

Hospital offers care to Vietnamese patients

ROCHESTER — Barbara L. Harden, nurse manager of St. Mary's Health Care Center, last year called up other area hospitals to find out how they were serving the increasing Vietnamese population.

"When you find an answer, let us know," was the response she generally received, Harden said.

Now, Harden has an answer. The Health Care Center offers services to Vietnamese immigrants from 1-5 p.m. every Friday.

Prior to inaugurating the service in January, the hospital employed two Vietnamese physicians who could speak their clients' language, Harden said. One resident, however, has since left the hospital, while the other resident's schedule prohibits regular contact with Vietnamese patients.

To break the language barrier, the hospital hired an interpreter whose salary is covered by state funding for the hospital's Health Reach program which delivers primary care to inner-city patients.

The interpreter allows the center to better discern the health problems of its Vietnamese clients, Harden said, adding that about five Vietnamese patients per week come to the center.

— Rob Cullivan



Dr. Michael Wagner (left) examines Nga Nguyen, while Ary Sisuphan (far right) translates and registered nurse Maryann Scipioni looks on. The examination took place Jan. 29 during one of the weekly Vietnamese clinics St. Mary's Health Care Center operates to serve Rochester's growing Vietnamese population.

Bebette G. Augustin/Photo editor

St. Bernard's slates ministry gathering

ROCHESTER — St. Bernard's Institute, in conjunction with the Colgate Rochester Divinity School, is sponsoring a conference on ministry in March.

The conference will take place on Tuesday, March 9, from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the divinity school's campus, 1100 S. Goodman St.

The daylong program will include an overview of the schools' curriculums; a session on discovering one's gifts; discussion groups with alumni and current students; campus tours; and a worship service.

The fee for the conference is \$15. Registration deadline is Feb. 26.

For information about the conference or St. Bernard's, contact Georgia Crissy, director of recruitment, St. Bernard's Institute, 1100 S. Goodman St., Rochester 14620.

St. John Fisher plans health-care seminars

PITTSFORD — The nursing department of St. John Fisher College, 3690 East Ave., has planned two upcoming lectures on health care.

Sarah H. Trafton, an assistant professor at the University of Rochester School of Medicine, will present "Health Policy, Ethics and the Poor" on Thursday, March 4.

Dr. Mila A. Aroskar, associate professor at the University of Minnesota's Division of Health Services Administration, will discuss "Utilization of Health Care Technology, Ethics and the Care Giving Role" on Thursday, April 15.

Both lectures will be followed by a question-and-answer session. They will begin at 7:30 p.m. in Room B-135 of the college's St. Basil Hall.

Call 716/385-8104 for details.

Synod discussions enter second phase

Meetings to start Sunday, Feb. 28

By Mike Latona
Staff writer

For those in search of a fresh approach to Lent, the diocesan Synod's second portion couldn't be arriving at a better time.

The final three synod themes will be explored at parishes throughout the diocese beginning next Sunday, Feb. 28. Discussions will be conducted during a three-week period.

Father Joseph A. Hart, diocesan synod director, noted that it's no coincidence for these parish/community synods to be starting on the first Sunday of Lent.

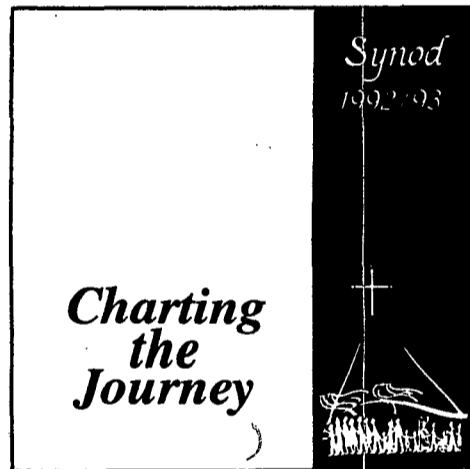
"We had timed it in such a way. Right from the beginning, that was our thought," said Father Hart, who explained that the influence of Lent can serve as a motivating factor for synod participation.

"What I (as a parishioner) am being asked to do is sacrifice three nights or three afternoons. So I'm giving myself to the church in a way that's a very fitting Lenten project," the priest said.

Father Hart acknowledged that some parishioners may need just this type of motivation, due to the many difficult church issues covered by Synod discussions.

"It is intense; it really is. There are no light and easy questions," he remarked. "A parish's emotional energy gets drained. We thought (the Lenten angle) would help overcome the inertia."

Upcoming synod sessions will last from two to three hours. The top three recommendations from each parish meeting will be forwarded to the diocesan synod office, and then be re-examined during the second Regional Synod scheduled for May 22 at 11 diocesan locations. The General Synod is scheduled for Oct. 1-3 with voting and



final proclamations taking place at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center.

As was the case with the synod's first segment, conducted in the fall of 1992, three themes will be examined in depth during upcoming sessions.

The first week will focus on youth, young adults, the elderly and those who care for them. The second theme

will explore problems regarding evangelization as well as faith development in such areas as religious education, sacramental preparation and Catholic schools. In the third week, diocesan Catholics will address justice issues surrounding racism, sexism, poverty, unemployment, homelessness and health care.

Using the final theme as an example, Father Hart pointed out that plotting a better way of life for the disadvantaged can, in many respects, be just as important as the hands-on care that these people receive.

"It's as if I'd spent the afternoon with the poor myself, if I can focus my energies on them (at synod meetings)," said the diocesan director.

The various fall synod convocations were attended by approximately 30,000 people. Although he said it's too early to predict attendance this spring, Father Hart said he hopes for about the same number for the impending segment.

Two priests mark anniversaries

Two priests, both of whom have strong ties to Catholic schools in the Rochester diocese, recently celebrated their anniversaries of ordination.

Father James P. Malone, SJ, observed his 60th anniversary as a Jesuit on Dec. 22, 1992. He served as a guidance counselor at McQuaid Jesuit High School, 1800 Clinton Ave. S., from 1955-90. He remains in residence at McQuaid, where he continues to perform spiritual direction for students.

Father Malone was born in Buffalo and attended Canisius High School. He entered the Jesuit novitiate in 1932 and was ordained in 1945. Prior to his arrival at McQuaid, Father Malone taught at Canisius High as well as St. Peter's Prep in Jersey City, N.J.

Another anniversary took place when Father Angelo D. Bovenzi, CSB, returned to Rochester to celebrate the

25th year of his ordination as a Basilian priest.

Father Bovenzi, a former chaplain, professor and trustee at St. John Fisher College, celebrated his anniversary Mass on Dec. 6, 1992. The Mass was held in Murphy Chapel at the college, 3690 East Ave.

A graduate of Aquinas Institute, Father Bovenzi served as campus minister and French professor at Fisher from 1983-85. After moving to Toronto to become first chancellor to the superior general of the Basilian Fathers, Father Bovenzi retained his ties with Fisher by serving on the college's Board of Trustees until 1989. He is currently campus minister at the University of Western Ontario and pastor of Holy Spirit University Parish in London, Ontario.