

DPC Receives Reports On Diocesan Finances

In a quiet but powerful way, the Diocesan Pastoral Council displayed its unity with Bishop Matthew H. Clark last Saturday.

The subject of the meeting was diocesan finances, in Bishop Clark's words, funding "our common life as Church."

In the course of the meeting, the council received the report of both its own Ministerial Review Committee (MRC) and Bishop Clark's report on the Thanks Giving Appeal.

Both reports stressed the

hard work exerted by a number of people in their preparation.

Several items in the diocesan financial picture have been the subject of study by several bodies over the past several years.

The first was the equity in distributing funds from the annual Bishop's Thanks Giving Appeal. Of particular concern was the general redistribution of monies from the appeal, according to parish overages, back to the parishes.

Following an exhaustive nine-point review of diocesan programs, and an equally exhaustive study of parish giving patterns, Bishop Clark has decided to retain all overages for diocese-wide programs.

That decision met with "strong support" from the DPC's MRC, which said, in an open letter:

"The new plan will, in our opinion, make goal-setting for the poorer parishes more realistic, will demand only moderate increases in the goals of the majority of the parishes, and will enable those parishes best able to do so to share their ability to give with those less fortunate."

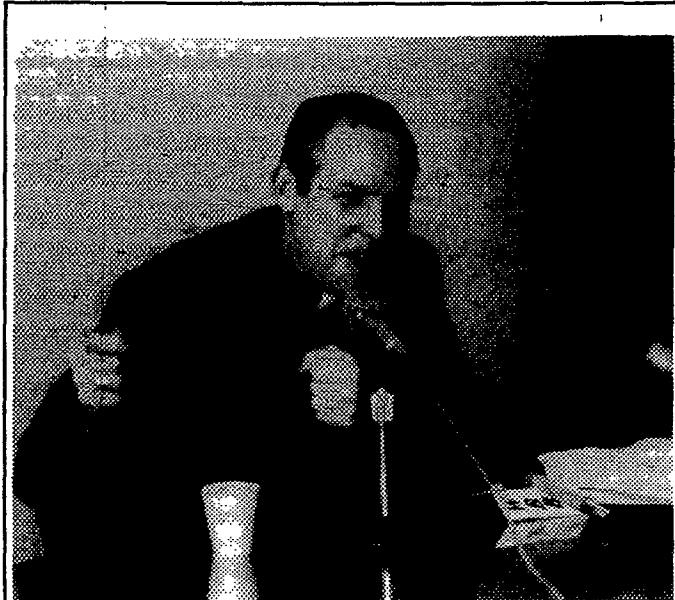
The council also received Bishop Clark's concern that the work of the MRC be more closely linked with the Priests Council. In a change of terminology, the bishop consistently referred to it as the Presbyteral Council.

The bishop asked the DPC to devise a "way to involve the Presbyteral Council more fruitfully in all (MRC) statements. The MRC is properly a matter of importance to them." He said he intended not to diminish the contribution of the DPC in the matter.

He said he had further charged Father Peter Bayer, newly appointed diocesan chancellor, "to try to develop a cleaner, more efficient, more satisfying way," to accomplish the work of the MRC.

For the first time in its recent history, the DPC meeting, at St. Joseph's Haggerty School of Religion in Livonia, concluded an hour early.

Following the meeting, the council's reaction to the decisions which had to have been made in the diocesan budget prompted one observer to remark that "there will be great rejoicing" in the bishop's quarters.



'Along the Way' Resumes Next Week

Bishop Matthew H. Clark announces to the press last Wednesday his plans to participate in an international peace symposium this week in Loccum, Germany. The bishop is one of three representatives from the United States participating. The others are Auxiliary Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan of Brooklyn, and Edward Doherty of the U.S. Catholic Conference's Office of International Justice and Peace. Because of Bishop Clark's absence, his column, "Along the Way," will not appear in this issue. It will resume next week.

Father Giles Conwill Will Preach Revival

Father Giles Conwill will preach the second Evangelization Revival sponsored by the diocesan Office of Black Ministries, Friday, May 18 through Sunday, May 20 at St. Bridget's Church.

The nationally renowned preacher is a priest of the Diocese of San Diego.

