Festivities bespeak diocesan diversity

By Bishop Matthew H. Clark

This week I offer an accounting of a pair of parish visits and add, in closing, a brief notice about a possible future

On a joyful swing through the Southern Tier last weekend, I shared in two parish celebrations.

At St. Mary's, Bath, on Saturday.evening, we thanked God for the 100th anniversary — to the day — of the ground breaking for the present church building. The community gathered on the lawn before the 5:15 p.m. Eucharist, and we blessed the new steeple.

'Father J.J. Gleason,' who was pastor in 1891, revisited the community and presented us with excerpts of the sermon he gave on that day 100 years ago. He also quoted literally from accounts of the event that appeared in the local newspaper.

At the Eucharist which followed, the "Bells of St. Mary's," a newly formed youth bell choir, offered their first public gift of music to the parish at worship. It was a wonderful liturgical celebration in every way - one that brought joy to all of us who gathered there.

The evening concluded with a festive dinner in the parish hall. Good food, delightful company, no speeches, exciting music by the Southern Tier All-Star Jazz Band. Great party!

I thank Father Bob Hammond and all of the parish community for their warm hospitality and for all they are doing to be salt and light in the community.

On Sunday morning, the parish of St. Mary Our Mother, Horseheads, celebrated the 125th auniversary of the establishment

I wish you could have traveled with me to share in the celebration. It brought together so many of the elements that make our Eucharistic liturgy such a rich spiritual experience. The Word of God was splendidly proclaimed, the music was rich and well prepared by the choir, the congregation participated strongly.

There was attention to motion, to silence, and I could not help but notice that people were careful to greet one another as they assembled for worship. Several people who were traveling through the area and who had stopped for Mass put themselves out to tell me how much at home they had felt that morning.

Father Joe Jankowiak is pastor of St. Mary Our Mother. He has much to do with the good things that happen, although he would be the first to credit them to the generous commitment of the people.

I am always interested that all of the people in our local church be aware that our diocesan community of faith includes the people of 12 counties in the western part of our state.

A wide variety of gifts is present among us in our 160 parish communities. No parish is exactly like another. Each has its own personality. To have the privilege of being acquainted with every one of the them is a great source of joy to me.

I realize that it is not possible for you to visit all of our communities, but I do encourage you to visit other parishes on occasion. It's a fresh way of being in touch with our extended family.

Following my mention of my nieces in "Along the Way" shortly after the new school year began, Mary Ellen mentioned that she had written her contribution for this column and that she soon would be sending it to me for publication. She told



me that she had written it some time ago, but had forgotten to put it in the mail. Maybe this notice will jog her memory.

Peace to all

Diocese of Rochester announces resignation, addition to staff

ROCHESTER — The Diocese of Rochester has announced two staffing

Sister Dolores Banick, IHM, diocesan vicar for religious for the past three years, resigned from the post effective Oct. 7 to accept a position with her order. She will become coordinator of mission enhancement at Marywood College in Scranton, Pa., which is operated by the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Sister Banick expressed gratitude for the opportunity to have served the Diocese of Rochester.

"I certainly have been enriched by the

experience of the Rochester church, and ... of the men and women of the Rochester diocese," she said.

Elizabeth Brown, diocesan director of communications, said the diocese has not chosen a replacement for Sister Banick, pending a review of the position.

Noting that the Pastoral Office was reorganized earlier this year, Brown said the diocese since has been examining the role and function of administrative positions created before the reorganization.

Meanwhile, Laurie Orman, a former intern in youth ministry, has been appointed associate director for programs and re-

treats, according to Patrick Fox, director of youth ministry. Orman also will be responsible for Family Camp, volunteer youth ministry and the annual Bishop's Day with Youth.

A 1989 graduate of the State University of New York College at Brockport, Orman has served as an outreach worker with the Greece Youth Bureau. In that position, she helped maintain a structured recreational program for the neighborhood center and offered short-term counseling. Orman has also worked with the network of Youth to Youth Drug Free Programs in the Greece School District.

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If you feel called, it is recommended that your interest be raised with your parish pastoral staff and your family.

We invite men who wish to learn more about the Permanent Diaconate Program in the Rochester Diocese, to write to:



Permanent Diaconate Program (entry) O-SERVE 1150 Buffalo Road Rochester, N.Y. 14624

You are invited to join Fr. John Lubey in the celebration of a healing mass at:

Corpus Christi Church 864 Main St. E. Rochester, NY Tues., Oct. 15th, 1991 at 7p.m.

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This is Father Lubey's 7th visit to Rochester. Father has served as a priest in the Baltimore and Washingtion, D.C. area for over 40 years. Presently his life is devoted fulltime to the ministry of spiritual and physical healing. If you would like to experience a very special and unique blessing, you are welcome to join Father at a healing mass!

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