

A bishop's 'typical' day is never boring

By Bishop Matthew H. Clark

Frequently when I meet people in different parts of the diocese, they will ask what a typical day in my life is like. I am always pleased with the question because it indicates, at least, a curiosity about the church and the ministry of bishop and, often enough, an interest in my personal well-being. Who wouldn't be pleased with such an inquiry? I certainly am.

There is a frustrating part to the question, however, because the best answer to it is that there is no typical day. While that is true, it is a response that would be unsatisfactory both to the questioner and to me. Such a response would report a fact, but would communicate very little information. And so when I am asked the question, I generally try to tell the individual what I've been up to that day and add a little schedule information about the days in that general time frame.

For example, today is Tuesday, May 22. I write this column at 6 a.m. At 7:30, a person will arrive for an appointment for spiritual direction. At 8:30, I'll be leaving for St. Mary's in Corning to participate in

our annual celebration of the silver and golden jubilees of our priests. This evening, I'll be confirming at St. Vincent's, Corning. We'll return to Sacred Heart late tonight.

Yesterday I had a personal appointment with one of our priests at 8 a.m., another appointment at 9 with our Priests' Personnel Director about the appointments of some of our priests. I spent some time after that telephoning some of our priests concerning those appointments.

Following those calls I went to the office to meet with Father John Mulligan, our vicar general, to discuss a wide range of pastoral concerns and business items. From 3:30 until 6 p.m. I met with our Stewardship Council, and then went to St. Patrick's in Victor to confirm 37 wonderful young women and men. Back to Sacred Heart at 10:15 p.m.

Tomorrow will be more office-centered. I'll be meeting with our vicar for religious, Sister Dolores Banick and Sisters Beth LeValley and Ann Miller, the major superiors of our Sisters of St. Joseph and Sisters of Mercy, respectively.

At the lunch hour we'll be having our annual celebration of secretary's day with the people who serve in that capacity in our area of the building. Following that gathering there will be a meeting with the leadership group of our Women's Commission. Later on we'll celebrate confirmation at St. Anne's Parish on Mt. Hope Avenue, Rochester.

Thursday is Ascension Day. I expect that I'll be celebrating the Eucharistic Liturgy here at Sacred Heart, although I am not certain of that just now. In any case, the rest of my day is pretty much my own, as most Thursdays are.

On Friday, the day looks something like this: a breakfast appointment at 7:30, personal appointments with three of our priests during the morning, a fourth appointment with a priest in the afternoon followed by a meeting with some of our development-office personnel. In the evening I am hosting our seminarians who are coming to the end of their pastoral year of service in the parishes of our diocese.

I have not included correspondence and writing time, prayer, haircuts, doctor's ap-



pointments, dry cleaning, running, reading, chance encounters, unscheduled developments, work on extra-diocesan affairs or a number of other activities that might make up part of another 'typical' week.

One of the challenges I have is constantly to establish priorities about how best to use the limited time and energy I have in service of the people. That challenge comes from inside as I grow in experience and understand more clearly what should rest at the heart of my ministry as bishop. The challenge is also placed before me by other groups and individuals who properly assist and guide in the establishment of such priorities.

In sum, let me say that I am never bored, rarely underoccupied and always stimulated by the day-in, day-out demands of my ministry.

Peace to all.

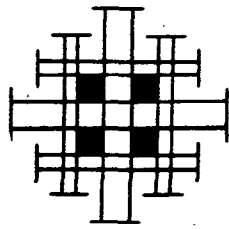
New funeral rite fosters consolation for bereaved

By Joan M. Joslyn
Diocesan Liturgy Office

Even in the midst of our joyful Easter Alleluias, members of our faith communities, families or friends have cause for sorrow. For even as we watch the growth of spring and new life unfolding around us, we are touched by death — the death of a loved one, an acquaintance, a friend.

