

# Along The Way

With Bishop Matthew H. Clark



Easter morning.

● On this day of grace I thank the Lord for your goodness and holiness and for all of the hope He plants in our hearts through the power of the Holy Spirit.

I rejoice with all members of our community who receive the sacraments of initiation on this feast and express gratitude to all who have journeyed with them during their months of preparation. You have been exciting and endearing witnesses of God's faithful love.

Thanks also to all in our parishes who labored so lovingly to make the Easter feast the special celebration it is meant to be. To all servers, proclaimers, cantors, choir members, greeters, planners, sacristans -- a special acknowledgement that what you do with such generosity is not done without some measure of personal sacrifice. To my brother priests -- I thank you for all you have done and with you I thank the Lord for the special grace of celebrating with His Holy People.

Finally, I wish to recognize the efforts of Father Tom Mull and the staff of the Office of Liturgy of the Diocese of Rochester. Their generous, thoughtful efforts have enriched our celebrations from Ash Wednesday until today and will continue to do so all through the Easter season.

● Our newly baptized brothers and sisters -- and all of us -- are called during this Easter season to contemplate and rejoice in the gentle, reconciling love of the Risen Lord.

We shall experience Him forgiving Peter and drawing Peter deeply into His saving mission. We shall be with Him as He leads Thomas from doubt to faith. We shall know His patient, revelatory love as he meets the searching, confused disciples on the road to Emmaus.

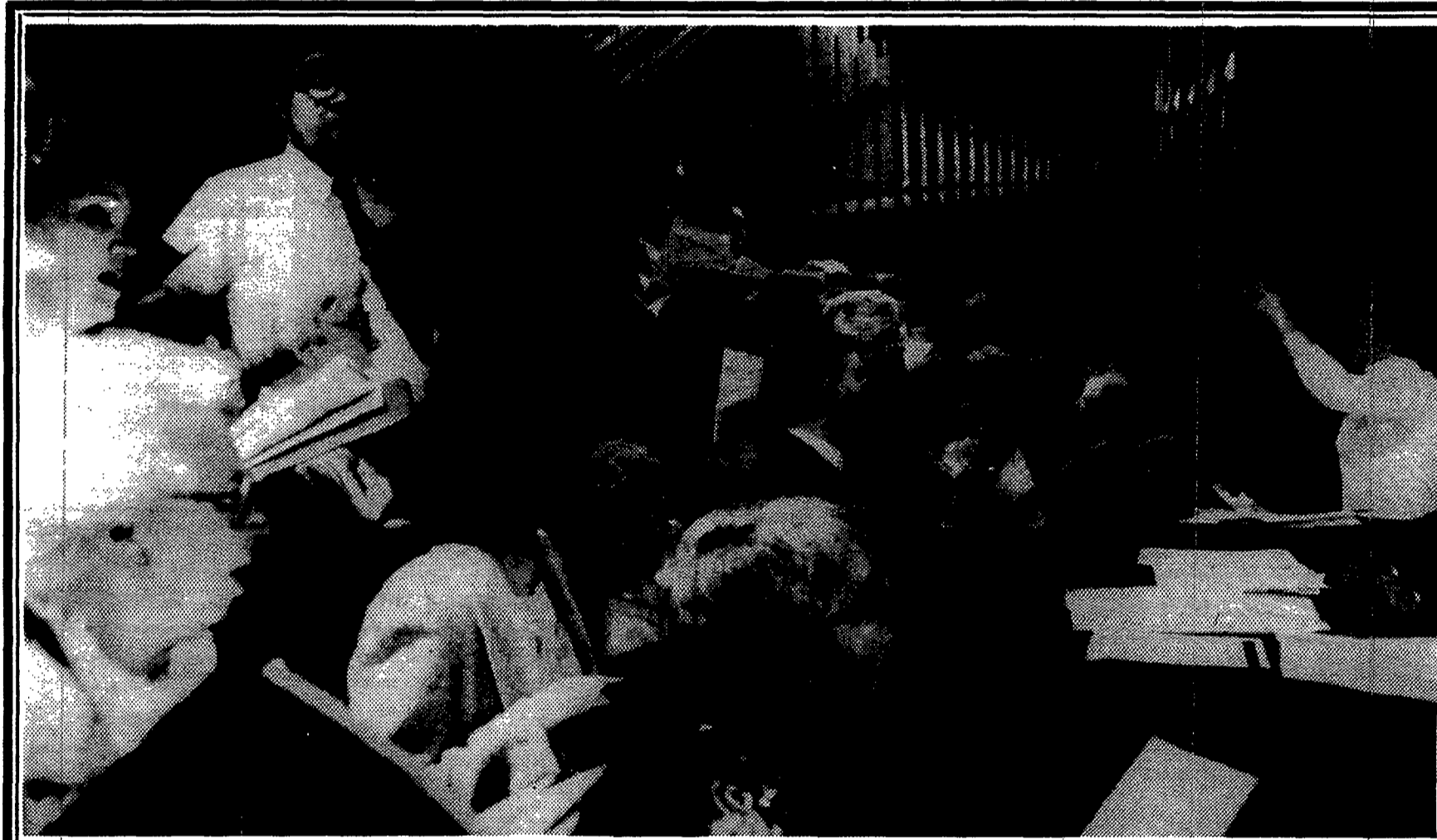
It is a time of deepening for all of us so I hope that we might pray in a special way for one another. Prayer opens us to the love of God and when we are available to that love we participate personally and actively in the saving mission of the Lord.

● It is a brilliant morning and I look forward now to celebrating the Easter feast at Sacred Heart with all who assemble there.

After Mass, my mother and I will be driving to Waterford to share Easter dinner with my sister and brother-in-law and their five beautiful daughters.

I have not spent time with the girls for several weeks and am eager to become reacquainted with them. There'll be a good chance to do that since I'll stay with them through Wednesday and they have no school this week.

● Thanks again, dear friends, for the faithful and holy witness of your daily living. I hope that this Easter season brings you the grace of appreciating ever more deeply how precious you are in the sight of the Lord. And to that I hope is joined a new realization of how the Lord counts on you to communicate His life and hope to others.  
Peace to all.



## Chrim Mass At Cathedral

Choirs from three Southern Tier parishes -- St. Mary's and St. Cecelia's in Elmira and St. Vincent DePaul in Corning -- joined, left, at the annual Chrim Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral last Tuesday. Clockwise, from below, Deacon Frank DiSano and Teresa Scarlata of St. Paul's, Webster, place the Holy Chrim on the table with other sacred oils; Bishop Matthew H. Clark, the principal celebrant, with many other area priests concelebrating behind him; Father Donald Schwab and Evelyn Smith of St. Theodore's parish in procession behind Sister Mary Kay Ryan, SSJ, thurifer; Bishop Clark greets the Raymond Perdona family of Mt. Carmel parish during the presentation of the gifts.



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