

Encuentro Adopta Proposiciones De Los Nueve Delegados Locales

Por Teresa A. Parsons

La justicia social y los programas para jóvenes fueron dos prioridades que los delegados de la área de Rochester trajeron a Filadelfia el fin de semana pasada como participantes de "el Segundo Encuentro" de la región. La reunión con mas que 300 delegados hispanos de las 27 diócesis en el noreste de Los Estados Unidos continuaron preparando para la convención nacional en Washington D.C. El tercer encuentro marcará la consumación del ministerio hispano para presentar a la convención nacional de los obispos católicos.

Los delegados locales quienes asistieron "el encuentro" en la universidad LaSalle del jueves 20 de mayo al martes 2 de junio incluyeron el Padre John Mulligan, el director de la división diocesana a para servicios urbanos; el Hermano Luis Ruberte, el Rivera, el director asociado del apostolado; el Diacono Carlos Vargas; la

Hermana Juventia Garcia y Evelyn DeJesus.

Después de las grandes ceremonias comienzas de la primera noche fueron los dos días de sesiones en las mananas y en las uespertinas para desarrollar proposiciones de cinco áreas: la educación, los jóvenes, la justicia social, el mando y la evangelización. Estos acuerdos serán enconsolidados con otros durante "el encuentro nacional" en Washington "el segundo encuentro" fue terminado el domingo con charlas finales y celebración eucarística.

Las intereses mas importantes expresadas en Philadelphia fueron mas responsabilidad para líderes hispanos de la Iglesia, y mas fondos para programas para jóvenes y becas para las escuelas católicas diocesanas. Mas atención fue dado a la crisis de la vivienda y la necesidad para mas personal hispano en las iglesias con congregaciones grandes hispanas.

Una proposición de interesante local fue

adoptada pidiendo la formación de un plan pastoral nacional para la formación de un plan para el ministerio hispano el plan sería puesto en práctica en cada diócesis, conforme con los requisitos locales.

Rivera anotó que una de las intereses mas importantes de la delegación de Rochester fue estableciendo un fondo o una colecta que pueda consolidar las ideas presentadas en "el encuentro". Por desgracia, él dijo nada ya ha pasado de esa propuesta.

En la área de la justicia social, un centro nacional para tratar de las problemas del racismo, la discriminación, la brutalidad de la policía, y la reintegración de ex-criminales en comunidades fue endosado. Aunque los delegados locales apoyaron una junta en lugar del centro, Rivera dijo que él estaba contento porque los problemas habían recibido las atenciones importantes.

La delegada para jóvenes, Evelyn DeJesus fue una influencia mayor entre todos los jóvenes en "el encuentro" de Rochester en mayo. Señalando que como los jóvenes hispanos, tienen una discriminación doble, los delegados pidieron oficinas diocesanas para el ministerio de los jóvenes hispanos, y para mas programas y retiros para aumentar las comunicaciones entre padres e hijos y la promoción de su idioma y sus costumbres - pidiendo un proceso bilateral para la interacción con las costumbres anglo-americanas.

Padre John Mulligan, quien asistió algunos programas, dijo que él ha sido impresionado con la índole hacia la gran masa de los partidarios del proceso de "el

encuentro" que ha creado un dialogo de las masas a los cabezas de la Iglesia.

"Yo estaba contento porque de las 30 diócesis, la nuestra trajo dos proposiciones que fueron adoptadas," dijo sobre las proposiciones en la área de la justicia social. El aplauso la delegación de Rochester porque la senalo que hispanos debían desarrollar sus metas no solo entre ellos mismos sino también toda gente.

"Fui mas impresionado por la suerte de la diócesis de Rochester porque tiene parroquias envueltas en el ministerio para hispanos" Padre Mulligan dijo.

Un momento importante de la ceremonia introductiva ocurrió cuando cada delegación fue reconocida. Una delegación se introdujo en silencio, sino fuertemente, demostrando rotulos diciendo "hispanos son 25 por ciento de nuestra diócesis, pero no tenemos ni un funcionario apostolado hispano en nuestra diócesis."

Aproximadamente 10 delegados de Rochester incluyendo el Obispo Matthew H. Clark, planean asistir el encuentro nacional en agosto.

El proceso del encuentro empezó reaccionando a la proclamación por la conferencia de los obispos católicos de los Estados Unidos, en el enero de 1983 sobre el ministerio hispano. Las cinco temas primarias resultaron de una sesión para planear en Chicago en el abril de 1984, y después de un año para pensar, "el encuentro" de Rochester fue del 22 de Marzo al 23 de Marzo.

