

Activities Around the Diocese

Propagation offices move to Pastoral Center

After 13 years on East Avenue, the Society for the Propagation of the Faith has moved to a new home at the Pastoral Center, 1150 Buffalo Road.

Father Robert Bradler, diocesan director of the society, thanks the people of the diocese for their continuing generosity to the missions. Last year, he notes, the Diocese of Rochester ranked 15th among all the dioceses in the United States in total giving to the missions. Per capita, the diocese ranks seventh.

The people of the diocese contributed nearly \$1 million to the missions, \$211,065 of that going to the victims of the Ethiopian drought.

"It is a great blessing that the people of the diocese take very seriously the call to be missionaries and express their spirit in a manner that provides the most basic bread-and-butter support for the Church in the missions.

Father Bradler also thanked two staff members, Mary Mitrano and Vera Trabold, who have retired from the office after 20 years of service. The office currently consists of Josephine Bartolomeo, who has 25 years service, and new staff members Elizabeth Noltee and Margaret Wafer.

The office's new telephone number is (716)436-9200.



Jeff Goulding/Courier-Journal
Staff members of the Propagation of the Faith unpack in their new Pastoral Center office. Shown here are: (standing, left to right) Mary Mitrano, Elizabeth Noltee, Father Bradler and (seated) Josephine Bartolomeo.

Mercy Faith Sharing

Sister Joanne Lappetito, RSM, will present "Religious Congregations: History, Differences, Charisms" as the first series of faith sharing events sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy for 1985/86. Beginning Oct. 15, the series will continue for three consecutive Tuesdays from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Convent in Bath, N.Y.

Through prayer, retreats, discussion and other experiences, faith sharing provides an opportunity for women to deepen their knowledge of the spirit of religious life and learn more about the lives and ministries of the Sisters of Mercy.

Subsequent events include: "Prayer and God's Creation," a retreat with Sisters Maureen Servas and Anne Curtis, Dec. 6-7; "Called to Commitment — Called to Life" retreat with Sister Janet Korn, Feb 7-9; and "Prayer and Ministry" mini-series with Sister Rita Kaufman April 8, 15 and 22. All three events will be at High Acres in Geneva.

For more information or if you plan to attend, call one of the following members of the congregation's vocation team: Sister Sheila Stevenson, (716)244-2175 (Rochester); Sister Marie Catherine Cain, (607)732-6295 (Corning, Elmira, Ithaca); or Sister Pat Prinzing, (607)324-0833 (Hornell).

Gift For Holy Childhood



The Supreme Ladies' Auxiliary, Knights of St. John, presented Sister Seraphine (right), director of the School of the Holy Childhood, with a \$1,000 gift Thursday, Sept. 5. Betty Shea (left), supreme recording secretary, presented the check. Holy Childhood, a school for special children, is located on Groton Parkway.

The contribution was made through the Teresa and Johanna Memorial Fund, to which each auxiliary member contributes one penny per month. In the past, the fund has supported priests' education and other causes, built chapels and educated teachers.

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Mercy Sisters Benefit

Comedian, impressionist and singer Rich Little will bring his show to the Eastman Theatre on Sunday, Nov. 17, for two performances sponsored by the Founders Club of the Sisters of Mercy. A 19-piece Eastman Orchestra will support Little's performances at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m.

All profits from the show will be used to support sisters' study for advanced degrees, continuing education and preparation for specialized ministries. That's the mission of the Founders Club, headed by Dr. Gerard Guerinot.

Pre-sale tickets are available from the Founders Club office at the Mercy Motherhouse Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Call (716)288-4817.



Sister Nancy Whitely (left) and Sister Mary Justin Morris met Rich Little after a show at Klamesha Lake this summer. Sister Nancy is co-chairperson of the Mercy Founders Club and Sister Justin is managing advance ticket sales for the club.

Ithaca Parish Renewal

St. Catherine of Siena parish will sponsor two days of renewal with Father Eugene Walsh, S.S., one of America's most-traveled leaders of renewal events Saturday and Sunday, October 19-20. A priest of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, Father Walsh has earned a master's degree in philosophy and a doctorate in theology from the Catholic University of America. He has taught seminarians and served as rector and a staff member at Theological College of Catholic University while assisting parishes with workshops on liturgy.

