

Along The Way

With Bishop Matthew H. Clark



Thursday afternoon.
 In a few hours, I'll be leaving for St. John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota, which is the site of this year's spring meeting of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. This will be the first spring business meeting of the conference since 1980. It was the judgment of the bishops at that time that two meetings each year were not necessary to conduct the affairs of the conference.

Since then, the agenda for our November meeting has become so crowded that we judged it necessary to return to the earlier format of two meetings per year. We will be dealing with a number of issues at Collegeville. Among them will be the continued development of our pastoral letter on Catholic Social Teaching and the U.S. Economy, a statement on higher education and campus ministry, and ongoing pastoral reflection on religious life.

I shall be involved as well in some committee meetings dealing with the formation of candidates for the priesthood, liaison with the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, our pastoral letter on Women in the Church and in Society.

On Sunday, we'll all share in a day of prayer under the

leadership of John Roach, the archbishop of St. Paul, Minneapolis.

There will be plenty to do during the five days we'll be there. My hope is, however, that there will be ample time for the kind of informal conversations that truly draw us together and help us remember that we need first and foremost to be pastoral leaders and persons of prayer.

Our only other meeting at Collegeville was held in June of 1982. That 10-day session was not a business meeting, but a time of reflection and sharing on the ministry of bishop, the pastoral problems of the day and ways in which we might respond to them.

I have heard many bishops comment since — and I have said it often myself — that the greatest lasting value of those days was a commonly realized and deeper awareness among us of the contribution we can and should offer in the Church.

Much of that renewed awareness was born of the fact that we came to know one another much better as flesh and blood individuals. It is one thing to exchange ideas, to discuss or even to argue issues. Those of course are necessary components in the development of common pastoral initia-

tives. But there is nothing quite so important in that pastoral service as a personal, incarnate knowledge of our colleagues in ministry and the people we serve.

That works other ways too. It is important that you know me, my brother priests, and all women and men who serve in public ministerial capacities in our faith community as pilgrims very much like you — as people who need prayer, the encouragement of friends, understanding when we fail and forgiveness when we sin.

To close on a personal note related to this issue in a very small way: Many ask me, "What do you want me to call you?" When I was growing up, we were trained to say "Your Excellency." Most people today say "Bishop." Both are proper. In addition to those two, I have been called: Your Eminence, Your Holiness, Your Highness, Your Beatitude, Your Amplitude, Mr. Bishop, Bishop Matthew, Hey You, and several other names best not printed here.

My personal preference is Bishop Matthew. It is under that title that I enjoy the prayers of the community at every Eucharistic liturgy. To be greeted by that name is to be reminded of your prayer for me and that is always a joy. Peace to all.

Father Robert J. Schrader Named Director of Diocesan Personnel

As an elected member of the Priests' Personnel Board for the past three years, Father Robert J. Schrader has worked within the division he will head in January, 1986, when he becomes director of the diocesan Division of Personnel, Staffing and Development.

But eight years of parish ministry, in his view, have given him equally important insights. After serving both city and suburban parishes — St. Monica's and St. Theodore's — in hospital and nursing home ministry, with youth in schools and even driving a school bus, he believes that the wide range of experience with people he's gained will be invaluable. As division director, he will not only chair the Priests' Personnel Board, but will also convene the Pastoral Assistants' Committee and oversee the departments of vocations, permanent

diaconate, seminarian training, ministry to priests program, sabbatical program for priests, internships, and personnel services.

Father Schrader will step into the vacancy left by Father Charles J. Latus who will travel to Rome for a sabbatical before returning next June for a parish assignment. "I am looking forward to the opportunity to renew myself theologically," Father Latus said. "My first love is parish ministry, where these new insights will help me in addressing parish needs and concerns."

Ordained April 7, 1978, Father Schrader is a graduate of Blessed Sacrament School, St. Andrew's Seminary and Becket Hall at St. John Fisher College. He also studied at St. Bernard's Seminary, where he completed a master of divinity degree and a master of arts in theology in 1977.

"Bob's genuine care and concern for his

fellow priests and his openness to new approaches to ministry" are strengths Father Latus identified in his successor. "He brings to this position great organizational strength and good, solid parish experience," Father Latus added.

Prior to his appointment as personnel director more than three years ago, Father Latus served as secretary to both Bishop Matthew H. Clark and Bishop Joseph L. Hogan for a total of four years.

Final Profession of Vows

Sister Katherine Nicosia professed her final vows as a Sister of St. Joseph of Rochester during a Eucharistic celebration on Sunday, June 3, at St. Mary's Church in Elmira. Father James Boyle was the celebrant.

The theme of her profession was God as "Creator Friend." Promising to a loving and faithful God the three vows of chastity, poverty and obedience, Sister Kay stated her "desire to live in humility and charity and to serve others without distinction by the works

of mercy and justice."

Sister Kay is the daughter of Ann and the late Dr. John Nicosia of Houston, Texas. A 1965 graduate of Robert E. Lee High School in Houston, she received bachelor's degrees in education from the University of Houston and in art from Dominican College, and a master's degree in fine arts from RIT.


In July, Sister Kay will leave St. Mary's, where she has been director of religious education, to become communications assistant for the Diocese of Rochester.

Ministry Workshop Offered

An all-day introductory program for special ministers of the Eucharist will be sponsored by the diocesan Liturgy Office on Saturday, June 29, at Holy Apostles School Hall in Rochester. Women and men newly interested in this ministry as well as those ministers who have never taken part in an introductory session are invited.

Scheduled from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., the program will include Eucharistic theology, liturgical practice, spirituality of ministry and practicum for special ministers of the Eucharist both at Mass and to the sick.

Those interested in assisting with the distribution of the Eucharist should contact their pastors regarding the workshop. Participants are asked to register with the Liturgy Office before Tuesday, June 25. The registration fee is \$3. Beverages will be provided and anyone who attends should bring a brown bag lunch.



Diocesan Appointments

Bishop Matthew H. Clark has announced the following diocesan appointments:
Father Thomas Celso from associate St. John the Evangelist, Spencerport, to associate St. Mary's, Canandaigua.
Father John Dillon from administrator Church of the Epiphany, Sodus, and St. Rose of Lima, Sodus Point, to pastor of the same.
Father Ronald Frederick from associate St. Ambrose, Rochester, to associate St. Mary's, Canandaigua.
Father Paul J. Freemesser from pastor St. Patrick's, Cato, and St. Thomas, Red Creek, to special diocesan assistance (sabbatical and emergency coverage) residence — Our Lady of Mercy rectory, Rochester.
Father Leo J. Reinhardt from associate Church of the Annunciation, Rochester, to associate St. Stephen's, Geneva.

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