

# 1962 Mass permitted in diocese

By Lee Strong  
Senior staff writer

ROCHESTER — Bishop Matthew H. Clark has announced that the "Tridentine" Mass may once again be celebrated in the Rochester diocese, beginning June 6.

In a letter dated May 8, 1993, Bishop Clark announced that the Mass according to the 1962 Roman Missal will be celebrated at St. Stanislaus Church, 1124 Hudson Ave., every Sunday at 8:30 a.m. The Mass will also be celebrated on holy days.

The celebrant for the first Tridentine Mass will be Father Dennis M. Bonsignore, parochial vicar at St. Cecilia Church, 2763 Culver Road. A choir will join in the inaugural Mass' celebration.

Several other priests, including Bishop Clark, will take turns presiding at the Mass in upcoming weeks.

Bishop Clark explained in his letter that he had decided to reinstate the Mass' celebration not "as a means of contradicting the liturgical development which has already taken place in our Diocesan Church."

"I am deeply aware, however," he continued, "that some of our sisters and brothers legitimately and sincerely have requested the opportunity to worship in the Tridentine tradition."

The Tridentine Mass is the form of liturgy celebrated in the Catholic Church prior to the liturgical changes brought about by the Second Vatican Council. The 1962 liturgy is said in Latin, and the priest faces the "high altar" with his back to the congregation.

The Mass was replaced in 1970 by the "Novus Ordo" or new order of Mass, promulgated by Pope Paul VI.

In 1984, however, Pope John Paul II permitted the celebration of the 1962 Mass under certain circumstances. One of the conditions was that the local bishop had to approve such celebrations.

Although diocesan Catholics over the years had petitioned Bishop Clark to permit the Mass, he had previously deferred a decision, stating that the issue was under study.

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Helen Alvaré, director of information and planning for the National Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, speaks to an audience at Bishop Kearney High School on May 13.

S. John Wilkin/Staff photographer

## Pro-life official says major battles ahead

By Lee Strong  
Senior staff writer

ROCHESTER — Amid concerns over specific laws and protest tactics, the heart of the abortion debate today is a philosophical battle over the issue of suffering, according to Helen Alvaré.

"The critical, cultural, moral question that we are constantly confronted with is the question of suffering," asserted Alvaré, the director of planning and information for the Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

"Now that abortion is technologically available to select out people that might cause us to suffer, that might suffer themselves ... we as a nation have come to endorse this technological solution to suffering, on the backs, literally of women and children," Alvaré said.

"(The pro-life) answer will never be as easy," she continued. "We will never have a sound bite like 'freedom to choose.' You're asking for sacrificial, long-term commitment."

Alvaré shared those observations with the *Catholic Courier* during a visit to Rochester on May 13. She spoke that evening during a benefit dinner for the Problem Pregnancy Help Center, Inc., 3252 Lake Ave.

As part of the visit, she also spoke to students during an afternoon assembly at Bishop Kearney High School, 125

Kings Hwy. S.

During her address at Bishop Kearney, Alvaré discussed abortion practice in the United States, pro-choice arguments, and explained why the church is involved in the abortion debate.

"Lawyers on both sides of the issue agree, abortion in the United States under *Roe vs. Wade* is legal at any time and for virtually any reason," she declared to the students.

Alvaré, citing abortion statistics from Planned Parenthood, then noted, approximately 1.6 million abortions are performed in this nation annually — or 4,400 a day. Of those daily abortions, 320 are second trimester, and 40 to 44 are third trimester.

The statistics indicate that only 1 percent of the abortions are due to rape, incest or danger to the mother's life — the reasons most commonly cited to support abortion.

On the other hand, she continued, figures show that 21 percent of the abortions take place because the women fear having a child will change their lives, an additional 21 percent are because the believe fear they cannot afford to have a child, and 16 percent are performed because the women say they just don't want the responsibility of raising a child.

Alvaré then began to critique some of the reason's pro-choice activists give for their position.

One of the major reasons cited today, Alvaré noted, is the belief that women have "free choice, the right to choose."

"Freedom to choose what?" Alvaré asked. "Right to choose what? Whether some other human life lives or dies?"

Society and the legal system accept limits to choice, Alvaré noted. For example, laws require that individuals who "choose" to steal or to abuse a child must pay consequences.

"Is your right to choose to do anything at all more important than anyone else's right?" Alvaré asked her audience.

As for the church's involvement in the abortion debate, Alvaré noted that the church is the largest provider of social services to the poor in the United States. "Where people are suffering, that's where we belong," she said.

"Every day in abortion clinics across the United States 4,400 children are dying, 4,400 mothers are wounded," Alvaré said. Thus, she argued, the church's proper role is to oppose that suffering's cause.

In an interview following the Kearney address, Alvaré said the major focus for pro-life action at this time is opposing both the Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA) in the U.S. Congress, and efforts to repeal the Hyde Amendment,

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## Rochester parishes set to cluster

ROCHESTER — The parishes of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, 53 Ontario St., St. Michael, 869 N. Clinton Ave., and Holy Redeemer/St. Francis Xavier, 34 Teresa St., will cluster on June 29, 1993.

Father Dennis J. Shaw, currently serving as pastor of Mount Carmel Church, will serve as the new cluster's pastor. He will be assisted in his duties by Father Laurence C. Tracy, administrator of St. Michael and part-time administrator of Holy Redeemer/St. Francis Xavier Churches, and Father Pepe Quintero, a priest from San Juan, Puerto Rico, who is currently serving in the Rochester diocese.

Father Shaw reported that the clustering will affect some 2,000 Catholics who belong to the three parishes. While all three priests will serve the three parishes on a regular basis, the priest added that they already assist each other when necessary.

The parishes will also hire a full-time youth minister by July 1, he said.

Father Shaw emphasized that the merger would preserve each parish's individual identities, emphasizing that clustering is intended to help each parish fill the gaps in their services.

In particular, he explained that the clustered parishes will combine their efforts in adult and children's religious education; business management and financing; training of such volunteers as lectors and eucharistic ministers; programs involving the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults; as well as hospital and home visitation of parishioners.

Discussions regarding the new cluster's formation began about 18 months ago when concerns arose about the shortage of priests serving city parishes, Father Shaw said.

He added that other city parishes were initially interested in merging, but that the three cluster parishes expressed the most interest.

— Rob Cullivan

## Bishop announces appointments

Bishop Matthew H. Clark has announced the following diocesan appointments, which are effective 6 p.m. Tuesday, June 29, 1993.

Father Robert L. Beligotti, from pastor at Church of St. Anthony of Padua in Rochester, to pastor at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Auburn.

Father Philip J. Billotte, from parochial vicar at Corning-Painted Post Roman Catholic Community, to temporary administrator at St. Patrick Church in Owego.

Father John J. Glogowski, from sabbatical to pastor at Church of St. Leo in Hilton.

Father Joseph A. Larrabee, from sabbatical to leave of absence.

Father Lawrence V. Murphy, from pastor at Church of the Resurrection in Fairport, to pastor at

Holy Rosary Church in Rochester.

Father Michael J. Schramel, from sabbatical to administrator at Church of the Holy Family in Rochester.

Father James A. Schwartz, from pastor at Church of the Holy Family in Rochester, to pastor at St. Louis Church in Pittsford.

Father Dennis J. Shaw, from pastor at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Rochester, to pastor at St. Michael/Our Lady of Mount Carmel/Holy Redeemer/St. Francis Xavier Church in Rochester (see related story).

Father Louis A. Vasile, from temporary coverage at St. Michael Church in Penn Yan, to pastor at Church of the Resurrection in Fairport.