Parish in Louisiana. He entered Gethsemani June 12, 1948.

At that time he was a Benedictine priest, known as Father Augustine, of the

Abbey of St. Joseph, St. Benedict, La.

He had been ordained June 12, 1932, for that abbey.

A Genesee release stated that the monk died "peacefully in the Lord" at midnight.

### Sister Emerita Brill, RSM

Mass of the Resurrection was celebrated Oct. 12 for Sister Mary Emerita Brill, a member of the Sisters of Mercy for 57 years, who died Oct. 10, 1983.

Father William Holberton presided at the rites in the motherhouse chapel.

Sister Emerita taught in diocesan elementary schools for 44 years, 29 of them at St. John the Evangelist on Humboldt St.

Born Irene Brill in Hornell in 1904, she entered the congregation from St. Ignatius Parish there, at 22, in 1926,

following in the footsteps of her older sister, Sister Mary Lawrence (now deceased). She professed her final vows in August 1932.

A graduate of Hornell High School, she received a teacher's certificate from Nazareth Normal School, and also studied at Nazareth College of Rochester and St. Bonaventure University in Olean.

In her teaching career, Sister Emerita worked at St. Patrick, Owego; Holy Family, Auburn; St. Mary;

Corning; and St. Andrew, Rochester.

In addition, she served four years as local community superior.

She retired in 1972 to the motherhouse as a member of Omega Community, a band of senior Sisters performing the ministry of the Spiritual Apostolate of Prayer.

Sister Emerita is survived by a brother, Joseph of Cleveland, Ohio; and three sisters, Mrs. Elizabeth McDonnell of Buffalo, and Catherine and Mary Brill of Hornell.

# Courier Cash Classifieds

## General

### Personals 4

PUBLICATION Promised to Sacred Heart and St. Jude for favors received. J.

THANKS to Jesus, Our Lady of the Rosary, St. Francis of Assisi, for favors. CLC.

THANKS to Sacred Heart, Blessed Mother, St. Jude, St. Ann. NMB.

### Announcements 7

ENNEGRAM Workshop on nine personality types. Center of Renewal, Stella Niagara N.Y. December 24, 716-754-7376.

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### Help Wanted 14

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#### COORDINATOR, Task Force, services for International Justice and Peace. Position requires B.A. with knowledge of international issues and ability to analyze from Church perspective. Strong communication skills a must. Must have ability in program development with 1-2 years experience in adult education, communicating and working with volunteers. Part-time/19 hours. Send resume to Personnel Dept., Diocese of Rochester, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, 14624. EOE.

## Buy/Sell—General

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### Wanted To Buy 37

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## Property

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