

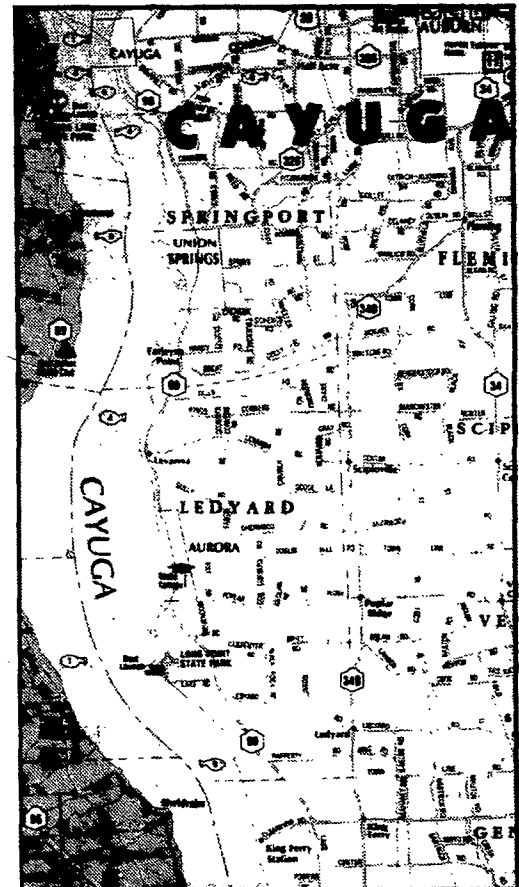
# Bishop samples weekend of parish life

In remarks to the Diocesan Pastoral Council last fall, Bishop Matthew H. Clark asked members of the diocese to suggest ways in which he could become more active in parish communities.

Father William V. Spilly, pastor of the Cayuga Team Ministry, took the bishop up on the idea when he was planning a Jan. 24-Feb. 8 trip to Mexico and Central America with Father James B. Callan of Rochester's Corpus Christi Church.

The priests' excursion gave the bishop the opportunity to do something quite rare for him: act as a parish priest for a weekend.

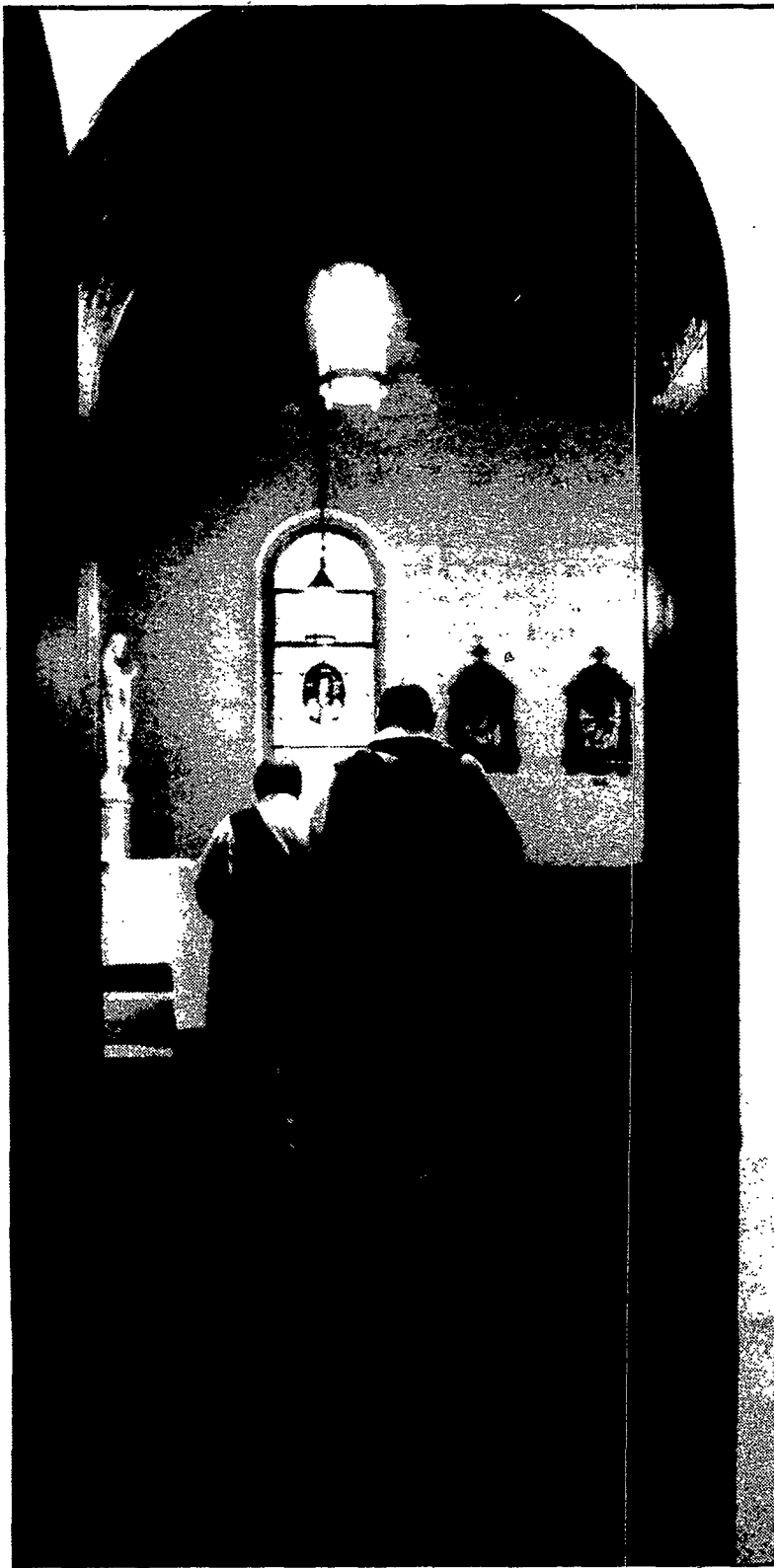
Bishop Clark substituted for Father Spilly in the ministry's cluster the weekend of Feb. 3-4, celebrating Masses at Our Lady of the Lake Parish, King Ferry; St. Michael's, Union Springs; St. Patrick's, Aurora; and St. Joseph's, Cayuga.



