

Bishop tabs interim president for SBI

ROCHESTER — Bishop Matthew H. Clark has named Charles J. Meder, former president of Finger Lakes Community College, interim president of St. Bernard's Institute, 1100 S. Goodman St.

The appointment was effective Jan. 1, 1993. Meder will serve as SBI's president until a permanent replacement is found for Father Sebastian Falcone, who stepped down as president at the end of December.

Father Falcone had been SBI's president since it was established in 1981. He will remain at the college as a professor.

A native of Rochester, Meder formerly taught at St. John Fisher College and Aquinas Institute. He earned a bachelor's degree from the State University of New York College at Brockport, a master's degree from Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pa., and a doctorate from Syracuse University.

In 1967, Meder became dean of what was formerly known as the Community College of the Finger Lakes. After becoming the community college's president in 1971, he remained in that position until retiring in July of last year.

A presidential search committee has been appointed by SBI's Board of Trustees to help search for a permanent president.

Father Falcone is on a semester-long sabbatical. He will return to teaching duties in the fall.

Ukrainian activist to offer youth workshop Jan. 10

IRONDEQUOIT — Josyp Terelya, a Ukrainian exiled by the former Soviet Union to Canada in the 1980s for his Catholic activism, Jan. 10 will kick off a series of four workshops designed to prepare young Catholics for World Youth Day '93 in Denver.

Sponsored by St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, 4536 St. Paul Blvd., the speech will take place at Bishop Kearney High School, 125 King's Highway S., at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 10.

Terelya spent much of his life in prisons and labor camps due to his evangelism. He claims to have witnessed apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and wrote about his experiences in his autobiography, titled *Witness to Apparitions and Persecution in the U.S.S.R.*

Terelya's speech will be followed by other workshops in February, April and May.

Father Anthony Mugavero, pastor of St. Bridget's Church in Rochester, will speak on the Eucharist, Mass and Lent at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21.

St. Thomas the Apostle School, 41 Colebrook Drive, will host a workshop on the pope on Sunday, April 25, at 7 p.m. During the workshop, participants will make rosaries to be donated to Attica Prison and Russia.

On Sunday, May 23, a field trip to Our Lady of Fatima Shrine in Youngstown, N.Y. is slated. Further information will be given at the April 25 workshop.

Those interested in participating in the World Youth Conference and papal visit from Aug. 11-16 in Denver may still register. Children under the age of 13 must be accompanied by a parent or a guardian. Call 716/342-4175 for information.

Demonstrators picket over school closing plan

ROCHESTER — Ron Nasso and his 4-year-old daughter Amanda (photo at right) were among 20 St. Theodore's School supporters who demonstrated outside the Pastoral Center in Gates on Tuesday, Dec. 22.

Holding signs that read "We love you bishop, but enough is enough," and "Other quadrants watch your back, Get ready for the big attack," the demonstrators criticized the Southwest Juridic Council's decision to close St. Theodore's elementary school program in the fall of 1994.

In addition to St. Theodore's K-6 program, the school building also houses the Southwest Quadrant's All Saints Junior High. The entire building will be taken over by All Saints when the elementary program is eliminated next year.

"St. Theodore's is a good parish and a strong parish, and if they close (the elementary

school) too, where's it going to stop?," commented Nasso.

At one point during the demonstration protesters briefly entered the Pastoral Center's first-floor chapel to pray.

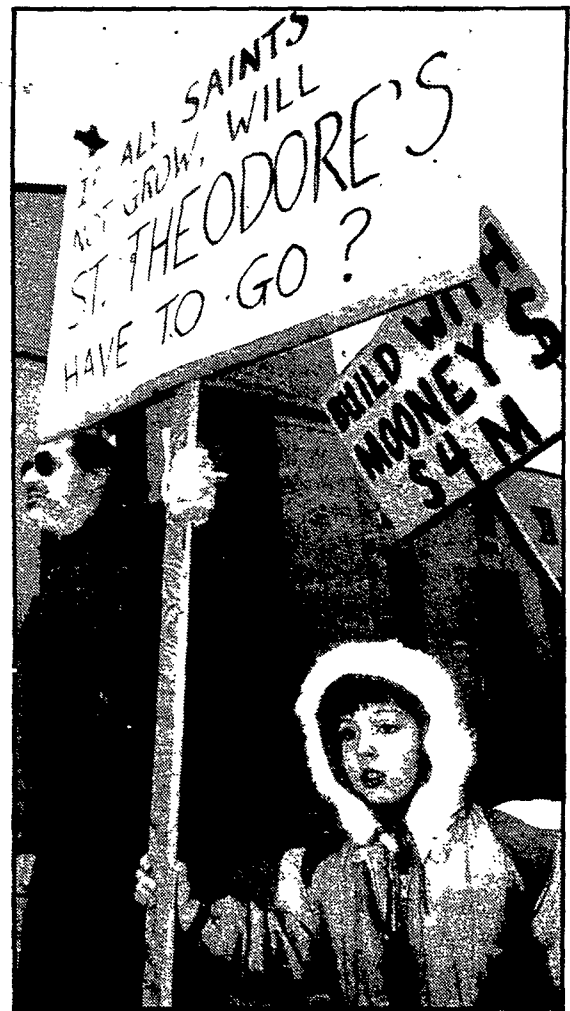
When asked to comment on the protest, Timothy Dwyer, diocesan superintendent of schools, noted that he understood the demonstrators' actions.