'Terrorist Acts'

Continued from Page 1

aid is playing in the conflict.

NICA is a gathering of church communities, interest groups and individuals who oppose U.S. intervention in Nicaragua, including the funding of rebel forces and the trade embargo. They act in conjunction with the nation-wide Pledge of Resistance network.

A NICA member and spokesperson, Pat Mannix is also a Catholic, a wife and mother, who points to Nicaragua's Catholicism as one reason she became involved. "As members of the Body of Christ, we ought to be aware that the hand is cutting off the foot," she said of the effect U.S. aid in having on the conflict.

Mannix hopes NICA's efforts will bring pressure to bear on those who can stop U.S. intervention.

"I want to speak to the hierarchy of the Church because I think often it is aligned with the government's pursuit of these policies, and that's a terrible contradiction of the Gospel message," she continued. "People of conscience must be politically active ... it's theologically correct because we are called to champion the cause of the oppressed."

On Wednesday, June 12, as the House of Representatives gave preliminary approval to \$27 million in rebel aid, close to 70 NICA members marched in a funeral procession carrying a symbolic coffin from the Liberty Pole to the Federal Building, where nine were arrested for refusing to leave the building. Last month, 17 members were arrested for refusing to leave the office of Republican Congressman Fred Eckert.

Although she does not advocate breaking the law in general, Mannix does believe that "moral law supersedes a country's laws" when they are unjust or incidental. She has supported NICA's civil disobedience because she believes that breaking those two categories of laws in a spirit of non-violent resistance is morally right.

Hijacking

Continued from Page 1

As friends and relatives in the United States waited for more information, prayer vigils and masses for the hostages were held at Rockford Diocese churches.

At a meeting June 14 of the U.S. Bishops in Collegeville, Minn., the hijacking's first day, Bishop O'Neill told NC News Service, "I hope and pray they'll be safe. They're all very fine pastors."

Bishop O'Neill said he received word of the hijacking in a call from his chancery office shortly before a noontime mass concelebrated by the bishops.

As Bishop O'Neill was being interviewed,

NICA members don't risk the same physical dangers as demonstrators in the civil rights movement, but Mannix pointed out that her actions have not been without cost. Being arrested means legal fees in addition to emotional fears and loss of respect, both publicly and privately. Some family members, she says, are often aghast at her behavior. However, her personal interpretation of the Gospel is that, beyond risking all for one another, "we should be willing to risk our lives for justice."

Reacting to the House of Representative's vote on Wednesday to consider renewing non-military aid to the contras, Mannix said "I really struggle to understand this ... how did what was so clear in April (Congress's vote cutting off aid to the rebels) change? What difference does it make whether you buy weapons or food for killers?" she demanded.

Shortly before last week's House vote, a spokesman for the U.S. Catholic Conference also questioned the wisdom of the humanitarian aid as well as President Reagan's unilateral economic embargo. Monsignor Daniel F. Hoye, USCC general secretary, wrote in a letter to the House that "we seriously question proposals which provide equivalent assistance even though not under the title of military aid."

Monsignor Hoye added that Cardinal Obando Bravo of Managua, Nicaragua, has described the embargo as aggravating an already difficult situation for Nicaraguans.

NICA members urge those who agree that U.S. intervention in the Nicaraguan conflict is wrong to phone or write their local elected representatives and register their opinions. Congress has yet to approve the final contra-aid package.

Bishop Edward O'Rourke of Peoria, Ill., who once was on a hijacked plane himself, came by.

Bishop O'Rourke in September 1976 had helped talk hijackers of his flight into letting their hostages go.

"We ended up in Paris, freed after 32 hours," Bishop O'Rourke told Bishop O'Neill. Right up until the time the hijackers released them, the Peoria Bishop said, "all of us were convinced we were dead."

"I hope your fellows fare as well as we did," he told the Rockford Bishop.

Puerto Rican Bishop Named

Father Alvaro Corrada Del Rio, SJ, named Auxiliary Bishop of Washington, D.C. on Tuesday, June 4, is the first native-born Puerto Rican bishop to serve in the continental United States according to Brother Luis Ruberte, director of the Spanish Apostolate of the Diocese of Rochester.

As pastoral coordinator of the Northeast Pastoral Center for Hispanics in New York City, Bishop-elect Corrada Del Rio has had extensive involvement with the Hispanic community in the Diocese of Rochester. For the past three years, he has traveled here to teach a monthly course to Hispanic permanent deacons and candidates.

The Bishop-elect was also keynote speaker at the diocesan Hispanic III Encounter held at Sacred Heart Cathedral in March, 1985, and has preached at a number of parishes in the area.

