

# Finding the means to meet 'priorities'

By Bishop Matthew H. Clark  
Sunday, August 19

This has been a delightful and productive summer weekend thus far. Last evening I celebrated the eucharistic liturgy with the community at St. John of Rochester. Following our worship, I joined a group of priests from the parishes in that region who gather for supper each Saturday evening. They take turns hosting the gathering, and Father Larry Murphy of Resurrection in Fairport welcomed us to his home last night.

Those present were Fathers John Norris and Charles Adams from Assumption, Fairport; Bob MacNamara and Don McCarthy of St. John of Rochester; and Emmett Halloran of St. Patrick's, Macedon.

Also present with us was Lance Gonyea, a seminarian who has been serving at St. Patrick's and who will be resuming his theological studies at St. Mary's in Baltimore when the new school year begins.

Both parts of the evening — the liturgy and the meal — were thoroughly delightful. It was a pleasure for me to be with both groups. And as I remember the evening now, I am especially grateful for the opportunity it afforded me to give concrete expression to two priorities that are very important to me. Those priorities are to focus more of my time and energy on our priests, and to spend as much time as I can with our parish communities and other constituencies in our diocese.

I have been working on these priorities since I returned from my sabbatical, and have found them to be exciting and fruitful. It is not easy to shift one's patterns; nor does the desire to change in and of itself create the reality. But slowly and with a good deal of encouragement and assistance from many people, I have been developing ways to give concrete expression to them. Last night's experiences are simple examples of each.

It is interesting to me that both the systematic and informal research we as a diocese have done lately support the direction I have been taking and confirm the need for it. The research calls me to be more visible in the community. I confess that I am not totally certain what the term



The diocesan Department of Personnel Services has announced that the following pastoral ministers have been appointed by the parishes of the diocese:

### Pastoral Assistants

Sister Kay Schwenzer, RSM, St. Michael, Rochester.

Sheryl Zabel, Church of the Assumption, Fairport.

Sister Margaret Mary Wintish, RSM, Northern Cayuga Cluster.

Sister Catherine McGuigan, OP, Sacred Heart, Auburn.

Deacon Dave Palma, St. Anne/St. Gregory, Palmyra.

### DIOCESAN APPOINTMENTS



#### Parish Visitor

Sister Joan Hilbert, RSM, Sacred Heart, Rochester.

Sister Kathleen Ward, RSM, St. Louis, Pittsford.

Deirdre Hetzler, St. Mary, Scottsville.

#### Director of Evangelization

Sister Kathleen Navarra, SSJ, Church of the Annunciation, Rochester.

#### Director of Religious Ed.

Deacon Steve Carroll, St. Patrick, Victor.

Sister Clare Brown, SSJ, Christ the King, Irondequoit.

Jim Clar, Our Lady of Lourdes, Rochester.

Sister Bernard Entress, RSM, St. Philip Neri, Rochester.

Walter Savaria, St. Michael/St. Andrew, Penn Yan.

Alice Leistman, St. Anne, Rochester.

Sister Catherine Paul Theiss, CSJ, St. Charles Borromeo, Elmira Heights.

Mary Wallace, Holy Cross, Rochester.

Denise Mack, St. Rita, West Webster.

Mary Kay Oberst, St. Ambrose, Rochester.

#### Religious Ed. Coordinator

Kathy Kuntz, St. Vincent DePaul, Churchville.

Robert Tupaj, St. Francis de Sales, Geneva.

#### Religious Ed. Administrator

Riobart Breen, St. Augustine and St. Monica, Rochester.

Pat Ver Weire, (assistant), St. Vincent DePaul, Churchville.

David Paluskiewicz, Blessed Sacrament, Rochester.

#### Youth Ministry

Tom Jewell, St. Rita, West Webster.

David Paluskiewicz, Blessed Sacrament, Rochester.

Kathleen Fay, St. John the Evangelist, Rochester.

Riobart Breen, St. Augustine and St. Monica, Rochester.

Paul Anastasi, Christ the King, Rochester.

"more visible" means in the concrete. But I am willing to respond to the call of the community and will try to make choices that will allow me to do so effectively.

Perhaps we can track that effort together by means of this column. I'll try to let you know what I have been up to as time goes by. You can let me know whether the choices I am making are effective ones. And I do invite you to share with me your ideas of how I might better function as a pastoral leader in our community.

This afternoon I'll be visiting the Monroe Community Hospital to celebrate the eucharistic liturgy and to visit with the patients, staff and volunteers who will be present. I enjoy my trips to the hospital and always come away with a strong sense that I received more than I was able to give during the visit.

When I finish writing this piece, I want to spend time doing some more work in preparation for the first 1990-91 meeting of our Priests' Council, which will be held early next month. The council is one of two bodies every bishop is required by law to have in his diocese. The other is a financial council. Another concrete means I have by which to show my commitment to our priests is to offer as strong and consistent a leadership as I can to make our work together on the Priests' Council as pastorally fulfilling as possible.

I should tell you before closing that Fathers Chuck Latus and Stephen Mbugua, and seminarian Mike Volino, all from St. Catherine's of Mendon, are regulars at the Saturday-night supper group, but were not present with us last night. When the time came to decide who would host the gathering next week, guess which parish was chosen. You're right — St. Catherine's. It was unanimous. Peace to all.

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### Conference to consider 21st century spirituality

PAINTED POST — Dr. Leonard I. Sweet, president of United Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio, will conduct a continuing education program Sept. 24-26 at the Watson Homestead Conference and Retreat Center.

His subject will be "Quantum Spirituality: New Light Leadership for the 21st Century."

Dr. Sweet is a seminary administrator, historian, author, preacher and lecturer. He will concentrate on how the clergy and laity together release the power of the

Gospel into the world. He will also discuss connections between spirituality and science.

Cost for the three-day program is \$175, and the registration deadline is Sept. 14. For information, call Watson Homestead, 607/962-0541, or write RD 2, Box 168, Dry Run Road, Painted Post, N.Y., 14870.

### Canadian shrine pilgrimage scheduled for September

AUBURN — Reservations are now being accepted for a five-day pilgrimage to Canada Sept 7-11.

The trip will include stops at: Our Lady of the Cape Rosary Shrine in Three Rivers; St. Joseph's Oratory, Montreal; Notre Dame Cathedral, Montreal; St. Ann's Basilica and Shrine, Quebec; Blessed Kateri's crypt at the Caughnawaga Indian Reservation, Montreal; The Martyr's Shrine, Auriesville, N.Y.; and the Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Shrine, Fonda, N.Y.

For information or to make reservations, call Norbert and Marlene Figurski at 1-800-752-8856 or 814-455-7163.

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