

Robert Mason, personnel director, at 55

FAIRPORT — Robert W. Mason, director of the Diocesan Division of Personnel since February, 1989, died of a massive coronary at his home Tuesday evening, May 7.

Born in Rochester on June 11, 1935, to Walter Mason and Bernadine Herbst Mason, Mr. Mason attended St. Boniface School and Aquinas Institute, both in Rochester. He obtained a bachelor's degree in English from the State University of New

York at Brockport in 1958, the same year he married Barbara Donlon of Rochester.

Mr. Mason taught intermediate classes in the East Irondequoit Elementary School System from 1958-69, where he also served as assistant to the superintendent. In the 1970s and up until the mid-1980s, he worked in the Fairport School District as director of Personnel/Collective Bargaining.

Mr. Mason left the district in 1986 and

took a position with Lifetime Assistance, Inc., of Rochester, where he served as personnel administrator. The company places handicapped children in sheltered workshops and day-care centers.

A parishioner at Church of the Assumption in Fairport, Mr. Mason started the parish's Catholic Youth Organization basketball program in 1977, and also served on parish council. He also played Santa Claus at area schools and served in many volunteer capacities, according to family members.

Mr. Mason was survived by his wife, Barbara; four children, Timothy (and wife, Lorie Iuppa), Christopher and Laurie, all of Rochester, and Lisa Sauer of Elmira Heights; his brother Gerard; his sister Bernadette Derleth, of Rochester; a grandson; nieces and nephews.

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan celebrated the Mass of Resurrection for Mr. Mason at Assumption Church on Saturday, May 11.



Interment took place at St. Mary's Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be designated for the School of the Holy Childhood, 100 Groton Parkway, Rochester, N.Y. 14623; or the Diocese of Rochester, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to Mrs. Barbara Mason, 48 Winding Brook Drive, Fairport, N.Y. 14450.

Sr. Margaret J. Margrett, SSJ

ROCHESTER — Sister Margaret Joseph Margrett, SSJ, a longtime diocesan school teacher, died in St. Joseph Convent Infirmary on Saturday, April 27, 1991. She was 88-years-old.

A Rochester native, Sister Margaret Joseph attended Blessed Sacrament School and Nazareth Academy. She entered the Sisters of St. Joseph from Blessed Sacrament Parish in 1925. After receiving training, she began her diocesan teaching career at St. Ambrose School in 1927.

Sister Margaret Joseph subsequently taught at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Immaculate Conception, Blessed Sacrament, St. Francis Xavier and Holy Apostles schools, all in Rochester. She also taught at St. Patrick's Girls' Home, Rochester, St. Mary's, Elmira, St. Mary's, Auburn, and St. Joseph's, Wayland, where she also served as principal.

Sister Margaret Joseph's last teaching assignment was at Nazareth Hall before she retired to the sisters' motherhouse in 1977. She moved to the St. Joseph Convent Infirmary in 1980 because of failing health.

Sister Margaret Joseph is survived by two sisters, Catherine Nicholas and Helen Peer; as well as nieces and nephews.

Sister Esther Mary Helfer, SSND, elementary school teacher, at 81

WILTON, CONN. — Sister Esther Mary Helfer, SSND, formerly known as Sister Mary Walburga, died on April 9 in the School Sisters of Notre Dame Lourdes Health Care Center in Wilton, Conn. She was 81.

Born in Rochester on Jan. 1, 1910, and a former parishioner of St. Joseph's parish, Sister Esther Mary became a professed member of the School Sisters of Notre

Dame in 1932. Throughout her career, she served as an elementary school teacher, religious superior and community leader.

Sister Esther Mary began teaching in 1927 in Baltimore and taught in Maryland schools for 17 years before moving to Rochester's St. Boniface School, where she taught from 1944-1959. She then went on to teach at schools in New Jersey, New York and Massachusetts before returning

to St. Boniface for a second teaching term from 1973-1984.

At the conclusion of her 57-year teaching career, Sister Esther Mary retired to the motherhouse in Wilton in 1984.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated for Sister Esther Mary on April 12 at the motherhouse chapel in Wilton. Interment was at St. Mary Cemetery, Bethel, Conn.

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