He will be consecrated on Sunday, August

4, in Washington, D.C.. A local delegation will represent the Diocese of Rochester at the event.

Healing Service

A healing and restoration service will be conducted by Father Edward J. McDonough, CSSR, at the National Shrine of the North American Martyrs in Auriesville, N.Y. on Sunday, June 30. Father McDonough is director of the healing and restoration ministry in Boston, Mass.

The schedule of services will begin at 10 a.m. with a teaching and prayer service in the Martyrs' Open Chapel and concludes at 11:30 a.m. for a luncheon intermission and private prayer. All pilgrims will be asked to assemble in the Coliseum Church at 1:30 p.m. for the healing service, to be followed by Mass at 4 p.m. All are cordially invited.

Combatting Teen Pregnancy:

County Approves Joint Proposal By Catholic Family Center, Others

By Teresa A. Parsons

A joint proposal by the Catholic Family Center, the Ibero-American League Inc. and Action for a Better Community was one of 11 approved by Monroe County's Interim Planning Group on Teen Pregnancy in a 14-3 vote Tuesday, June 11.

The proposals are part of a package that will compete with those of 23 other counties for \$4.7 million available from the state's Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Plan.

Known as Life Step, the joint proposal has two main components — the LIFE program, a workshop series aimed at prevention, and the STEP program, which would address the needs of teen-aged parents, their infants and families.

But despite Life Step's inclusion in the county's plan, three representatives of the Teen Pregnancy Coalition, a group that includes the Diocese of Rochester as a member, voted against the package. They are William Privett, associate director of Catholic Charities; C. Ivette Salgado, Ibero-American Action League board president; and Angel Rivera, associate director of the diocesan Spanish Apostolate.

"Overall, there are what seem to me a lot of good projects," Privett said, but noted two major concerns that prompted his vote. "Parents told us at the hearings that their children need positive options to parenthood," he explained, referring to a series of six forums sponsored by the county's Interim Planning Group. Although Life Step's original proposal included an employment counselor in response to that need, the position was cut in the squeeze between requested funding and the final recommendation.

Privett voted to register his concern over that omission and also because he believes that confidential counseling on the use of contraceptives, provided by the Anthony Jordan Health Center proposal, detracts from the family's responsibility to deal with a child's sexuality.

The Jordan proposal, which was only recently added to the county's plan, would expand the hours of its Teen Center, which provides free, confidential health care to adolescents, and includes contraceptive services.

Salgado said that her conscience would not allow her to vote yes on the county's plan. In the Hispanic community and at the public forums in general, she said, parents asked for help in communicating with their children on the subject of sexuality, not more opportunities to obtain birth control. "As a parent of three daughters and one son who is himself the parent of a three-year-old, I am not about to give up my rights as a parent," Salgado said. "We cannot allow agencies to become surrogate parents for the community ... as parents we have to fight to regain our rights."

Rivera, a board member of the Catholic Family Center, voted no on the plan because he believed the process of choosing the group's three-person review board was handled unfairly in addition to the other reasons cited. "I just was not happy with the way people were chosen for the board," he said.

Life Step, which received the Interim Planning Group's largest single funding recommendation at \$105,100, will combat teen pregnancy by bringing together children, aged 10-16, and their parents or important others in a series of workshops to help families establish and communicate their sexual values. Each LIFE workshop would use trained parent volunteers helping with groups of about 50 people. At least 1/2 of the 400 teens targeted would be at high-risk as defined by the Monroe County Department of Social Services.

The STEP segment of the proposal will focus on outreach and counseling to teenagers of both sexes who are already parents, those at high risk, and their parents. After identifying the family or individual's needs, STEP will inform and encourage them to make use of community services such as parenting classes, self-help and support groups, and employment counseling. The accent of the Life Step program in both efforts is to promote communication within the family on sexuality and to approach the issues in a life-enhancing way.

Along with the countywide program, Life Step would concentrate on three targeted areas: the City of Rochester, which shows the highest rate of pregnancy; the town of Greece, because it has the highest number of teen pregnancies among suburban towns; and Parma, where there is a lack of available services.

Other components of Monroe County's proposed plan to reduce teen pregnancy include additional educational efforts, legal assistance, daycare services and a media campaign to promote responsible sexual behavior. The plan must be submitted to the state by July 1. Awards to an expected 15 counties should be announced by late summer and funding should begin this fall.

Correction

In last week's story on the regional encuentro in Philadelphia, we placed Rochester's encuentro in May. Actually it was held in March and we regret the error.