The Cayuga Team Ministry serves King Ferry, Union Springs, Aurora and Cayuga.



Bishop Matthew H. Clark greets sacristan Ann Salato, who has been a parishioner at St. Joseph's for 74 years.



St. Patrick's, Aurora, was Bishop Clark's first stop Sunday, Feb. 4, during a weekend he spent as a parish priest.

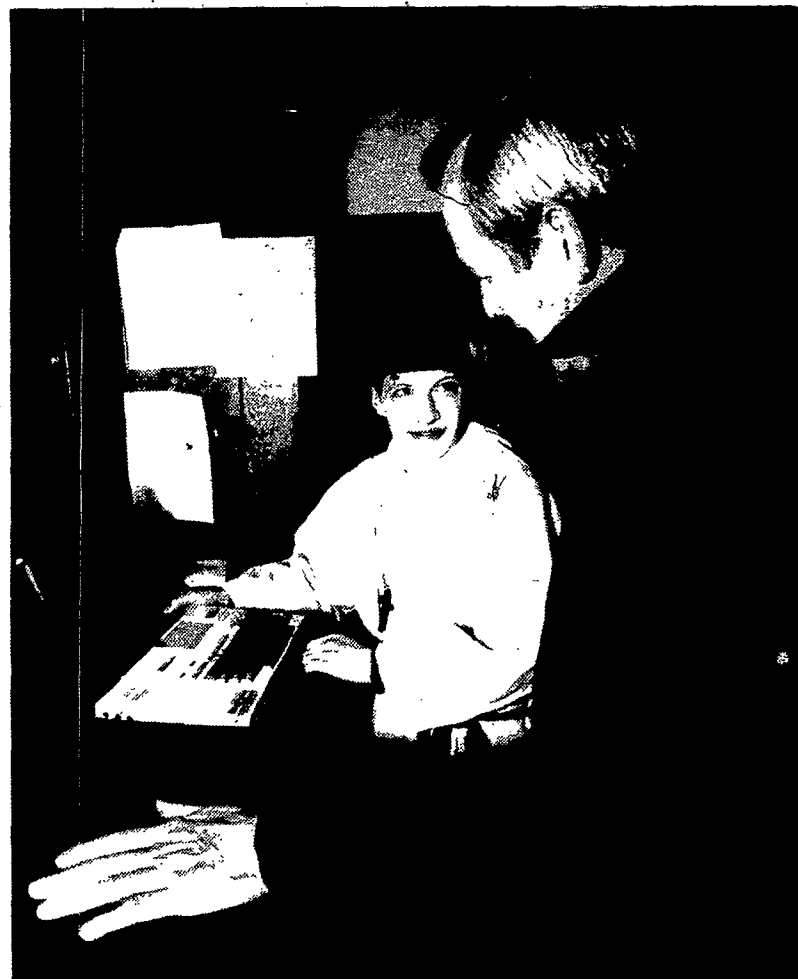


Despite the snow, Bishop Clark and parishioners got to church on time.



Deacon John Prave (left) listens intently as Bishop Clark preaches on the gospel image of Christians as salt and light of the world.

Catholic Courier photos by Babette G. Augustin



Born without a trachea, altar server Eric Di Miceli of St. Patrick's Church, Aurora, talks to Bishop Clark through a portable computer. The machine vocalizes type-written messages.