

Obits/et cetera

**Sr. Mary Francis Norman, music teacher**

Mass of Christian Burial for Sister Mary Francis Norman of the Sisters of St. Joseph was celebrated in the Motherhouse Chapel Monday, Oct. 3, by Monsignor William Shannon.

Sister Norman died in St. Joseph Convent Infirmary on Tuesday, Sept 30, 1988, at the age of 92.

A Rochester native, Sister Norman graduated from Nazareth Academy and entered the Sisters of St. Joseph from Blessed Sacrament Parish in 1923. She attended Notre Dame University, from which she graduated *maxima cum laude* in 1935, earning a bachelor's degree in music with a concentration in piano and cello. She earned additional degrees from DePaul University, Chicago, and attended the Eastman School of Music and Julliard School of Music.

Sister Norman began her career at Nazareth Hall, where she taught from 1925 to 1927. For the next 10 years she taught at Nazareth Academy Conservatory of Music, and in 1937 began a 30-year music and teaching career at Nazareth College.

After retiring from active teaching in 1967, Sister Norman was assigned to the infirmary, where she rendered countless small services to

the sisters there.

Sister Norman was noted for her wealth of stories and her sense of humor. She was an ardent sports fan and loved to watch baseball games on television. She was close to her family and often came back to the convent with batches of cookies she had made while visiting at home.

Sister Norman is survived by nieces, one nephew, and grandnieces and grandnephews.

**Father Sullivan after long illness**

Father Charles Irvin Sullivan, who retired in 1973, died Tuesday, Oct. 4, 1988, in Rochester after a long illness. He was 85.

The son of Florence and Mary E. Sullivan, Father Sullivan was born in Genoa, N.Y., on March 30, 1903. After attending Holy Family Elementary and public high school in Auburn, he was trained for priesthood at St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries. Father Sullivan was ordained to the priesthood by Cardinal

Fumasoni-Biondi, apostolic delegate, at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Rochester on June 11, 1927.

Father Sullivan served as assistant pastor in several parishes until his appointment in June of 1942 as pastor of St. Theresa's in Stanley and St. Mary's in Rushville. After a year as pastor, Father Sullivan resigned because of increasingly poor health from which he never totally recovered.

In subsequent years, with typical priestly zeal, he ministered at various parishes as long as his strength allowed. While he served as chaplain of the Dominican Monastery in Elmira, Father Sullivan was particularly sensitive to hospitalized people, reaching out effectively to patients at Arnot Ogden Hospital and Chemung County Home.

Father Sullivan was predeceased by his brother, Father Daniel J. Sullivan. He is survived by his niece, Margaret Sullivan Wilson of Fall Brook, Calif.; a sister-in-law, Helen Sullivan of Auburn; an aunt, Gertrude Nolan of Genoa; and several nieces and nephews.

A Mass of the High Priest was celebrated at Holy Family Church in Auburn on Thursday, Oct. 6. Mass of Christian Burial followed on Friday. Interment was in Our Lady of the Lake Cemetery in King Ferry.

**Deacon von Hagn at 54**

Deacon Donald Francis von Hagn, who had been ordained to the permanent diaconate by Bishop Matthew H. Clark in May of 1987, died on Tuesday, Oct. 4, 1988, in Bath. He was 54.

The son of Harold Sr. and Catherine von Hagn, Deacon von Hagn was born in Elmira on October 6, 1933. After living in Elmira for a short time, he and his family moved to Bath. Deacon von Hagn was confirmed at St. Mary's Church in Bath on June 9, 1946, before he being graduated from Haverling High School.

He was employed by the Taylor Wine Company until he retired on September 4, 1973. Later that month, Deacon von Hagn also retired from the United States Air Force.

He began his candidacy for the diaconate on March 4, 1984, at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Rochester. After serving as a reader at the Rochester parish for 11 months, Deacon von Hagn became an acolyte for the Pastoral Center chapel in Rochester on February 16, 1986.

Deacon von Hagn is survived by his wife, Bettie Colene (Johnson) von Hagn; three daughters, Melanie Koseba of Bath, Linda Clark of Virginia Beach, and Donna Kniffen of Jacksonville, Fla.; a son, Stanley of Bath; a sister, Carol von Hagn of Bath; two brothers, Harold Jr. of Elmira and Milton of Bath; six granddaughters; and several nieces and nephews.

Bishop Clark celebrated a Mass of Christian Burial on for Deacon von Hagn on Friday, Oct. 7, at St. Mary's Church in Bath. Interment was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Bath.

**Court ruling**

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who always suffer in something like this," she said. "If the children need help, they shouldn't be spending time on a bus."

Sister O'Malley said the public school district's superintendent has been "most cooperative" in helping Blessed Trinity school, but noted that their combined efforts could not stop some parents from taking their children out of Blessed Trinity after the court ruling.

"The parents felt that they didn't want them to lose time (traveling to a public school)," she said. In response to the situation, Blessed Trinity's school board recently voted to solicit funding to hire its own remedial reading teacher.

Public and parochial school officials seem to be united in their disdain for the Supreme Court's ruling. "Rochester has not and never will support the decision," Hammond said. "The kind of service we had before guaranteed maximum service."

Sister Lubber pointed out that the decision was unnecessary, since church and state never mixed in the pre-Felton days. "There were no converts on the part of the (Chapter I) teachers," she said.

Despite the opposition to the ruling, chances that it will be overturned in the future seem slim, according to McAuliffe. He acknowledged that "there's been talk since the Supreme Court changed from liberal to conservative," but noted that Catholics have made no visible effort to challenge the ruling.

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