

Looking back on council's achievements

By Bishop Matthew H. Clark

I will be on my way to Shortsville soon for the final Priests' Council meeting until September. I'll be going with mixed feelings. It's good to finish this round of work with a sense of achievement and progress. But I'll miss the good interaction that we

have had through the year.

As I look back now on the year's activities, I am most grateful for the leadership the council exercised in the development of our Diocesan Statement of Mission and Goals for 1991-1993. That project was a sensitive piece of work, but the council carried it out with thoroughness and care.

Through the members of the council, all of our priests had significant input into the process, and so did a wide range of other groups. As a result we have, even at this fairly early stage of its life, a solid acceptance of the statement. And, I hope that all of our parish communities will be using it as a general guide between now and the completion of our Diocesan Synod to be held in 1993.

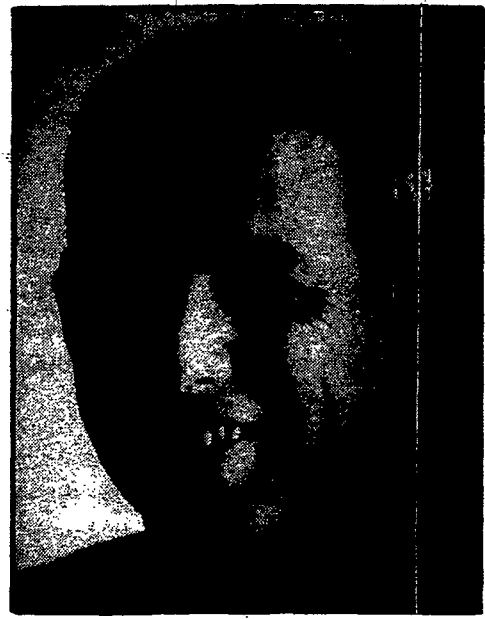
You read last week that we have used the new statement in a very concrete way at our Pastoral Center. We have reorganized all of our ministries and services around the goals contained in the statement. I am very pleased by that step. It will help us to work better as a team, to be more flexible and responsive to parish needs, and to establish a high level of ownership and pride in our common work as a local church. My hope is that at the end of the synod we will

be in an excellent position to put into effect the decisions we will make during that historic process.

My satisfaction with the work done by the Priests' Council is only a part of the story. I am also very pleased at the way we have worked together throughout the year. We are slowly but surely finding ways to live out and express in the concrete circumstances of today's church the theological and pastoral bonds that should join bishop to priests and priests to one another.

We are called to be a college or body of priests, called a presbyterate, living in charity with one another. I, as bishop, am the head of and have particular rights and responsibilities within the presbyterate. But I best carry them out when I do so in significant consultations with my brother priests. The Priests' Council is the privileged forum for that kind of interaction, and I am pleased with the level of interaction we achieved this year.

I have little doubt that our Priests' Council will make a critical and constructive contribution to the work of the synod. And I expect that the synodal process, as it un-



fold, will be a very positive stimulus to the ongoing development of our Priests' Council.

I hope that you had a joyful and restful Mother's Day and that you have been enjoying the warmth of this week.

Thanks so much for your continued prayers and support.
Peace to all.

DIOCESAN APPOINTMENTS



Bishop Matthew H. Clark has announced the following diocesan appointments, which become effective June 25, 1991.

Father Peter C. Clifford, from copastor of St. John the Evangelist Church on Humboldt Street in Rochester, to director of Parish Support Ministries in the diocesan Pastoral Center.

Father Kevin P. Murphy, from copastor to pastor of St. John the Evangelist Church on Humboldt Street.

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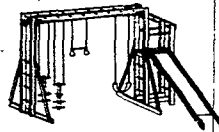
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Peace activist to speak at Divinity School event

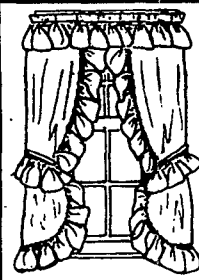
ROCHESTER — The Rev. Dr. William Sloane Coffin, one of the nation's leading peace activists, will present the Stanley I. Stuber Lectures at Colgate Rochester Divinity School/Bexley Hall/Crozer, 1100 S. Goodman St., on May 21-22.

The president of the 170,000-member SANE/FREEZE: Campaign for Global Security, will present "Who is There Big Enough to Love the Whole Planet?" at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21, and again at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 22.

A discussion with the Rev. Coffin and theologian Dr. W. Kenneth Cauthen will take place at 7:30 p.m. on May 22. All three programs, which will take place in the auditorium of the Divinity School, are free and open to the public.

The Stuber Lectures are part of the Divinity School's Spring Convocation. The lectureship honors the late Stanley I. Stuber, a distinguished alumnus of the school.

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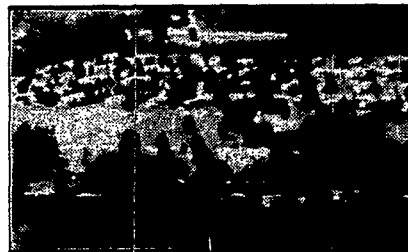
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