

# Bishop risks arrest to save lives

By Richard A. Kiley  
Staff writer

ROCHESTER — New York Auxiliary Bishop Austin B. Vaughan remembers the exact moment he decided to become more actively involved in the pro-life movement and to take part in rescue missions.

For two consecutive weeks last April, he saw nothing on the news but coverage of presidential primaries and stories on the workings of America's political process.

A disturbing realization had dawned on him.

"Abortion became a non-issue," said Bishop Vaughan, the first American bishop to be arrested for his participation in a sit-in at an abortion clinic, "so I decided to go on a rescue."

He admits that he had reservations at first, mainly because of the negative stereotypes he had formed about people involved in the pro-life movement.

"I found dedicated people, good people. I broke the stereotypes I created on my own," Bishop Vaughan said.

And although his involvement in rescues is barely a year old, Bishop Vaughan has become one of the most visible pro-life figures in America today.

The vicar of Orange County and of the New York archdiocese's Prison Apostolate

was in Rochester last week as one of three panelists speaking at the St. Thomas More Lawyers Guild's spring forum, entitled "Civil Disobedience and the Law: Focus on Abortion Clinic Rescues."

William McGinn, a Rochester attorney who has represented pro-life activists in two trials during the past year, and John Cavanaugh-O'Keefe — director of pub-Gaithersburg, Md., and an activist in the Pro-life Non-Violent Action Project — were also on hand to address issues related to the pro-life movement.

Bishop Vaughan captivated the near capacity audience — which included many activists who have gone to jail for their pro-life activities — in Auditorium A-14 of the Nazareth Arts Center by telling of his experiences over the past year.

As a member of the nationwide pro-life group Operation Rescue, the New York bishop has been arrested five times for his participation in rescue missions outside abortion clinics. Two of his arrests were in New York City.

He recalled that at one of his arrests, a young police officer in New York tried to persuade the bishop to walk to a nearby police bus rather than subject him to the indignity of being carried. When the officer told Bishop Vaughan he was only mak-

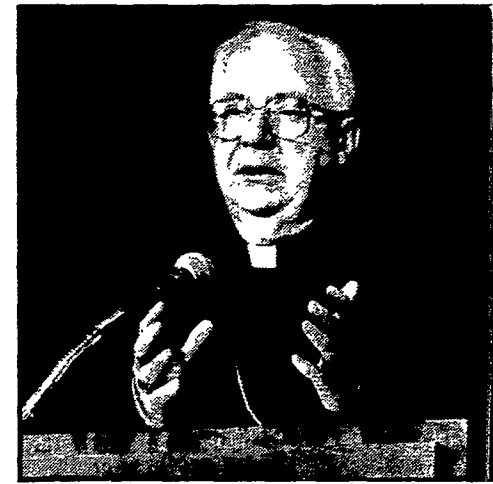
ing his job tougher, the bishop replied, "No way near as tough on the babies that are going to be torn apart after we're gone."

Despite persistent pleas by the officer, Bishop Vaughan refused to move and had to be carried off like the rest of the pro-life activists.

At a pro-life rally the very next day, the bishop was once again arrested and carried to a police bus. He discovered later that one officer — who the bishop later learned had been his arresting officer the day before — refused to arrest him again.

"He said, 'I did it yesterday, but not today,'" the bishop recalled.

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Linda Dow Hayes/Catholic Courier  
Bishop Austin B. Vaughan tells of his experiences participating in rescue missions during the past year.

## Priest arraigned on abuse charge

A Rochester diocesan priest has pleaded not guilty to charges of sexually abusing an elderly resident of St. Ann's Home.

Father Gerard J. Guli, 61, was arraigned before Judge Alban J. Reichert in Irondequoit Town Court Monday morning, April 17, on one count of sexual abuse in the first degree, a felony. According to Assistant District Attorney John Bowler, Father Guli was arrested Friday, April 14, in connection with a reported incident involving an elderly female living at St. Ann's Home, 1500 Portland Ave., Rochester.

Bowler said the alleged abuse was witnessed by someone at St. Ann's on Wednesday, April 12, and was reported to Irondequoit police later the same day.

Father Guli, parochial vicar at Holy Rosary Church, 414 Lexington Ave., Rochester, was released on his own recognizance Monday, and is scheduled to reappear in

Irondequoit Town Court April 26, at which time Bowler said he would state what charges the district attorney's office intends to pursue.

