

St. Stephen, Geneva

Our Pilgrimage Churches Holy Year 1983-84

By Father Robert F. McNamara

St. Francis deSales Church, Geneva's original Catholic church, is one of the oldest parishes in the Rochester diocese. Its first church building was dedicated in 1834. Seventy years later, in 1904, St. Francis parish was cut in two by Bishop Bernard J. McQuaid, who established a new parish on the west side of the city. The patron saint assigned to it was St. Stephen, Deacon and Martyr, and the bishop named another Stephen as pastor: Father Stephen McPadden.

The new parish had the good fortune to have a temporary church in which to make a start. Not long before, the pastor of St. Francis deSales Church had bought, for \$6,000, a handsome pillared building that had belonged to the Dutch Reformed Church. Adapted inside for Catholic use, "Old Dutch" proved very serviceable.

However, Father McPadden acquired a site for a permanent church on Pulteney Street, on a comn. nding location. An artistic man, Father Stephen engaged the able Rochester architectural firm of Gordon and Madden to design a neo-gothic church and a matching rectory and school.

St. Stephen's Church was dedicated on Sept. 1, 1910. It is one of the handsomest churches in the Rochester diocese. The outer walls of rough limestone are covered by a red tile roof, while the interior walls are of pressed brick. A painting of the martyrdom of St. Stephen, by Fredrich Wilson of New York, is at the center of the retable of the central altar.

The most striking feature is the carved woodwork. Altar rededos, side chapels



and rood-beam, and their fine wooden statues, are the work of Isaac Kirchmayer, one of America's great church sculptors. The statue and shrine of the Sacred Heart (1921) are, in fact, the last commission Kirchmayer executed before his retirement.

Several changes have been made inside the church since Vatican II. The Blessed Sacrament has been transferred to the Lady Chapel, and the communion rail has been removed to give space for a wooden altar facing the people. Much more has to be done, however, to make the "renewed sanctuary" blend in tastefully with the total design of this beautiful and devotional church.

Larger pilgrim groups may wish to form a procession in the parking lot (behind the school, which is to the rear of the rectory). Led by a crossbearer, they can then march to the church entrance on the sidewalk that leads around the front of the rectory. To make arrangements for your pilgrimage group, please call St. Stephen's Rectory, 48 Pulteney Street, 315/789-1124.

An Eventful Season For CDA Membership

The Catholic Daughters of Catholic Daughters' Day, the Americas have been busy since their tureen supper in September, co-chaired by Sally Sullivan and presided over by Eleanor Cook, new Grand Regent.

In October organization members recited the Family Rosary for Peace over Station WWWG from St. Francis of Assisi Church. On Sunday, Oct. 16, National

GENEVA RIGHT TO LIFE

The Ontario County Chapter of the Geneva Area Right to Life organization will meet at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 6, in the Board Room of the College of the Finger Lakes, Canandaigua.

members attended Mass in

St. Jude's chapel at the state hospital which was followed by breakfast. Then on Oct. 18 a "Bell Dinner" was served at the meeting hall, St. Philip Neri Church on Clifford Avenue.

In November, the organization's annual craft and baked food sale was held at St. Salome's Church on Culver Road. Rose Hendrickson, Beverly Schum, Mary Corteal and Mary D'Annunzio co-chaired the event. A Mass and reception inducting new members of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas was held on

Tuesday, Nov. 22 at St.

Philip Neri Church.

CWC News

Members of the Catholic Women's Club are invited to attend the annual Christmas Tea on Sunday, Dec. 4 at the **AAUW Club House on East** Avenue.

Members are asked to bring gift wrapped packages of canned or dryed foods tobe given to the Carmelites.

A Christmas holiday decorations workshop will be conducted by Schum Nurseries at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 6 at the AAUW Club House on East

Avenue. Training will include work on a Christmas wreath or a centerpiece. Reservations are necessary by calling 275-9173 between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., weekdays.

'Bread for the World' Seeks Area Members

By John Dash

"Like 'all of Gaul," she quipped, "Rochester is divided into three districts: LaFalce, Horton and Cona-

And conquering Rochester on behalf of the world's hungry was her intent. Gloria Fitzgerald, Boston-born spokesperson for Bread for the World, was in Rochester last week "meeting with members of the three congressional districts, to talk about Bread for the World, and how we can engenger more involvement in the community and also become more involved in our outreach to the wider public."

Bread for the World is a decade-old Washington lobby aimed at influencing food policies, she said.

She characterized the organization "a group of Christian citizens who are working to influence U.S. policy, particularly as it relates to hungry people throughout the world, using lobbying tools and techniques.

Bread for the World does not, she stressed, fund projects related to hunger and food. "We give no direct aid, but work to influence poli-

cy," she said.
While in Rochester, she spoke with members of the diocesan Operation Breadbox, a program she finds "complementary" to her own work.

'Bread for the World 'connects' with Operation Breadbox," she said. "We find it a complementary

operation. Breadbox raises funds and funds projects. Bread for the World works to direct appropriations of the U.S. towards these similar projects, works to influence public policy to help the Third World," she said.

Her organization is now working "on the 1985 farm bill, what I personally would call a saner farm and agriculture policy.

"We are in the process of examining the policy to effect constructive change. I don't know yet what answers we are going to find," she said

Bread for the World was founded by Rev. Arthur Simon, a Lutheran minister living on Manhattan's lower East side.

According to Ms. Fitzgerald, "He was very aware in his own parish, that aware Christians are generous with direct help money, canned goods, and similar help — but not with the political action which affects people.

"So he gathered some people about him and talked about the possibility of forming a group which would bridge this gap."

The organization claims 43,000 members today, Ms. Fitzgerald said.

It focuses, she said, on hunger relation legislation, both domestic and international; aid appropriations and reform and with trade

"We deal with short term and long term change.'

And, "we're also working to have more of the funds go to development assistance, as opposed to the great increase in military assistance, which is diverting funds, and which is not making for a secure world. We have to work for the basic economic needs of the world," she said.

For the present, Bread for the World's offices are at 6411 Chillum Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20012. The membership fee is \$15 per year.

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