He is former vocations director for the National Office for Black Catholics and is now a doctoral candidate in cultural studies at Emory University, Atlanta, Ga.

Father Conwill's theme will be "Walking with Jesus."

Services will be held 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. The revival will conclude at a liturgy, 11:30 a.m. on Sunday.

The Friday night program is for youths, and all youths have been encouraged to attend.

Music will be provided by the Youth Mass Choir and local churches. The public is invited to the event and to attend the receptions after the services.



FATHER CONWILL

Aquinas B-Ball Camp Scheduled

Aquinas Institute will sponsor the second annual Mike Ruff Summer Basketball Camp from July 9-Aug. 3, with the program divided into two-week sessions.

The camp is open to boys ages 8-18 and girls ages 10-18, and will include full court games, a free camp T-shirt, daily refreshments and an award ceremony on the final day.

The fee is \$75 for the two-week session, with group discounts available. To obtain further information contact Aquinas Institute, 254-2020, or Mike Ruff, 473-8348.

Deadline

Parish correspondents are reminded that items for At Your Parish must be typed and in the Courier-Journal offices before noon on Thursday preceding Wednesday publication.

Special Celebration Slated for Disabled

More than 300 personal invitations have been issued and a general call went out this week inviting all diocesan disabled persons, their families and interested parties, to a special celebration May 26 at St. Theodore's Church, an accessible building.

According to Maureen Havens, chairperson of the steering committee of Ministry with Disabled, the event will include a 10 a.m. Mass and anointing, followed by testimony of concerns and comments before a panel composed of committee members.

Persons wishing to address the panel have been asked to call Mrs. Havens beforehand, (716) 235-8636.

Speaking to the Diocesan Pastoral Council last Saturday, Mrs. Havens asked delegates to spread word of the gathering through the diocese.

The event, she said, is a part of the committee's efforts to identify the disabled in the diocese and to educate the general public on the need to incorporate the disabled into parish life.

Br. Zdrowski, CSC Celebrates 25th

Recently, Brother Edward, Zdrowski, CSC, marked his 25th anniversary as a Brother of Holy Cross at a community celebration held in Valatie, New York.

Brother Edward, a member of the science department at Cardinal Mooney High School, entered the Holy Cross Community in 1958 and made his first vows in 1959.

A school news release reports that after graduating from St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas, Brother Edward was assigned to Monsignor Coyle High School in Tauton, Mass., and later to Holy Cross High School in Waterbury, Conn.

For the past 17 years he taught at Notre Dame International School in Rome, Italy, where he also held positions of dean of students, athletic director, and director of student activities. Brother Edward holds a graduate degree in science from Southern Connecticut University.

Currently, he teaches chemistry at Cardinal Mooney. He also serves as sophomore class moderator and was director of this year's school musical, "Hello Dolly."

Brother Edward is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Zdrowski of Seymour, Conn.

Sister Opts for Politics

Providence, R.I. (NC) -- Mercy Sister Elizabeth Morancy, a four-term Rhode Island state representative, has decided to leave the Sisters of Mercy to continue her political career, she said at a fund-raising event April 29 in Providence.

Sister Morancy said she had exhausted her appeals to church officials to continue in politics as a nun and said she has begun the procedure for dispensation from her vows. The process should be completed in approximately six weeks, she said.

The new Code of Canon Law, which went into effect last November, prohibits

priests and Religious from holding public office.

A Democrat, Sister Morancy has represented the Elmwood and Washington Park sections of Providence in the state legislature, where she has worked to pass legislation to help the poor.

She told the group of several dozen supporters at the fund-raiser that she will "continue to be a Sister of Mercy in my heart and in my ministry."

Although she had the support of her order in choosing a "political ministry," she said she wanted to avoid making her order or herself appear to be defying the Vatican.



Photo by Terrance J. Brennan

Peace Rallies Begin

More than 100 participated in the year's first peace demonstrations, a "Walk for Jobs with Peace," this past weekend in Seneca County. On Saturday, a group walked from the Seneca Army Depot's main gate some 12 miles to Waterloo. On Sunday, the

group assembled in Seneca Falls and marched approximately four miles to Cayuga Lake State Park where the weekend culminated in a rally and picnic. Above, participants in the Sunday walk file past St. Patrick's Church in Seneca Falls.

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