Father George Norton, diocesan spokesman, said "the diocese is aware that an incident was reported that resulted in some allegations being made against Father Guli." The priest has been placed on "administrative leave," which Father Norton said prohibits him from appearing in public as a priest or from functioning as a priest in any way.

Father Guli was reassigned to Holy Rosary last June from St. John the Evangelist Parish on Humboldt Street. He has also served as parochial vicar at parishes in Rochester, Auburn and Elmira, and as administrator of St. Stanislaus, Bradford, and St. Joseph, Campbell, since being ordained in June, 1956.

## Activists occupy hospital clinic

Forty pro-life activists pleaded not guilty Thursday, April 13, to charges stemming from a rescue mission at a Genesee Hospital women's clinic the day before.

The activists, who are members of Project Life of Rochester, were charged with third-degree criminal trespass and resisting arrest after they blocked the entrances to the Alexander Women's Group clinic — a privately run obstetrics and gynecological clinic on the third floor of the Doctor's Office Building at Genesee Hospital — at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, April 12.

City Court Judge William H. Bristol ordered all 22 men and 18 women released without bail after setting a May 1 court date for pretrial motions.

Activists occupied the clinic and a hallway outside the doctors' offices at the hospital for more than three hours, while approximately two dozen supporters peacefully picketed on the sidewalks in front of Genesee Hospital.

The rescue violated a permanent in-


junction issued in February by now-retired state Supreme Court Justice Myron E. Tillman. The injunction bars activists from entering the hospital or demonstrating on its grounds.

The Rochester Police Department responded to a call from hospital officials around 3:30 p.m. and, after activists refused requests to leave the hospital, officers began removing them in wheelchairs.

Many of those arrested refused to give their names to police, identifying themselves only as John or Jane Doe. The activists have used this tactic following previous rescues so that — after they are processed for arrest — they can all be released at the same time.

Pro-life activists demonstrated in front of Genesee Hospital last Saturday, April 15, without incident. The group has been gathering in front of the hospital each Saturday since September, 1986 to demonstrate against abortions there.

— Richard A. Kiley



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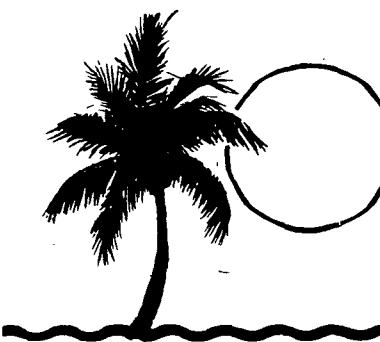
**Session I May 15-June 16**

A305	BIBLICAL HERMENEUTICS AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES — (D. Premnath)	M/TW 9:00-11:45a.m.
A442	NEW TESTAMENT PERSPECTIVES IN MINISTRY — (S. Falcone)	M/T/Th 7:00-9:45p.m.
A482	ETHICAL VALUES IN THE NEW TESTAMENT — (Half Course: May 30-June 9 only) (P. Perkins from Boston College)	M/F 9:00-11:00a.m.
C418	SIN, GRACE AND SALVATION (J. Hart)	M/T/Th 7:00-9:45p.m.
D489D	MINISTRY TO THE DYING AND BEREAVED — (R. Karaban)	M/T/Th 7:00-9:45p.m.

**Session II July 3-July 28**

A336	SYNOPTIC GOSPELS (D. Reid)	M/W/Th 7:00-9:45p.m.
C310	MODELS OF FEMINIST THEOLOGY — (M. Tardiff)	M/W/Th 7:00-9:45p.m.
C320	CONTEMPORARY MORAL THEOLOGY — (M. Mich)	M/W/Th 9:00-11:45 a.m.
D460	THEOLOGY OF PRAYER (M. Sullivan)	M/W/F 9:00-11:45a.m.
D470	ADVANCE SPIRITUAL DIRECTION — (G. Hill)	M/W 9:00a.m.-1:00p.m.

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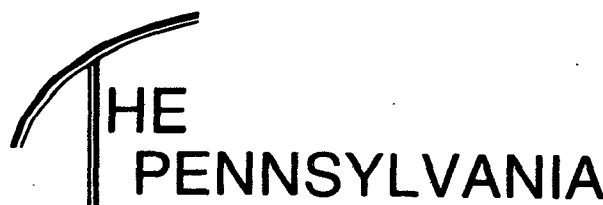
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