

Diocese plans cutbacks at Pastoral Center

By Lee Strong
Staff writer

ROCHESTER — Facing projections that its investments will yield lower-than-anticipated income during the next fiscal year, the Diocese of Rochester will eliminate three full-time and two part-time Pastoral Center positions July 1, officials said.

In addition, one full-time position has been reduced to part-time status, and the hours of another part-time position have been cut in half.

The total savings for the diocese will be

approximately \$160,000, according to Father John Mulligan, moderator of the Pastoral Center.

Father Mulligan attributed the cuts to a combination of factors.

The diocesan Finance Council, which oversees diocesan investments, has projected the diocese will experience a significant loss of investment income due to the current U.S. recession. The Finance Council estimated that this loss would force the diocese to reduce its budget for fiscal year 1991-92 to approximately \$86,000 less than the 1990-91 figure of

\$6.5 million.

In addition, Father Mulligan said, efforts to make the diocesan budgetary process more efficient have eliminated "board funding" — unspent funds from various areas that become available for other needs. Such surpluses — which previously had been used for emergency needs, new programs or to cover unexpected expenses — amounted to \$250,000 in the current fiscal year, but are expected to disappear in 1991-92, he explained.

Further, Father Mulligan said, the salary and benefits package approved for diocesan employees for 1991-92 will add \$150,000 to diocesan expenses.

In light of these projections, the diocese was forced to eliminate or reduce several positions, Father Mulligan said.

The full-time employees whose positions have been eliminated are Patrick Sullivan, director of stewardship giving for the Office of Development and Public Relations, and Donn Harding, inter-parish structural and mechanical coordinator for the Division of Urban Services.

Also eliminated was a currently vacant adult-education position in the Division of Education.

One part-time secretarial position in the Division of Social Ministry has been eliminated. That job has been held by Debbie Schulmerich.

Also in social ministry, the part-time position of human resources administrator has been eliminated. Sister Clare Roland, SSJ, who served in that capacity, will continue as the part-time director of chaplaincy services.

The position of director of the Department of Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs, currently occupied by Margery Nurnberg, has been reduced from full-time to part-time status.

Martha Jodoin, executive secretary for the Diocesan Pastoral Council, has been cut back from two days to one.

"These are reductions in staff due to budgeting," Father Mulligan emphasized. "These are in no way a reflection of the person in terms of the job they did."

Father Mulligan would not say whether additional cuts would be made or if unfilled positions would be left vacant in further cost cutting measures. He did say, however, that, "in light of the bishop's mission statement, we've been challenged to look at the overall organization of the Pastoral Center."

'Spirited' bishop's day draws hundreds

By Barbara Ann Homick
Staff writer

ROCHESTER — After attending the eighth annual Bishop's Day with Youth at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center on April 14, Bishop Matthew H. Clark noted that this year's gathering was one of the most energetic he had ever attended.

"My first impression is that this is one of the liveliest days I've ever experienced," Bishop Clark said. "I have found it to be a spirited, well-organized event this year."

One of the highlights of this year's Bishop's Day with Youth, entitled "Building the City of God — What's your Peace?," was a play performed by the youth group at Church of the Assumption in Fairport. The play, called *Friends Forever*, provided "a spirited start" for the more than 800 youths who attended the event, Bishop Clark said.

The 40-minute play focuses on an essay assignment given to an English class by its teacher. After they are told to write an essay on the meaning of friendship, the students share their ideas while completing the task.

Following the play, the Hands of Christ awards were distributed to 123 high school seniors during the luncheon. The awards recognized the students for their community service and commitment to their faith.

After lunch, the youths — who represented 64 parishes and 12 counties — chose two workshops to attend.

According to Pat Fox, diocesan director of youth ministry, the most students — 206 to be exact — registered for "Death/After Death." Other popular sessions included "Friends" (161 registrants), "Love/Infatuation" (148) and "Music" (114). New workshops included "Women



Babette G. Augustin/Staff photographer

Leo McDermott (left), music director at St. Mary's of the Lake in Watkins Glen, leads the parish's Christian rock group during the Mass concluding the eighth-annual Bishop's Day with Youth. The event took place April 14 at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center.

in the Church," "Images of God," and "Leadership."

Fox noted that several workshops were cancelled this year due to a lack of interest, including "Community Service," "Volunteer," and "Disabilities."

