

Divided board

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a magnet junior high for the city's Catholic school students and would feature such programs as bilingual education and remedial classes.

Currently, Blessed Sacrament, which is located near the border with the southeast, is scheduled to close in June, 1990, as part of the ongoing reorganization of the northeast quadrant. Students in the northeast will then have the option of attending the diocesan-operated Northeastern Catholic Junior High, which will open on the premises of Bishop Kearney High School in September, 1990.

Webster — St. Rita's, currently K-8, would become K-3. Holy Trinity, currently K-8, would house grades four through eight. Morehouse noted that the two parishes have been discussing consolidating their schools during the last two years.

The remaining schools in the quadrant would retain their current grade configurations: St. Louis, Pittsford; St. Joseph's, Penfield; St. John of Rochester, Perinton; Seton Catholic, Brighton, a consolidated school which serves students from several parishes in Brighton and nearby communities; and Rush-Henrietta Catholic School System, which is a consolidation of Guardian Angels, K-3, and Good Shepherd, 4-8, and includes students from St. Joseph's in Rush.

Although Morehouse didn't give any specific figures, the planning board's proposal also calls for a uniform tuition rate for schools in the southeast quadrant.

He noted that membership guidelines for a quadrant governance board would be

drawn up after a final draft of the proposal had been approved by Bishop Clark.

The Pickett Commission will receive the reorganization proposal of the Northwest Quadrant Planning Board on Dec. 20. Compared to proposals from the southeast and southwest planning boards — and the approved plan for the northeast quadrant — the northwest's plan calls for little change in the structure of the quadrant's school system.

No schools in the region will change their grade configurations for the school year 1990-91, according to Pat Glogowski, chairwoman of the Northwest Quadrant Planning Board, who outlined the board's reorganization proposal at a public hearing Wednesday, Dec. 6, at St. John the Evangelist Church in Greece.

The board's finance committee is also recommending no changes in how the quadrant's schools are financed for 1990-91, nor will it suggest a uniform quadrant tuition rate, she said. Glogowski added, however, that individual schools might change their tuition rates during the next year.

Indeed, the establishment of a quadrant governance board is the only significant change proposed for the northwest in the next year. Glogowski said the new governance board would be comprised of one representative from each parish in the quadrant; one pastor from a parish with a school, and one pastor from a parish without a school; two principals and two catechetical leaders.

The governance board, which would be in place by next July, would oversee planning, program development, financing and public relations for the northwest quadrant, she said.

Stable enrollment is one reason the plan-

ning board is not proposing any radical changes in the northwest, Glogowski explained. But another reason appeared in the comments of several of the more than 150 people who attended the meeting — the ghost of Cardinal Mooney High School in Greece.

"I'm concerned the northwest doesn't have a lot of clout," remarked Ernestine Montanaro, a parishioner from St. Lawrence. She said the closing of Cardinal Mooney last June was "still a sore spot," for Catholics in the community.

Montanaro was skeptical that the planning board could have any input into diocesan school policy. "I'm afraid we really don't have the power we think we have," she said.

After the meeting, Glogowski said that

the planning board had acknowledged the bad feelings about Mooney's closing in their reorganization proposal.

"We put that in our (school) models recommendation to move slowly," she said. "We feel if we dumped another change on (people in the northwest) ... people wouldn't go for it."

One parish representative questioned why the northwest needed a reorganization plan at all.

Mark Juba from St. John's in Greece argued that the diocese should have allowed the board to wait and see how reorganization proceeded in the other quadrants before coming up with a plan.

"Why will this be more beneficial to our children than having (a) parish school (system)?" he asked.

Season

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ring the Christmas season from December 25 through Epiphany to the two months prior to Christmas.

It's no wonder John the Baptist's "Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord" has fallen on confused ears. There's the office party, shopping, wrapping, baking, the tree, cards and more. Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum! If that little drummer boy bangs that drum one more time ...

But it's not Christmas night. It's the middle of Advent. Perhaps recalling previous Christmas nights will help to make this year's a little different. I offer three suggestions:

- Why not make the 12 Days of Christmas a reality? Ease up on pre-Christmas partying. Invite friends over during the

weeks between Christmas and Epiphany. Strive for warmth and simplicity instead of business and expense.

- Focus on the people, not the things. What do you accomplish by topping last year's gift? Buy or make or discover gifts that symbolize the true affection you have for someone. Let the decorating and other preparations be a family event. Drive through neighborhoods and admire the beauty of the lights as they pierce the December darkness. Go caroling. Sit home and watch the Christmas specials on TV with your family or a lonely uncle. Be together and enjoy each other!

- Properly plan ahead of time. Many of us get caught up in the last-minute rush. Find ways to avoid the hustle and bustle. There is much to do, but don't allow the *doing* to overshadow the *being*! Take the time to be still, to pray and to know that Jesus is God.

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