



Mercies Begin Training

Mercy Sisters Joanne Deck, left, and Anne Marie Mathis, center, meet with Sister Jean Marie Kearse, superior general, to discuss the first phase of their preparation for mission work in Santiago, Chile. Through mid-December, the two will take courses on theology of mission, cross-cultural communication and world ideologies, among others, in the Department of Mission at Selly Oaks Colleges in Birmingham, England. From January to June, they will study language and culture in Cochabamba, Bolivia.

Diocesan Divisions Reaction To City Sex Ed Curriculum

Following is a statement by the Divisions of Education, Social Ministry and Urban Ministry on the Rochester City School District Family Life and Sexuality Education Curriculum for Junior Highs:

We commend the Rochester City School District in the efforts it has made to work with the various segments of the community to produce a Junior High Family Life and Human Sexuality Curriculum.

We support a human sexuality course within the public school system. We affirm with Pope John Paul II the primary role and responsibility of parents to educate children in human sexuality; therefore, we urge parents to take an active role in the implementation of the curriculum.

We recognize this curriculum cannot reflect all the values of the Roman Catholic community; therefore, the Diocese of Rochester is committed to helping Catholic parents by developing a handbook to be used alongside the curriculum.

We recognize the teacher training as an essential component in implementing the curriculum and therefore we urge the City School District to involve representatives of various cultural and religious viewpoints to take part in the teacher training.

Our full support of the curriculum is dependent upon how the curriculum is modified to reflect the issues raised at the community forum.

We have further concerns about the curriculum. These include:

- The family planning unit and its seemingly trivial treatment of the topic.

- Lack of background of what constitutes healthy sexual relationships.

- The information on Natural Family Planning is less than accurate.

- The topic of abortion must include factual information and the state of the moral dialogue; abortion must not be confused with methods of birth control.

- The addition and deletion of background materials must be done with a great deal of sensitivity to cultural and religious viewpoints because the materials are the primary resource for teachers.

- The audiovisual materials listed in the curriculum have not been reviewed and therefore cannot either be rejected nor accepted. We urge the City School District to seek high quality materials that are culturally and religiously sensitive; materials must be made available for parental preview.

We endorse the Sept. 26 position paper of the Teen Pregnancy Coalition and the attached memo from Dr. Noel Nitzkin of the Monroe County Health Department.

We look forward to the continuation of the process by which the curriculum has been developed to this point.

Notre Dame Sets Retreat for Women

Canandaigua — Notre Dame Retreat House has scheduled a retreat for women Nov. 30-Dec. 2.

Led by a team including Father Ed Foley CSSR, Sister

Mary Lynch SSJ, and Father Tim Keating CSSR, the program is entitled "The Good News of Salvation: being at peace with yourself, with others."

Further information and reservations are obtained by contacting the retreat house, P.O. Box 342, Canandaigua, N.Y. 14424; (716) 394-5700.

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ECKERT**



- ✓ Endorsed by the Rochester Democrat & Chronicle
- ✓ Endorsed by the Rochester Times-Union
- ✓ Endorsed by The Buffalo News
- ✓ Endorsed by the Monroe County Conservation Council
- ✓ Recipient of the 1979 Appreciation Award of the Rochester Federation of Catholic School Parents
- ✓ FOR the Balanced Budget Amendment (Opponent is AGAINST)
- ✓ FOR Tuition Tax Credits (Opponent is AGAINST)
- ✓ AGAINST new tax on consumer goods (Opponent is FOR)
- ✓ AGAINST new tax on luxuries (Opponent is FOR)
- ✓ AGAINST new income tax surcharge (Opponent is FOR)
- ✓ He has the experience — U.S. Ambassador/State Senator/Town Supervisor
- ✓ He really knows the issues — "Fred Eckert is more experienced and better trained for Congress than I was when I was first elected," says Barber Conable.
- ✓ Member, St. Charles Borromeo Parish
- ✓ Married for 20 years to former Karen Laughlin; children: Douglas (18), Brian (16), Cynthia (11).

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DEATHS

Sister Agnes Clare McGrath SSJ

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Oct. 22 for Sister Agnes Clare of the Sisters of St. Joseph. Sister Agnes Clare died Oct. 19, 1984 at St. Joseph Convent Infirmary.

The principal celebrant of the Mass was Father Charles Mulligan assisted by Father Edward Zimmer and Father Peter Bayer.

A native of Rochester, Sister Agnes Clare had her early education at Blessed Sacrament School and Nazareth Academy. She

earned a baccalaureate in education from Nazareth College and a second, in liberal arts, with majors in English and history.

She entered the convent from Blessed Sacrament Parish in 1920. For 50 years she taught in various diocesan schools, among them: St. Patrick, Seneca Falls; St. Francis Xavier, Rochester; St. Rose, Lima; St. Augustine, Immaculate Conception and Corpus Christi, Rochester; St.

Francis De Sales, Geneva and St. Monica, Rochester.

On her retirement from classroom duties, she took on the ministry of parish visitor, going to the sick and infirm in their homes and area hospitals.

She retired, because of illness, to the infirmary in 1981.

Sister Agnes Clare is survived by two sisters, Sister Rita Marie McGrath SSJ, and Mrs. Louis (Marcella) Weider of Rochester; and several nieces and nephews.

Adelaide M. Biesenbach

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Oct. 26 at Our Lady of Victory Church for Adelaide M. Biesenbach who died Oct. 23, 1984.

Miss Biesenbach had for many years been secretary, sacristan and organist at the church, and was an accomplished musician, playing both organ and piano.

A 1930 graduate of Nazareth College, she taught English and German at

Madison Junior High School for 33 years, and at Bishop Kearney High School for 11 years where she was in charge of attendance and chairman of the language department.

Miss Biesenbach was president of the Archconfraternity of the Holy Family at Our Lady of Victory and was active in many church-related committees. In addition, she was an oblate of the Redemptorist congregation.

She is survived by an aunt, Mrs. Hilda Knopf, and many cousins.

Hospital Plans Memorial Service

Elmira — A memorial service for those persons who have died at St. Joseph's Hospital from May through Sept. 3 of this year has been scheduled at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 14, in the Dunn Memorial Chapel.