The bishop's question-and-answer forum with youths was also dropped from this year's program. According to Fox, organizers chose to leave out the forum to avoid the same battery of questions asked year after year.

"It can only go so well so many times," Fox said.

The day concluded with a Eucharistic Liturgy celebrated by Bishop Clark, Father Paul J. Tomasso and Father Charles T. Manning. A performance by a Christian rock group from St. Mary's of the Lake

Church in Watkins Glen highlighted the Mass.

Under the direction of Leo McDermott, music director at St. Mary's, and Susan Nye, choir coordinator, the group is com-

Continued on page 25

Synod commission seeks input from Catholics through survey

ROCHESTER — As part of its upcoming seventh synod, the Diocese of Rochester has mailed more than 250,000 surveys to diocesan Catholics.

The surveys, due back to the diocesan Synod Commission by April 26, are intended to help the commission select topics for the synod, which is scheduled to conclude in October of 1993 to coincide with the 125th anniversary of the diocese.

The survey is also intended "to show that Bishop (Matthew H.) Clark is interested in what people have to say," noted Father Joseph Hart, synod director.

Results from the survey will be tabulated during the next two months, Father Hart said, and the resulting synod topics — expected to number about six — will be announced in early July.

These topics will then become the focus of discussions at parish level synod sessions beginning in the fall of 1992, and for regional synod meetings slated for December, 1992. The results from the regional meetings will form the basis for the synod resolutions to be voted on in October, 1993, at the diocesan-wide synod session in Rochester.

The synod survey was based in part on similar surveys other dioceses have conducted as part of their own synodal processes, Father Hart said. Earlier drafts of the survey were revised with input from a number of groups and individuals in the diocese, including the Diocesan Pastoral Council. The final version of the survey was developed with the comments of these groups and individuals in mind, Father Hart said.

Surveys in Spanish and English were distributed by mail. Additional survey forms in such languages as Italian, Korean and Vietnamese are also available from the synod office.

The synod commission sent copies of the survey to every household that was listed in the diocesan computer files, Father Hart noted. The goal was to get input from as many Catholics as possible, including those who are no longer active in the church.

In some regions of the diocese, however, people have not yet received surveys due to a problem with the mailing system. The same problem led to some households re-

Continued on page 25

CENACLE OFFERS SPECIAL EVENTS

May 3-5 Adventures in Singleness Retreat

A look at the freedom and options of being single along with its challenges in a couple-oriented church and society. Learning to be comfortable with singleness - given by Sr. Helen Harber, r.c. and a team of Unity-Y members.

May 11 Feast of Our Lady of the Cenacle

10:30am Eucharist Liturgy with Bishop Matthew Clark followed by refreshments - ALL are welcome.

Fr. Simeon Gallagher, O.F.M.



Will be speaking at
THE CENACLE
Center for Spiritual Renewal
May 17-26, 1991

MAY 17TH-19TH: PENTECOST IN THE CENACLE (men & women) Begins Friday 7p.m. Ends Sunday Approx. 3:30p.m. Suggested offering, \$70.00 Deposit \$25.00

Dynamics of living in the spirit. Focus will be on the interior life with perspective for living in the ordinary.

MAY 21ST, TUESDAY: A MARIAN DAY OF PRAYER (men & women) 10a.m. - 4p.m. Suggested offering \$15.00 Deposit \$5.00

Mary asks us to pray from the heart. This will be a day to deepen your spirituality and awareness of Christ's presence within your life. Conference/Lunch/Eucharist


MAY 23RD, THURSDAY: EVENING OF REFLECTION FOR MARRIED COUPLES 7p.m. - 10p.m. Suggested offering \$15.00/couple Deposit \$5.00

The challenge is to grow: • as an individual • as a couple • in Christ

MAY 24-26TH: ALCOHOLISM'S CHILDREN (men & women) Begins Friday 7:00p.m. Ends Sunday Approx. 3:00p.m. Suggested offering \$70.00 Deposit \$25.00

Exploration of the issues that arise from being raised "under the influence of alcohol or any addiction." An invitation to a new spirit of hope and healing through acceptance, compassion and forgiveness.

All events are open to men and women of all faiths

 **Cenacle**
Center for Spiritual Renewal
693 East Avenue
Rochester, New York 14607

For further information and reservations please call
THE MINISTRY OFFICE:
(716) 271-8755