His weekend program will concentrate on

the parish experience of Sunday Mass in the light of the renewal initiated by the Second Vatican Council. His goal is to help parishioners understand that renewal.

Saturday's session begins at 9 a.m. in the parish center and ends at 3:30 p.m. Father Walsh will give the homily at all weekend Masses as well. The program is free to parishioners — others pay \$5 per person. Participants are asked to bring a bag lunch. Instructional material will be provided and reference material will be available for purchase. For more information, call the church office at (607)257-2493.

Bell Tower Celebration

Those who have passed through the downtown area on a recent evening may have noticed a new light beckoning. The beacon is the newly lighted bell tower of St. Mary's Church.

The bell tower, added to the 151-year-old church in 1940, has never before been lighted at night. To celebrate its addition to the Rochester skyline, St. Mary's parishioners plan a Tower Lighting Party Saturday, Oct. 12, at 7:15 p.m. Bell tower tours, refreshments and entertainment will highlight the party. Mayor Tom Ryan will "officially" light the tower at 7:30 p.m. It will remain

lighted each evening from dusk to 11 p.m.

According to a history of St. Mary's written by Gerard Muhl and Father Charles Bennett and edited by Joseph W. Barnes, city historian, the 55-foot tower was completed in the winter of 1939-40. The bell tower was designed by architect James B. Arnold, who is reported to have said that he "never passed by St. Mary's without wishing it had a steeple." The original church, without its bell tower, was built in 1853.

Saturday's party is open to the public and St. Mary's staff promises an evening of fun and surprises.

Lecture at St. Mary's

Dr. David O'Brien, a noted theologian, historian and scholar, will speak on "American Catholicism since Vatican II: Is Renewal Over?" Saturday, Oct. 19, at 7:30 p.m. in St. Mary's Church, downtown Rochester.

A professor at Holy Cross College in Massachusetts, O'Brien is a Notre Dame graduate and earned a doctorate in American history from the University of Rochester. He has written two books, "American Catholics and Social Reform" and "The Renewal of American Catholicism," and has edited a third titled "Renewing the Earth: Catholic Documents on Peace, Justice and Liberation." A member of the National Catholic Reporter's board of directors, O'Brien has

served as consultant for the Call to Action program of the U.S. bishops in the 1970's.

Saturday's lecture is open to the public and free, and will be followed by discussion and refreshments. O'Brien will also speak at each of St. Mary's weekend Masses (Saturday, 4 p.m.; Sunday, 8:30, 10, 11:30 a.m.).

Vocation Awareness Week

Church Vocation Awareness Week is being observed this year October 13-20. Celebrated each fall, it is a time when parishes around the country are asked to focus on and pray for an increase of vocations to the religious life and to the priesthood.



At Becket Hall's recent Ministry Night, Father Jim Schwartz (second from left) and discernment program members (from left) Mike Volino, Mark Nemes, Pete Colosi and John Sargent play with the Becket Hall dog, Jacob.

Ministry Night at Becket Hall

Becket Hall recently held a "ministry night," an informal seminar and cook-out for more than 30 young men, most of whom are in the discernment program for seminarians — students at Becket hall, affiliate candidates and SEEK program members.

During the evening, three diocesan priests discussed their vocations. The speakers were: Father Anthony Valente, chaplain at Strong Memorial Hospital; Father Mike Mahler, member of the ministry team at Cornell University; and Father Bill Leone, pastor of St. Francis Xaview and Holy Redeemer parishes.

Persons interested in the diocesan discernment programs may call Father Tom Valenti at (716)328-3210.

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K of C State Deputy

Thomas Hovancik is here installed as New York State Deputy of the Knights of Columbus by Bishop Frank Harrison of the Diocese of Syracuse. At left is Father Richard Kopp, secretary to the Bishop, and at right is Father Richard Detrick, pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Greene, N.Y. Hovancik, a Johnson City resident, is chief officer of the 120,000 K of C members in New York state.

Correction

Last week, part III of the series on women religious and renewal incorrectly identified Sister Jane Kenrick as Janet. We regret the error.

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