

Tour

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A hunger to share pride in her identity led Dobson to begin the Black College Tour in 1982. Recently graduated from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in Greensboro, N.C., the Rochester native had joined the diocesan Office of Black Ministry as a youth minister, and was shocked at how few Rochesterians were aware of black institutions. She proposed the idea of somehow sharing her own enthusiasm for black higher education to John Walker, then OBM director. He, in turn, proposed to OBM's board of directors that the diocesan office sponsor a tour, and "now it's history," said Dobson, who became OBM's director in 1984.

This year's tour took nearly 40 students and three chaperones to nine schools, traveling as far south as Atlanta, Ga., where students visited the Martin Luther King Center.

The tour has become so popular that last year, for the first time, organizers had to place some restrictions on attendance. Now, priority is granted to students who are Catholic, attend Catholic schools, reside in the greater Rochester area, and have not previously taken the tour.

Although the tour has encouraged some

COPE slates retreat

Church Office Professional Employees is sponsoring a retreat at the Notre Dame Retreat House on Wednesday, April 26. The retreat is open to office employees of parishes throughout the diocese. For information, call Mary R. Cantatore at 716/671-5520.

students to consider college for the first time, Dobson said, "more fall into the category of not thinking of black education than of not going to school at all."

When David Thornton attended his first tour in 1982, he had a negative image of predominantly black schools. "When I pictured them, I pictured something run down, not that large, with all old buildings," he recalled. "You realize once you've been there, (that) it's not true, that these are just stereotypes and rumors."

Three subsequent tours — the latest this past March as a junior chaperone — only confirmed Thornton's decision to attend Alabama's Tuskegee Institute, where he completed three years in business administration before taking a leave this year.

"Being at a black school has made me want to achieve more. I did my work at McQuaid, but here it seemed I had to do more," Thornton said. "I love it. Not a day goes by that I don't think about being at school."

Bishop Clark

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first time there has been a meeting of this type between representatives of the Church of the United States and all of the heads of congregations and other responsible agents of the Holy See with the Holy Father. I think that's the new part of it — not the fact that there was a frank and honest conversation, but that those parties joined together in a full session over what — three days? I think that's very significant."

Several of Bishop Clark's post-sabbatical resolutions may also help to bolster morale and ease tensions among local

Sister Kanick to profess perpetual vows

Sister Catherine M. Kanick will profess perpetual vows as a Sister of Mercy of Rochester on Saturday, April 29, during a liturgy in the Mercy Motherhouse chapel, 1437 Blossom Rd., Rochester.



The theme Sister Kanick has chosen for the celebration is "Magnificat — I sing of life in your love and mercy."

Bishop Matthew H. Clark will preside at the liturgy. Sister Jean Marie Kears, superior general of the Mercy congregation, will preside over the profession rite.

The daughter of Frank L. Kanick of Belfast, N.Y., Sister Kanick has been a counselor at Park Ridge Chemical Dependency for the past year. Before entering the Mercy congregation in 1982, she earned an associate's degree in 1956 from Erie

County Technical Institute School of Dental Hygiene in Buffalo, and was a dental hygienist for 20 years.

Sister Kanick has also studied in the Department of Religious Studies at Nazareth College, and in 1987 attended the Rutgers University Summer School of Alcohol Studies.

Housing authority accepting family applications until June

Rochester families can begin submitting applications for housing to the Rochester Housing Authority.

Rent is based on family income and the number of persons in the family.

This is the first time in more than two years that the Rochester Housing Authority has accepted applications for housing from city families. To obtain an application or for information, call the Tenant Selection Office at 716/328-0135.

priests. As he announced during the diocesan convocation of priests April 3-5, he plans to meet each priest privately during the next several years, and will also attend a round of regional priests' meetings in August and September, 1989.

"I want to, with them, sort of review priestly ministry — their experience of it, the ways in which we'll be collaborating in the church in this next decade, in view of all kinds of changing circumstances, new demands, of new ministerial relationships, in view of the very small number of seminarians, and a decreasing number of priests," he explained. "I want to make it a high priority to look at all of that with them, and to spend as much time as I can with the ordained priests, to work with them about how to be the best possible pastoral leaders in the years ahead."

Meanwhile, Bishop Clark believes his own effectiveness as a pastoral leader is benefiting from continuing reorganization of the Pastoral Center — in particular, a new, less cumbersome budgeting process, and the appointment of Father John Mulligan as vicar general and moderator of the curia. Father Mulligan's post doesn't allow

the bishop to withdraw from administrative decisions, he explained, but instead "allows me not to be drawn into one particular aspect of administration and lose touch with other aspects."

Thanks to a schedule relieved of some administrative duties, Bishop Clark plans to spend more time in "personal pastoral ministry with other constituencies in our diocese."

"I have not as yet specified those as closely as I've specified the direction with the priests," he explained, "but I'm exploring some other ways to be out among our community in a directly pastoral capacity."

And at a time when pro-life activism among local Catholics — and particularly Catholic clergy — is on the rise, pro-life demonstrations are one area of community involvement Bishop Clark does not rule out. "I personally am not much inclined to join in a rescue mission ... although I recognize the rights of others to do that so long as they are willing to accept the consequences," he said. "I would not be opposed out of hand to taking part in other types of demonstrations or activities."

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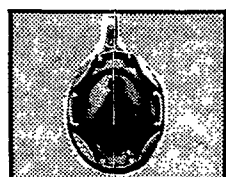
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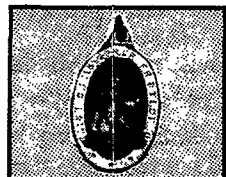
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