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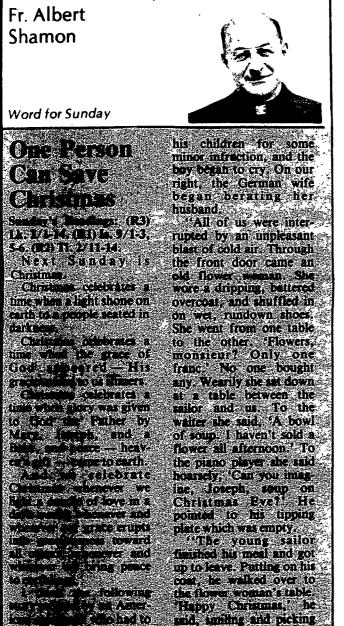


Sister Clare Roland, SSJ, leads the meeting last week on the state bishops' pastoral on criminal justice.

Pastoral on Criminal Justice Topic of Discussion, Action

By Terrance J. Brennan Bishop Matthew H. Clark met with a committee of 16

diocesans to discuss implementing the state bishops' "Pastoral Statement on



Criminal Justice'' last Wednesday, Dec. 14, at the Pastoral Office.

The statement was issued in January this year, under the egis of the New York State Catholic Conference, the bishops' official state lobby.

The diocesan group was chaired by Sister Clare Roland, SSJ, diocesan director of chaplaincy services under the Division of Social Ministries

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss ways of increasing the Church's influence in the arena of criminal justice, and also how to challenge individuals to become more involved in the issue at the parish, community and diocesan levels.

The pastoral statement discusses the state correctional system, pointing out what it calls "substantial overcrowding."

"We find a prison population," the bishops added, "that is generally undereducated and negatively impacted by the socioeconomic conditions that prevail in today's society. This group inordinately consists of members of the minority population and a significant number are firsttime convictions for nonviolent crimes.

"For the system to be fully responsive to the needs of society and to those of the inmate population, changes are necessary."

The statement also cites "ineffective approaches" to curb these problems. that currently exist by suggesting

DEATHS George Montgomery, **Former CFC Director**

was concelebrated Dec. 13 research department, develfor George Montgomery who died Dec. 10, 1983.

Mr. Montgomery served from 1952-1968 as director of the diocesan Catholic Family Center.

Auxiliary Bishop Dennis W. Hickey, and Fathers Charles Mulligan and Robert Smith concelebrated the rites at St. Margaret Mary Church.

Mr. Montgomery, a native of Oswego, began work with diocesan Catholic Charities as a caseworker in 1936.

During World War II he served in France, and on his return to Catholic Charities, was named casework supervisor.

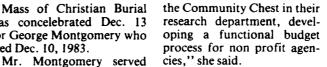
"He was a leader in his field," Catherine Wobus said last week. Miss Wobus is casework director at CFC. "He worked closely with

Helen A. Durnin **Memorial Slated**

A memorial Mass will be celebrated 2 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 15, at the Cenacle Renewal Center for Helen A. Durnin who died Oct. 27, 1983.

Miss Durnin was a teacher in the City of Rochester school district, active in the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae, a supporter of the Cenacle Renewal Center and a member of the Catholic Women's Club.

Father Thomas Mull, director of the diocesan Liturgy Office, will preside at the Mass to which Miss Durnin's friends are invited.

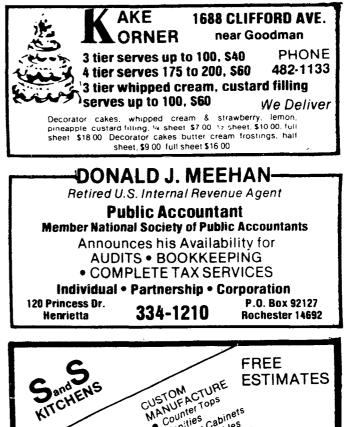


That process was adopted throughout the country, she added.

She also noted that because of his work in refugee reset-

tlement, he was one of ten Americans selected to go to Germany in the late 1940s to inspect and visit refugee camps.

Mr. Montgomery is survived by his wife, Beatrice; son, David; daughter, Janet and three grandchildren.







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alternatives before trial, after conviction and within the corrections system itself.

The statement offers suggestions to aid the victims of crime, and closes with a citation of the need for response from the Christian community.

In his rest sat the meeting, Bishop Jark said, "It often happens that (prisoners) are in surroundings not very reconstructive. Our call is to be Christ to those who call out for freedom."

He added, "We must find a way to protect society, keeping in mind what is kind and human."

Permanent Deacon Stanley Zawacki stressed that there is very little currently being done in the diocese for the imprisoned. "On this com-mittee," Zawacki said, "we've got people who are involved directly with those in prisons and those who are interested in helping. We must get these two groups of people to collaborate on what we are to do as a diocese."

A Very Merry Christmas and the Kappiest of New Years 630 Ridge Road West