

# Events punctuate summer's rest

By Bishop Matthew H. Clark

It is a pleasure to greet you once again in the pages of the *Catholic Courier*. Thanks to all of you for your good wishes prior to my vacation and for your prayerful support during these weeks of relaxation with dear friends.

It is good to be back. I have spent these early days after vacation catching up on the events and correspondence of July. Now I am in the process of reviewing and preparing for the events in my calendar for the remainder of 1991. The months ahead will be exciting, and I look forward to them with great enthusiasm.

As I reflect on the blessings of vacation and organize the work for the months ahead, I also am involved in some exciting August events. In this first post-vacation week I have been privileged to participate in a number of celebrations that are significant to the life of our community.

One of those was an evening in Buffalo with the delegates to the first general chapter of the newly formed Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas. I had the opportunity to share a meal with our delegation to the event, and then to meet Sister Doris Gottemoeller, the institute's first president, and her four counselors. Several

sisters from our Rochester community also attended the reception, as did Bishops Ed Head of Buffalo and Don Trautman of Erie, Pa.

On Sunday in Hornell, the parish community of St. Ignatius celebrated the 60th anniversary of its establishment by Bishop John O'Hern. Father Jerry Moynihan, the pastor, and the parish committee planned a reverent, joyful celebration that made the event a very happy one for all.

One of the many delightful aspects of the day for me was the presence of Father Joe McDonnell, one of our senior priests. Joe was the second pastor of St. Ignatius. He eventually retired as pastor of St. Michael, Newark, where he still lives. Also present at St. Ignatius on Sunday was Father Jim Slattery, who served with Father Joe at St. Ignatius, eventually retired from Our Lady Queen of Peace, and now lives at St. Louis in Pittsford.

Last evening I joined many Hispanic sisters and brothers at the opening of the Hispanic Mission, which is being held this year at St. Francis of Assisi, Rochester. Wonderful weather allowed an outdoor celebration last evening, and Monsignor Rafael Fontanes of San Juan, Puerto Rico, offered a solid, spiritual and often humorous message to us in the assembly.

Today I am going to St. Mary's Hospital where Gov. Mario Cuomo will present Patrick Madden, hospital president, with a Primary Care Development Program Grant. I am delighted to participate in any event at St. Mary's, but am especially happy to be present at one that will help the hospital carry out its commitment to the poor of our city.

At the end of the day I'll be driving out to Transfiguration Parish in Pittsford for a celebration of the parish feast day and a ground-breaking ceremony for the construction of their new church. Our newest parish community has experienced such rapid growth in its eight years that it is now building a second church. I look forward to celebrating the vitality and achievement of the community on this special night.

I also look forward to being with Father Jerry Appleby, the founding pastor of Transfiguration, whose pastoral leadership has, in my opinion, been at the heart of the community's life and growth.

Even in the relatively peaceful month of August, the life of the community goes on — in varied and wonderful ways. Such variety, such vitality reduce the strain of re-entry from vacation and make it a joy to return to work.



I have managed to do some reading and a little writing in anticipation of commitments in the fall. I hope to do some more of these good things before Labor Day. Much like you, I am sure, I'm reluctant to let summer go, and hope to enjoy its benefits for as long as possible.

Thanks again for your kind support. Peace to all.

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## University thanks diocese for help

In a letter to Bishop Matthew H. Clark, Father William J. Byron, SJ, president of The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., recently thanked the Rochester diocese for its contribution of \$25,437.85 to the Annual Diocesan Collection.

"The people of Rochester are giving us more than money," Father Byron wrote.

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For more information, please contact Carol Steppe or Jodi Zaccour, Human Resources at Highland Hospital at 461-6700, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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