



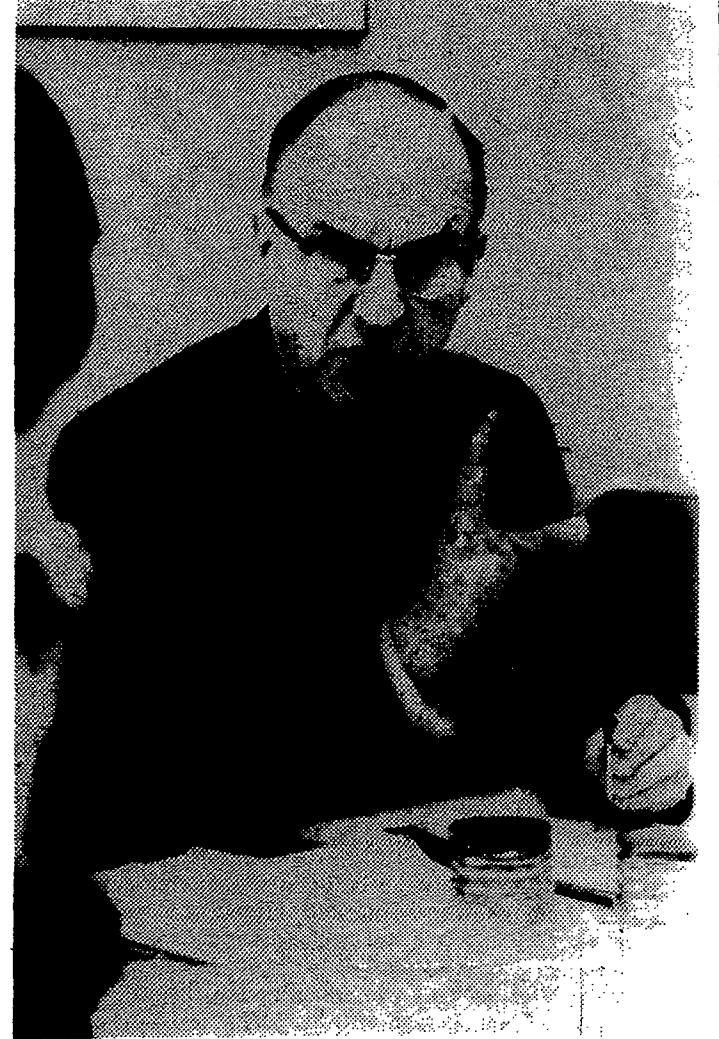
Archbishop Late, Not Without Reason

By Joan Smith

The Spring provincial meeting of the state's bishops began in earnest last Friday with the arrival of Archbishop John O'Connor of New York City. He missed the Thursday evening hospitality events because he was playing host to President Reagan at a function in his home archdiocese. But he was present when Bishop Matthew H. Clark welcomed delegates Friday morning. This was preceded by a prayer service led by Bishop Howard J. Hubbard of Albany with Gretchen Dent from St. Christopher, North Chili, and John Kubiniec, Office of Liturgy, providing the liturgical accompaniment.

Bishop James J. Daly, auxiliary bishop of Rockville Centre and chairman of the provincial meetings, in outlining the present conference's agenda remarked that the "best feature of our meeting is the ability to sit down and dialogue about what concerns our people." He further explained that the inclusion of religious and lay diocesan representatives in the conference started 10 years ago under the leadership of the late Cardinal Terence Cooke of New York City.

Primary focus of the two-day conference was "Penance and Reconciliation" and featured an overview of the October World Bishops' Synod in Rome that dealt with the same topic by Bishop Austin B. Vaughn, a delegate to that Synod. Also on the agenda were small group discussions, liturgies, a presentation by Father Giles-H. Pater, Ph.D. of Cincinnati, and panel discussions.



The Bishops' Provincial Meeting attracted the state's Catholic leaders, past and present. Clockwise, from left, Auxiliary Bishop Emerson J. Moore of New York (center) participates in one of many group discussions last weekend; retired prelate of Rochester, Bishop Joseph L. Hogan sits among the audience at the general sessions; Bishop Edward D. Head of Buffalo; Bishop Stanislaus J. Brzana of Ogdensburg; Bishops O'Connor and Clark embrace as the archbishop leaves; diocesan representatives from Syracuse, led by Bishop Thomas J. Costello (lower right), and Albany, by Bishop Howard J. Hubbard (lower left), meet before the final session of the conference.

Photos by
Terrance J. Brennan

