

Susan S. Petersen  
**SENTENCE FULFILLED — Father Anthony P. Mugavero greets donor Martha Luff during a community blood drive at St. Theodore's Church last Saturday, April 7. A city court judge sentenced the priest to organize the drive for his participation in a recent rescue mission.**

## Court dismisses priest on trespassing charge

By Richard A. Kiley  
 News editor

**BRIGHTON** — Town Justice James Morris April 9 dismissed charges of trespassing against Father Anthony P. Mugavero for his attempts in January to keep a woman from entering a doctor's office, where she was seeking an abortion.

But Judge Morris said that Father Mugavero, parochial vicar of St. Theodore's Church, Gates, will have to appear in court next month over a harassment charge against him.

"I feel I'm innocent of all the charges against me," Father Mugavero said after the judge released his decision April 9.

The charge stems from an incident in which Father Mugavero allegedly harassed a woman seeking an abortion at the offices of Dr. Morris Wortman, 200 White Spruce Blvd.

Brighton police arrested Father Mugavero Jan. 30 and then released him on his own recognizance. According to police, the priest and an unidentified woman allegedly tried to stop an inmate from going into Wortman's office. Police said Father Mugavero and the woman tried to block the entrance to the office building and then tried to prevent the elevator inside from going to the second

floor, where Wortman's office is located.

The inmate pressed charges, and the priest was arrested later that day at a Monroe Community College forum, where a debate on abortion was taking place.

Father Mugavero has been arrested several times for his pro-life activities. On Dec. 28, Rochester police arrested him after he blocked the entrance of Dr. David Gandell's Mt. Hope Avenue office. On Jan. 26, a city court judge ordered the priest to organize a blood drive for the American Red Cross.

The blood drive took place at St. Theodore's Church last Saturday, April 7.

In February, a group of pro-choice activists — led by Dr. Eric Schaff, who has picketed at St. Theodore's Church — issued a statement calling on the Rochester diocese to denounce Father Mugavero for his attempts to stop women from having abortions.

Schaff called upon Bishop Matthew H. Clark "to go ahead and rein in Father Mugavero."

Schaff, along with the Rev. Wendy Williams-Spaly of the Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights, has been meeting with officials from the diocesan Division of Social Ministry to discuss the use of "rescue missions" at the offices of area doctors.

## Chavez authorizes possible action against Wegmans

By Lee Strong  
 Staff writer

**ROCHESTER** — United Farm Worker Union head Cesar Chavez has authorized local organizers of the union's boycott of California table grapes to call for action against Wegmans' supermarkets unless the chain agrees to meet with his supporters.

Speaking at Corpus Christi Church April 4, Chavez also asked Bishop Matthew H. Clark and Rochester Mayor Thomas P. Ryan Jr. to intercede with the food store chain.

Chavez gave his authorization to call a complete boycott of Wegmans after officials of the chain said they would not meet

with his local organizers — a coalition of labor, community and religious groups.

Father Daniel O'Shea, who works with the Farmworkers Advocacy Center in Geneseo, said local organizers are currently waiting for a response to Chavez's request that representatives of Wegmans and the two other large local chains — Tops and Bells — meet with his people. At this point, the priest said, no time frame has been set for launching a total boycott of Wegmans.

In earlier statements, however, Wegmans officials have indicated that they would not meet with organizers. "That's when Chavez asked Mayor Ryan and

Bishop Clark to intercede," Father O'Shea explained.

However, Father George Norton, the diocese's public information officer, noted that Bishop Clark had received no formal request from Chavez for intervention other than what was said in the address.

"In the absence of any sort of formal request from Chavez to the bishop, we wouldn't have any comment at this time," Father Norton said.

Likewise, Rosalie Cameron, the communication director for Mayor Ryan's office, said because the mayor has received no letters or calls from Chavez, he hasn't been asked to intervene formally.

Father O'Shea said that such a formal request from Chavez to Bishop Clark and Mayor Ryan would be forthcoming.

At issue is the UFW contention that grape growers in California use pesticides that pose a health hazard to both farm workers and consumers. The union alleges that pesticide contamination has produced two documented cancer clusters — areas in which the incidence of cancer is far higher than would normally be expected — in the

California towns of McFarland and Earlimart.

While waiting for responses from Wegmans, Tops and Bells, O'Shea said that local organizers will continue to seek more endorsements for the boycott, to promote education about the dangers of pesticides, and to forge links between the local farm worker community and that in California.

## Subsidy helps Penn Yan school stay open

**PENN YAN** — The Diocese of Rochester has offered St. Michael's Parish a subsidy of up to \$15,000 for its religious education program. The subsidy will allow the parish to allocate additional funds for the St. Michael's School, enabling it to remain open for the 1990/91 school year.

In a letter dated March 16, the diocese informed the parish that it could receive up to \$15,000 to help support its religious ed-

ucation program for fiscal year 1990/91. The subsidy comes in response to a request sent to Bishop Matthew H. Clark last fall requesting either a subsidy or permission to close the 107-year-old school — the only Catholic school in Yates County.


At the time the request was submitted, the parish was facing a projected deficit of \$20,000 for fiscal year 1989/90. The

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