

Along The Way

With Bishop Matthew H. Clark



Sunday morning.

Today will be an easy and pleasant one. I'll be offering the 11 a.m. Mass here at Sacred Heart Cathedral. It is always a pleasure to celebrate here; it will carry an extra measure of joy for me today in that the homilist will be Michael Krupiarz whom I had the pleasure of ordaining to the permanent diaconate on June 1.

After Mass I'll drive to Geneva to preside at the commencement exercises at DeSales High School. There is a beautiful enthusiasm in that relatively small school community which is only heightened when all gather on an occasion such as this to recognize the achievements of those graduates.

I have one stop to make on the way home. That will be at the Country Club of Rochester to join a dinner in honor of Bishop Dennis W. Hickey on the occasion of his retirement from the pastorate of Saint Thomas More Parish in Brighton. I remind Bishop Hickey daily now that, although he is retiring from this pastorate, he is still auxiliary bishop and vicar general, and will be involved in all kinds of ministry on the

diocesan level. Let me be selfish for a moment and say to you all that I am absolutely delighted that the bishop will be hanging his hat at the Pastoral Center again. His goodness and friendship have been special blessings in my own life and ministry.

What is true in the case of Bishop Hickey is true as well for all of our senior priests. They continue to offer ministry in our faith community which is truly reconciling and hope building. Some are able to be quite active physically and move around with remarkable energy. Others, limited now in physical energy, continue to serve the life of the community in prayer and sacrifice, and in a variety of quiet ways. All of them give a moving witness to that kind of fidelity to which we are all called.

On Wednesday, we will honor their ministry at a party at Sacred Heart to which we have invited all of our senior priests. It will be the fifth time we have held this annual gathering. There will be some great stories and good laughter. We will enjoy spiritual singing led by Monsignor Francis Burns and Father Ben Ehmann.

● Thank you for your prayers for our meeting at Collegeville last week. It was a productive session that brought the bishops together in a way that was both efficient and pleasing. I enjoyed especially the superb ministry of John Roach, archbishop of St. Paul/Minneapolis, who led one day of prayer on Sunday.

I also enjoyed the company of the other bishops, especially of those with whom I participated in group discussions over four days of meeting. It is an enriching educational opportunity to hear bishops from different parts of the country reflect on the pastoral experience of their local churches.

In our group were bishops from Juneau, Alaska; Dubuque, Iowa; Detroit, Mich.; Stockton, Cal.; Philadelphia, Pa.; Marquette, Mich.; and Denver, Colo. Also adding much to our table was Sister Miriam Therese Larkin, C.S.J., of Saint Louis who is president-elect of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious.

Happy vacation, and peace to all.

Social Ministry

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Tier Office of Social Ministry, Father Bausch has administered an office which he believes provided many of the same services, but in tune with different community needs. In particular, he said, the Southern Tier Office needed to address the poverty of un-



Staff members of the new Genesee Valley Office of Social Ministry have recently moved into their offices at 50 Chestnut Street.

employment. As for the Genesee Valley Office — its goals and mission will be determined through consultation with all its member agencies.

Father Bausch is a native of Batavia, N.Y., where he graduated from Notre Dame High School. He earned a degree in business administration from St. Bernard College in Alabama and worked for several years afterward as district executive for the Boy Scouts of America in Corning. Returning to

Rochester in 1974, he studied at St. John Fisher College while working as associate education director for the diocesan Office of Human Development, and received a master of divinity degree from St. Bernard's Seminary in 1978. He was ordained in 1979 and assigned to St. Patrick's Church in Seneca Falls. After more than three years there, Father Bausch moved to the University of Rochester Medical Center as chaplain in June, 1982, and then to the Southern Tier

office in June, 1983.

The first task for Father Bausch and his staff is to work with transitional committees from each agency and form an overall plan for delivery of services in Monroe and Livingston counties. Their tentative goal is July 1, 1986, but the process, he pointed out, is necessarily slow because of the need to keep it a consultative one. "We plan to have input and participation at all levels," he said.

Social Ministry on the Homefront

Pam Masterson is the voice of Livingston County in so far as social ministry is concerned. As coordinator for the 10-parish area, she is one example of the way the new Genesee Valley Office, located in Rochester, hopes to reach out to individual parish communities.

A 34-year-old native of Livonia, Masterson knows her turf. Rural poverty is usually more hidden than in urban settings, she noted, adding that people cut themselves off from help out of pride. "They don't want you to know they're poor," she said, and the isolation of their lives makes it easier to conceal.

A shortage of social services compounds the problem. As an example, she cites the fact that rural towns seldom have apartment-type housing suited to the needs of the elderly. Senior citizens are faced with either the constant struggle of maintaining large single-family homes, or leaving not only neighbors and friends, but also a way of life, for housing they can handle.

Livingston County parishes and the diocese pooled resources in November, 1984, to hire Masterson. Since then she has found her work a constant challenge. "I never

know what'll be next," she said, adding that she feels privileged to "see people coming alive ... to see their recognition through Scripture of the call of Christ" as they put their faith into action.

Four summers as an art director and counselor at Camp Stella Maris were among the motives Masterson cited in her decision to join the Roman Catholic Church six years ago. She then worked as a part-time youth minister at St. Joseph's Church in Livonia, but recalls that her life really changed

directions when she began to volunteer at St. Joseph's House of Hospitality on South Avenue in Rochester.

"It raised my consciousness and opened my eyes to needs I had never imagined," she recalled. Since then, she has found justice is at the core of her faith.

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THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER



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**My friend's baby died.
How can I help?**

Infants are very important to their parents. The hopes that are built during pregnancy, the excitement at birth and the thrill of getting to know the infant are dashed when the baby's life ends. Parents ought to be allowed to grieve and express their feelings. If possible, an opportunity to talk with other parents who have also lost young children can be most helpful. It is usually not helpful to suggest that now there is another angel in heaven or that the parents grief will be eased by simply having another child. Visit the family often and allow them to tell you of their loss and what the infant meant to them.

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DINING AROUND THE DIOCESE

The Courier-Journal will be starting with its July 3rd Issue, and once-a-month thereafter, A Special Section Featuring Dining Establishments in the Rochester Diocese.

We need your Patronage to make this a success, and hope you will look to our guide for many enjoyable evenings of good eating.