



Along the Way

Bishop Matthew H. Clark

Very often at this time of year, national and local publications produce articles noting the memorable events and personalities of the past year and offering their predictions and hopes for the months ahead. I enjoy reading such articles because whether they are written in a serious or humorous vein, they help me contemplate a wide range of human experience in the light of the Christmas mystery.

Following are some expressions of gratitude for grace experienced in 1985. Sometime in the next few weeks, I'll mention some of my fondest hopes for the new year.

As 1986 begins, I offer thanks to our gracious God for:

- All of the women and men of our diocese who serve in our domestic and foreign missions. I write these words on the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe and so am especially mindful of our friends who have served or do now serve in Selma, Mexico, Brazil, Bolivia and Chile. They daily plant seeds which will bear fruit, not only where they serve, but here in our local Church.

- The religious women and men, other lay ministers, priests and deacons who so generously serve in our local family of faith. Your fidelity to and care for God's people is a haven among us.

- The able and generous persons who serve on the councils, committees, task forces and boards of our diocese, parishes and other institutions. In the perfect world to come, life may be simpler. For now, we need to do a lot of this type of hard work. Your commitment is a great gift for which we are all

grateful.

- The growth the Church has enjoyed in these post-conciliar years. This growth is painful for many dear friends and sometimes it can seem so slow but the Lord guides us along safe paths, always drawing on our capacity to participate in His creative love.

- The leadership of a growing number of persons in our community who call us to simpler ways of living and relative to each other. They are not afraid of complexity nor do they flee from hard work. But they have such a sense of dependence on God that their relationships with others are graceful and marked by a notable level of trust.

- The gift of priesthood in the Church and for the priests of our diocese. I am especially mindful of them, at this time of year, when I celebrate the twenty-third anniversary of my own ordination. Priestly ministry has been a source of constant joy to me; the ministry and friendship of the priests of our diocese are gifts which I treasure very deeply. I ask you please to pray for all of us and to encourage our young men to consider this wonderful vocation.

- My mother, my sister and brother-in-law, my five gorgeous nieces and most especially for

- You and people like you for the countless ways you honor and give witness to Christ in daily living. You are the light of the world. In this holy season I pray that God will grace you with a deep sense of your goodness and of your power to transform the world.

Christmas peace to all.

Women's Weekend Retreat

Women are invited to a weekend retreat at Notre Dame Retreat House in Canandaigua Friday through Sunday, Jan. 24-26. "Come, follow me..." will focus on participant's identity as people who belong to the Lord

and how their gifts are offered to care for His people.

For more information or to register, write Notre Dame at P.O. Box 342, Canandaigua, N.Y., 14424, or call (716)394-5700.

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Diocesan Appointments



Bishop Matthew H. Clark has announced the following diocesan appointments:

Father Paul Cloonan from sabbatical to administrator, St. Vincent DePaul, Churchville, during sabbatical of **Father Dominick Mockevicius**.

Father Daniel Condon from parochial vicar, St. Joseph's, Penfield, to parochial vicar, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Rochester.

Father William Darling from parochial vicar, St. Thomas More, Rochester, to parochial vicar, St. Patrick, Owego.

Father Peter Deckman from missionary work, Riberalta-Beni, Bolivia, to sabbatical, Notre Dame Institute for Clergy Education.

Father Robert Downs to pastor of St. Bernard's, Scipio Center, in addition to his duties as pastor of St. Patrick's, Moravia.

Father Charles Latus from director of the Division of Personnel, Staffing and Development to sabbatical, Institute of Continuing Education, North American College, Rome, Italy.

Father Robert J. Miller from rector, Sacred Heart Cathedral, to sabbatical, Notre Dame Institute for Clergy Education.

Father Dominick Mockevicius from pastor, St. Vincent DePaul, Churchville, to sabbatical, Louvain, Belgium.

Father Anthony Mugavero from parochial vicar, St. Mary's on the Lake, Ontario, to parochial vicar, St. Theodore's, Rochester.

Father Thomas Mull from parochial vicar, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Rochester, to administrator of same during sabbatical of Father Robert J. Miller.

Father Robert J. Schrader from parochial vicar, St. Theodore's, Rochester, to director of the Division of Personnel, Staffing and Development.

Father Albert J. Shamon to temporary administrator of St. Isaac Jogues, Fleming.

Father Melvin W. Walczek from priest in transition, St. Joseph's, Penfield, to parochial vicar of same.

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