

Group offers

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and support for their training, however, have not kept pace.

The task force has asked for a group to project by the end of this year the costs to "recruit, train and adequately compensate" professional lay ministers over the next five years.

"The essential goal is to train professionals and then treat them as professionals," the report maintained.

To help free more diocesan employees and resources for ministry, the task force has suggested improvements in the administration of the Diocesan Pastoral Center.

Specifically, the report called for: developing a mission statement that outlines the services the pastoral center aims to provide to parishes; identifying goals and objectives; regular evaluation of progress toward those goals; and eliminating unnecessary duplication of programs and services.

To help Bishop Clark manage that administrative process, the task force suggested that a new position — Moderator of the Curia — be created.

The task force also recommends restructuring the ministerial review process. Currently the Ministerial Review Committee, a subcommittee of the DPC, issues evaluations of diocesan programs and budgets after the budget planning process has already been completed.

To pay for the long-term initiatives described in the report, task force members have suggested that an outside consultant study the feasibility of a major fund-raising campaign. The new campaign would be separate from the ThanksGiving Appeal, which is geared primarily toward funding short-term operating expenses.

The report recommends that the diocesan Development Office director oversee such a campaign, as well as any other diocese-wide fund-raising effort. The director's position, which is currently vacant, should be filled by September, 1987, according to task force members.

In addition, the report calls for the hiring of a grants and contract officer to seek support from government agencies.

With the release of the five-year financial planning report, the task force has finished its commission and disbanded. By the end of this month, Bishop Clark is expected to name a new Oversight Task Force, whose members will

compile reactions to the report and oversee the implementation of its recommendations.

The Oversight Task Force will also face the challenge of coordinating the work of groups established by the financial planning report with other existing diocesan committees.

In response to a question Monday about

how the directives of the financial task force report will fit in with pre-existing diocesan goals and priorities for the coming year, Bishop Clark observed that he did not consider the report's timelines its top priority.

"These issues didn't emerge in a year, and they won't be solved in a year, either," he said.

Task force releases recommendations

Summarized below are the recommendations of the five-year Financial Planning Process Task Force, appointed last June by Bishop Matthew H. Clark to study the diocesan planning and budgeting process.

- That the diocese establish in the near future a means to eliminate the shortfall in pension funding for the religious women who have served our diocese.
- That an increased amount of the resources of the diocese be directed to ministry formation for those already in and for those beginning their ministries.
- That a five-year plan be developed for the further consolidation of the Catholic schools of the diocese.
- That more resources be directed to the poor.
- That the diocesan development office be realigned.
- That steps be taken to improve the administration of the Pastoral Center.
- That existing physical facilities should be evaluated with a view toward lessening the burden of maintenance costs.
- That the work of the task force be continued by an Oversight Task Force.

Pro-lifers stage impromptu protest of Slaughter appearance at church

Almost a dozen pro-life demonstrators greeted Congresswoman Louise Slaughter outside St. Mary's Church, downtown, after she spoke at the parish's "Life After Five" series on Monday evening, May 4.

The protestors, who arrived just as Slaughter was leaving, were angered by the fact that the Catholic parish had sponsored a speaker

who takes a pro-choice position on abortion.

Mary Ellen Frisch said she organized the protest in haste after reading about Slaughter's talk in the newspaper on Sunday.

"What upsets us the most is that she is a staunch pro-abortion advocate," she said. "This is a slap in the face to the Catholics who've been working so hard against abor-

tion for a long time."

St. Mary's Life After Five series presents in an informal setting guests who are distinguished in fields ranging from business and economics to politics and theology.

Nearly 40 people attended Monday night's program. Slaughter, who represents the 30th congressional district, offered them a general overview of her experiences as a freshman in Congress, touching on issues from contra-aid to welfare reform.

One woman asked whether Slaughter would support the Human Life Amendment. The congresswoman replied that she would not support a return to the days when women turned to back-alley alternatives.

"I don't see any way we could stop abortions," she said, "and I don't see any way I could support sending women back to the way things were."

Staff members at St. Mary's said they were

not surprised by the protest, although they had been led to expect a somewhat larger turnout. Throughout the day, staff members had received intermittent phone calls from people who protested their decision to invite Slaughter, according to Sister Joan Sobala, pastoral assistant.

Although the protestors who came to the church said they represented no formal group, most are regular participants in Project Life's demonstrations at Highland Hospital on Saturdays.

John Honan, a parishioner at Our Lady of Victory Parish nearby, said he was informed by fellow Knights of Columbus.

"This is supposed to be a house of prayer," he said. "(Slaughter) has made it into a place where she could talk contrary and contradictory to what the Church teaches."

Diocesan Appointments



Father Ronald E. Gaesser from pastor of St. Columba's Church, Caledonia, and St. Patrick's Church, Mumford, to

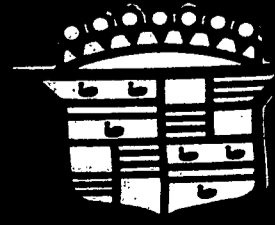
pastor of St. Catherine of Siena Church, Ithaca, and All Saints Church, Lansing, effective June 30, 1987.

Father Roy J. Kiggins from co-pastor of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Henrietta, to pastor of the Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Brockport, effective June 30, 1987.

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