"Your heart goes out to them," he said, noting that protesting the decision was part of the school parents' "grievance process."

Nonetheless, Dwyer stated that the decision to close the school had been discussed at quadrant and diocesan levels, and that it was unlikely it would be reversed.

Dwyer added that St. Theodore's parents would be able to send their children to other quadrant schools in the fall of 1994.

— Rob Cullivan



Babette G. Augustin/Photo editor

Donations lagging for Christmas Appeal

ROCHESTER — The 1992-93 Catholic Courier/Social Ministry Christmas Appeal is showing decreases in both the number of donors and in the total amount collected compared to last year's effort.

As of Jan. 4, 1993, the appeal had received \$63,801.68 in contributions from 1,274 individuals. Figures for 1991-92 were \$71,173 in contributions from 1,382 donors.

The drop off can be attributed in part to a stagnant economy and to the number of charities competing for the same dollars, said Judy Taylor, public education and communications manager for diocesan Social Ministry.

"People can only give so much, and there are so many groups and organizations needing help," Taylor observed.

Taylor also noted that the appeal received a one-time bequest in 1991-92.

In contrast, the 1990-91 appeal received approximately \$64,500 in contributions, Taylor said. This figure, she acknowledged, is more in line with what has been raised thus far during this year's appeal.

Although the bulk of the money raised through the Christmas Appeal is used during the Christmas season, contributions actually provide a pool of emergency funds year-round for the diocese's regional offices of social ministry, the Bishop Sheen Ecumenical Housing Foundation, and urban parishes in Rochester, Taylor noted.

CFC plans therapy groups for sexual abuse survivors

ROCHESTER — The Catholic Family Center is accepting referrals for two therapy groups for female survivors of childhood sexual abuse.

The groups — one scheduled for Wednesday evenings and the other for Thursday evenings — will meet at CFC's office on the seventh floor of the Sibley Tower Building, 25 Franklin St. Both groups are scheduled to begin meeting in mid-January and will run 15 to 20 weeks.

For information about the groups, contact Jeannette Sloan at 716/262-7115, or Nan Pokalsky at 262 7114.

Those agencies use the money to help people pay rent, repair their homes, buy food, or find temporary shelter, Taylor explained.

"People who are typically helped are people who don't qualify for public assistance because they are working poor or they have some sudden emergency," Taylor noted. "Typically, it's the food vouchers that help them get through a short-term crisis. Need is not seasonal."

Taylor said that just as the money is used throughout the year, contribu-

tions to the appeal are accepted at any time. She pointed out that a decrease in the amount received would hurt agencies in their abilities to help people.

"I can only hope that people who forgot to give or who put it aside, would realize that's it's not too late to give," Taylor said.

EDITORS' NOTE: Contributions to the Christmas Appeal may be sent c/o Social Ministry of the Diocese of Rochester, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624.

— Lee Strong

Federation to host seminar on public policy and schools

ROCHESTER — The Rochester Federation of Catholic School Parents will present a seminar on political action, public policy and Catholic schools in Hoyt Hall at the University of Rochester on Saturday, Jan. 16, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Kevin Donaghue, executive director of the New York State Federation of Catholic School Parents, will lead the conference, co-sponsored by the University of Rochester's Office of Professional Development and the Graduate

School of Education and Human Development.

The seminar, which costs \$16 per person, will feature three workshops.

The deadline to register is Jan. 8. Groups of four or more people may receive a 10 percent discount. Registrations should be sent to: Sister Edwaine Weaver, RSM, 403 Lattimore Hall, University of Rochester, Rochester, N.Y. 14627.

Call Sister Weaver at 716/275-7833, or Linda Zaleski at 544-4694.

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