

## Dispute

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different ways Jews and Catholics have of commemorating the execution of more than six million people in the Nazi concentration camp.

"The Jews looking at Auschwitz see the graveyards of their grandmothers, their sisters, their cousins," Fisher said. "Building a convent is something (Catholics) can understand, but it is something that very few Jews can understand. It seems a viola-

tion of that graveyard."

Father Brennan pointed out that Jewish people are particularly sensitive to Christians' taking over Jewish symbols and heritage and "Christianizing them."

In terms of the convent dispute, he continued, "Generally, Jews feel that what happened at Auschwitz was so terrible that nothing should be done to baptize it, to sanctify it — that it should be left there as a memorial to something demonic, something diabolical that happened there."

The controversy over the convent has served not only to make Christians aware of the depth of Jewish feeling on Ausch-



Former Nazi warehouse used as Carmelite convent.

witz, but also to make Jews aware of Christian feeling about the camp, Rabbi Miller speculated.

Noting that both Jews and Christians died in the camp, he called the Holocaust "a shared grief. Poles and Jews share a common pain."

In addition, the fact that the dispute arose demonstrates that — although relations between Jews and Catholics have improved — more effort is needed, Fine observed.

"Maybe one result is that we will recognize that the job is not done, and that we need to continue to dialogue," he concluded.

## St. John's

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children into the body of Christ.

Having taught baptism classes every three months for the last two years, the Calamias were recently honored by having their three-month-old son, Matthew, baptized by another Matthew — Bishop Matthew H. Clark.

Matthew Calamia was baptized Sunday, Sept. 17, in the parish's new baptismal font, a \$27,000 basin built through a parish fundraising drive this summer. The font is the first in the diocese that is large enough to allow the immersion of both adults and children.

Father Clifford noted that the church has been encouraging immersion baptism since the late 1960s, but has allowed parishes to continue the traditional method of pouring water over the head of the initiate.

By allowing parishes to continue the old method, Father Clifford said, the church has effectively discouraged churches from building new immersion fonts. "If you say it's acceptable to infuse, (that leaves) a loophole wide enough to march an army through," he said.

St. John's wanted to be one of the first to help close that loophole, he said. "Baptism is literally a spiritual death experience," he said. "We are dying to our own ways. In immersion, as we immerse in the waters,

we raise up, spiritually, a re-born person."

Whether St. John's will influence other parishes to emulate its ground-breaking ways, the parish's integration of traditional and modern Catholicism points to a middle road between right and left extremes of the post-Vatican II church.

As Judy Camalia said, "Whatever degree of belief or spiritual faith you have, or however you believe, you just feel comfortable here."

The parish will celebrate the anniversary of the church with a special rosary event on Wednesday, Oct. 4, at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served in the church basement afterward.

## Knights president invites men, women to join group

The Knights of Columbus is looking for Catholic men and women who are seeking ways to further the aims of Catholicism and to help those in need.

At this time, the organization is particularly concerned with the areas of homelessness, vocations, pro-life issues and the aged.

According to Paul J. Alfano, president of the Knights of Columbus' Finger Lakes Chapter, any worthwhile project can be adopted by a local council.

Those interested in joining the organization should call Alfano at 315/381-5771.

## Football

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a 14-0 lead.

Susquehanna Valley scored just before the half, and again in the third quarter to cut the lead to 15-13. At this point, the Crusaders might have experienced a sense of déjà vu. Just one week earlier, they had built a 13-0 lead over Elmira Southside, only to lose 14-13.

But on the last play of the third quarter, Bennett ended any hopes of a Sabres' comeback. On a third-and-two play from the Notre Dame 18, he kept the ball, broke several tackles, and ran 82 yards for a score. Notre Dame scored its final points on a 37-yard pass from Bennett to Jeff Williams.

Bennett finished the game with 106 yards on just eight carries. He completed four of 12 passes for 85 yards. The Crusaders had 270 yards in total offense, while holding the Sabres to 162.

This Saturday, the Crusaders begin league play at Newark Valley (1-1-1).

## Correction

Last week's story on Father Robert F. McNamara, "Teller of tales conserved decades of diocesan past," incorrectly stated that his book, *The Diocese of Rochester, 1868-1968*, was published after Bishop James E. Kearney's death. Bishop Kearney actually died in 1977, while the diocesan history was published in 1968.

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