

John Walsh Returns to Plead Children's Cause

Native Auburnian, graduate of Mt. Carmel High School and parishioner of St. Mary's Church, John Walsh returned to the diocese last week to plead the cause of children.

Walsh is head of the Adam Walsh Child Resource Center in Florida. Three years ago, his son, Adam, was abducted and brutally murdered.

In a series of local meetings, Walsh was the featured promoter of The Child Safety Resource Project, being established

in Monroe County, to teach children how to prevent molestation and abduction, and to help families who need guidance when such events occur.

The project is principally aided by Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York (MONY) and the Adam Walsh Center. It is drawing together several community agencies to develop educational programs and materials for children ages 5 through 13.

Eventually the educational materials will be

available to schools, churches, youth groups, day care centers and similar organizations, a MONY release stated.

According to Jean Gilbert, president of the Rochester Federation of Catholic School Parents, her organization will actively promote the project. She said last week that she has asked for school room materials on the subject, the use of which she

will encourage in diocesan schools.

In an interview last week, Walsh cited statistics on the problem: 2,000 children a year are kidnapped and killed; about 50,000 children have been abducted and are still missing. In addition, it is estimated that 100,000 children each year are abducted by an estranged parent, he said.

A MONY release said that among the agencies

involved in the project are Camp Fire Girls and Boys, The CARE Unit of the Rochester Police Department, Planned Parenthood of Rochester and Monroe County, the Child Protective Service of the Department of Social Services and Family Service of Rochester.

The project will be housed in the offices of Camp Fire Girls and Boys at 19A Prince St.

"The emphasis of the local project is on teaching children, in terms which they can understand, how to recognize situations where someone may tempt to harm them and know how to react. Depending upon the age group, programs will utilize visual aids ranging from animated 16mm films, slides and posters, to dolls and puppet shows," MONY said.

Priests Council Has Revised Constitution

Geneva --The first meeting of the diocesan Priests Council since the ratification of its new constitution by the priests and Bishop Matthew H. Clark took place here recently. New members elected over the Summer also were on hand.

The revision work was necessary to bring the council into conformity with the revised Code of Canon Law, which took effect the first Sunday of Advent, 1983. One of the main new requirements is that the council be half elected; the former council had been a totally elected body. Membership now consists of 11 elected regional representatives, one from each region; 3 elected representatives from among the Religious priests; 3 ex-officio members and up to 4 appointed members to be named at the discretion of the bishop.

The bishop is now the council president, as required by the new law. Other officers elected at the meeting here are Father James M.

Moynihan, chairman; Father Thomas Wheeland, secretary; Father Eugene R. Weis, secretary. Council members and their alternates (listed second) are:

North, Msgr. Richard Burns, Father Ronald Stacy; Northeast, Fathers James Moynihan, James Hewes; Northwest, Fathers Wheeland, John Rosse; Southeast, Fathers Peter Clifford, Louis Hohman; Southwest, Fathers John Phillips, Joseph Brennan; Chemung-Schuyler, Fathers Edward Golden, Michael Bausch; Livingston, Fathers William Gordinier, Charles Bennett; Seneca-Cayuga, Fathers Paul Freemesser, Joseph Catanise; Steuben, Fathers Robert MacNamara, Jeremiah Moynihan; Tompkins-Tioga, Fathers Lewis Brown, John Maloney; Yates-Ontario-Wayne, Fathers Weis, James Burke.

Ex-officio members are Bishop Dennis W. Hickey, vicar general; Father Charles J. Latus, director of priests personnel and Father Peter T. Bayer, chancellor. Religious members are: Region I, Fathers Brendan Doherty CPPS, Joseph Trovato CBS; Region II, Father Edwin Foley CSSR. Alternates are: Region I, Fathers James F. Keenan SJ and Richard McNally SSCC; Region II, Father Patrick Seelman, TOR.

According to the revised constitution, the council has as its stated purposes:

1. to assist the bishop in the governance of the diocese;
2. to search for ways and means of promoting the pastoral welfare of the people of God entrusted to the bishop;
3. to relate to the Diocesan Pastoral Council, Sisters Council and other consultative bodies in a manner consonant with the purpose of each.

The council will have standing committees that probably focus on the areas of justice and peace, ministry in general and priestly life -- their exact names and composition to be determined.

At the meeting here, the bishop indicated several matters that he would be bringing to the council for deliberation and the delegates surfaced some concerns of their own for future agendas. Bishop Clark also appointed the following to serve as diocesan consultants: Bishop Hickey and Fathers Latus, Bayer, James Moynihan, Wheeland and Weis.

The next meeting will take place at the Lionstone here at 10:30 a.m. Oct. 1.

Golden Wedding

The Golden Wedding anniversary of William and Mary Buechel will be celebrated at a Mass, 6:30 p.m., Sept. 25 at Holy Cross Church. The Buechels are known in the diocese for their leadership in the Legion of Mary and the Charismatic Renewal. Their children are hosting a dinner and reception following the Mass at the Fireside Inn in Hilton.

Band Dinner

The Bishop Kearney Marching Kings Band will hold a spaghetti dinner fund-raiser, 2-4 p.m. in the Kearney cafeteria. Tickets will be available at the door or may be purchased from any band member.

Craft Bazaar

Union Hill -- The Union Hill Ladies Auxiliary will hold a Country Craft Bazaar, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 13 at the Union Hill Fire Department. The town is five minutes east of Webster. Directions state: take Route 104 East, right on County Line Road. Then exit, left on Old Ridge Road, one block to the fire department.

ALCOHOLISM SEMINAR

Elmira -- The monthly alcoholism seminar will take place at 12:15 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 20, in Classroom 2, Dunn Memorial Building, St. Joseph's Hospital. Dr. Peter R. Manes will present mental status examinations. Further information is available from (607) 733-5519.

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