The new Order of Christian Funerals calls us each to a "ministry of consolation to those who have suffered the loss of one they love" (OCF #8). This order, approved in August 1989, and now mandatory for use in all dioceses of the United States, provides rites for the different moments and needs of the mourners. It also recog-

From
Repentance
to Rebirth



nizes the need for grieving on the part of those who mourn, while it expresses our belief in the resurrection of the dead and life everlasting.

The new Order of Christian Funerals is more than an outline of rites and rituals. It includes prayers for the families from the very moment of death through all the related rites, and the final commendation

and committal. It not only provides prayers and guidelines, it also addresses very practical pastoral concerns: defining the roles of the community, pastor and liturgical ministers.

This order makes it clear that the primary involvement of the community should be expressed in active participation in the funeral rites. The community, including pastor and staff, is called to surround the bereaved with consolation and prayer.

By our participation at the vigil (wake) service, or at the optional morning or evening prayer, we offer support to the mourners as we pray that the one they have lost may have eternal life. The new prayers are beautifully written to reflect the need for genuine expression of loss and pain.

We conclude the funeral rites with the rite of committal, which takes place at the burial site. Again we gather to pray that our beloved deceased will join with those who have gone before, expressing our hope in the glory of resurrection.

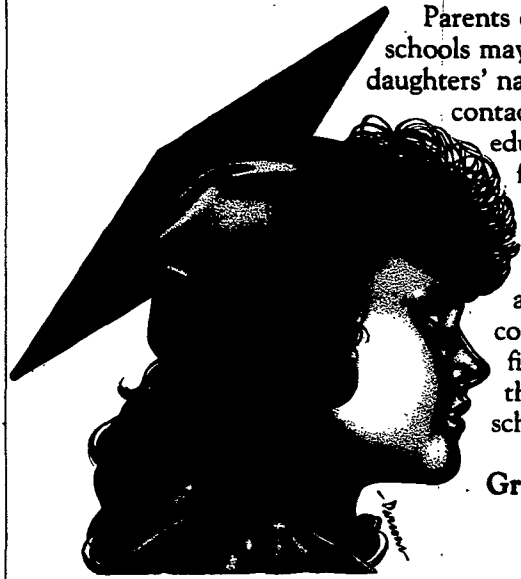
All of the rites in the new Order of Christian Funerals are designed to comfort the bereaved, express the faith of the Christian community, and call us all to the ministry of consolation.

Position Opening: Combined organist, choirmaster, elementary school music teacher for St. Agnes Parish located in Lake Placid, N.Y. Candidates should be well-qualified in Liturgy, competent with organ and keyboard and experienced in classroom teaching. Salary negotiable. **Send resume to: 6 Hillcrest Ave., Box 748, Lake Placid, N.Y. 12946.**
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Graduation '90

To recognize the achievements of seniors at both public and Catholic high schools throughout the Diocese of Rochester, the Catholic Courier will present a special Graduation '90 supplement in its issue of June 14.

This annual section includes feature articles, listings of graduating seniors, information on commencement exercises, and photographs of class valedictorians and salutatorians.



Parents of students attending public high schools may arrange to have their sons' and daughters' names listed in this special section by contacting their pastors or religious-education coordinators. The deadline for submitting names to our offices is May 25. We will not accept any names over the telephone.

This annual supplement has been among our most popular, and local companies and organizations should find it an ideal opportunity to promote their enterprises while applauding the scholastic efforts of diocesan youths.

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DIOCESAN APPOINTMENTS

Bishop Matthew H. Clark has announced the following appointments, which become effective June 26, 1990:

Father Robert C. MacNamara, from pastor of St. Vincent DePaul Church in Corning, to pastor of St. John of Rochester Church in Fairport.

Father Richard M. Murphy, from pastor of St. Mary's Church in Corning, to administrator of St. Catherine of Siena Church in Addison.

Father James A. Schwartz, from coordinator of training and follow-up at the Center for Human Development in Washington, D.C., to pastor of Holy Family Church in Rochester.

Father Gary L. Tyman, from parochial vicar at St. Ambrose Church in Rochester, to Catholic campus minister at the University of Rochester.

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