



Dear friends,

With the beginning of the academic year new challenges greet us. In this year of the diocesan Synod, a new school superintendent, Timothy Dwyer, will assume the leadership of our diocesan Catholic school system. Working with lay governance boards, the diocesan commitment to Catholic schools will be strengthened even as it is redefined. At the same time, outside Monroe County, these same boards will cooperate with parishes and parish staffs to ensure the availability of comprehensive faith development opportunities for the people of God. The role of the diocesan Faith Development Ministry team is to support the effort of our parishes, Quadrants, and Local Areas.

Through the Department of Catholic Schools, the Department of Evangelization and Catechesis and the Department of Professional Development, the Faith Development Ministry Team is committed to working with parishes, Quadrants, and Local Areas to assure the development and implementation of the Well-Integrated Catechetical Plan throughout the diocese.

The work of the educational and catechetical ministries of the Church is enormous. Meeting the challenge requires dedicated and creative faith communities, leaders, ministers, and families. It requires openness to new ideas and a commitment to creating the best possible climate for the Well-Integrated Catechetical Plan to grow and develop. As this academic year begins, may we each renew our commitment to Catholic formation and education in our diocese.

Sincerely,
Mary Ann Binsack RSM
Mary Ann Binsack, RSM
Diocesan Director, Faith Development Ministry



My dear people,

1992-1993 will be an exciting year for the Church of Rochester. In October the Synod process begins in earnest with a wonderful opportunity for people of all ages to participate in shaping the future of the Church of Rochester. Youths, young adults, families, and the elderly all have important roles to play. Several of the Synod themes touch on the ministries of faith development. While this process unfolds in our parishes, the important work of formation and education continues. The Faith Development Ministry team of our diocesan office will continue to provide leadership and support for these parish and school ministers.

I look forward to the new directions this year will bring:

- Our new school superintendent, Timothy Dwyer, joined us in early August.
- Schools outside Monroe County are now part of the larger diocesan Catholic school system. These schools are no longer parish based, rather they will be governed by a lay board from parishes geographically close to the school. This same board will provide a cooperative vision for implementation of religious education, youth ministry, ministry to young adults, and sacramental processes.
- Parish ministers will benefit from an expanded certification process.

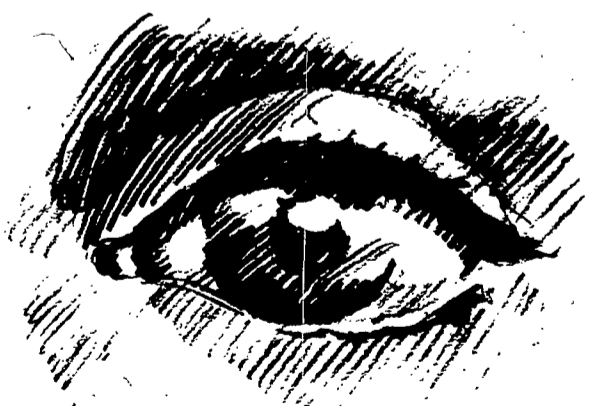
As this academic year begins, I commend the dedication and commitment of the professional and volunteer ministers who work for the strengthening of the Church's educational and catechetical ministries. These catechetical leaders, principals, teachers, youth ministers, marriage-preparation teams, together with parish and diocesan staffs, ensure the possibility for faith formation in communities. Their lives and work reflect both their commitment to Christ and their belief that growth in faith is a lifelong process.

To meet this ongoing challenge, we are called to a spirit of cooperation, dedication and prayerfulness. Let us continue to pray, encourage and support each other.

Be assured of my prayers for your ministry. With every good wish I remain,

Your brother in Christ,
Matthew H. Clark
Matthew H. Clark
Bishop of Rochester

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