

Diocese plans cuts after TGA shortfall

By Lee Strong
Senior staff writer

ROCHESTER — In light of a projected shortfall in the 1992-93 Thanks Giving Appeal and a lower than expected return on investments, the Rochester diocese will eliminate or reduce the hours of several Pastoral Center positions for the 1993-94 fiscal year.

A total of 12 full- and part-time positions will be eliminated when the new fiscal year begins July 1, 1993, according to James M. Rinefierd, chief financial officer for the diocese.

Among the positions eliminated were religious education consultant for the clusters (a position currently unfilled); the directors of fiscal affairs and human resources for the office of the director of Social Ministry; and financial services manager and human resources assistant, both in the Social Ministry director's office.

Combined with reductions in hours for some positions, the creation of some new positions and restructuring of the diocese's Financial Services department (which will take on some of the functions of the positions eliminated from Social Ministry), the Pastoral Center staff will be reduced the equivalent of 7.6 full-time positions — representing a 9-percent reduction.

The Pastoral Center has eliminated the equivalent of approximately 17 positions — a 17-percent reduction since the 1991-92 fiscal year — when this year's reductions are combined with those of last year.

"The issue comes down to what kind of resources can you budget," Rinefierd observed. "We needed to cut the budget, and we cut (ministry area) budgets about 9 percent."

Rinefierd noted that the 1992-93 TGA — the diocese's chief source of

income — is running approximately \$200,000 short of its \$4.145 million goal. That shortfall, coupled with lower than expected interest rates over the last year, has meant the diocese has had to work with less money than it had originally budgeted.

In addition to the staff reductions, Rinefierd said the diocese is currently examining the fees charged for workshops and some services. He did not have any specifics on what changes could be made, but noted, "Now when groups around here do workshops, they are going to be more mindful of registration fees."

As a result of limited resources and subsequent staff reductions, remaining staff members will have to take on more responsibilities, Rinefierd said.

"I think generally people have tried to keep things going to the best of their abilities," Rinefierd said.

The diocesan budget for the 1993-94 fiscal year will be conservative, Rinefierd predicted. The amount budgeted to come from the TGA, for example, will be less than its goal, he said. The diocese will also expect less money from investments.

Meanwhile, Rinefierd continued, TGA officials are seeking ways to improve the annual campaign. "We're trying to focus on having a very successful campaign," he said.

The goal, Rinefierd acknowledged, is to avoid another shortfall and subsequent elimination of additional Pastoral Center positions. More cutbacks such as this year's, he noted, could mean the elimination of several diocesan services.

"I think we clearly feel the stress of trying to respect what staff of the Pastoral Center see as needs while bumping up against resource limitations," he concluded.



S. John Wilkin/Staff photographer
Transitional Deacons Lee Chase, Lance Gonyo and Brian Cool (left to right) sit on the steps of the altar at Fairport's St. John of Rochester Church, where Deacon Cool will serve as parochial vicar.

Bishop Clark to ordain three to the priesthood

By Lee Strong
Senior staff writer

ROCHESTER — Bishop Matthew H. Clark will ordain three men to the priesthood at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 5, at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 296 Flower City Park.

Transitional Deacons Lee Chase, Brian Cool and Lance Gonyo all completed their seminary studies this year at St. Mary's Seminary and University in Baltimore, Md.

An Amsterdam, N.Y. native, Deacon Chase was born Aug. 19, 1963, to the late Robert and Genevieve Chase.

He came to Rochester in 1981 to attend Nazareth College, 4245 East Ave., graduating in 1985 with a degree in religious studies.

Deacon Chase said he had thought of the priesthood as early as high school, and he even applied to the Jesuits while in college — but later changed his mind.

Upon graduation he worked with the Rochester Health Network and for a book store while pursuing graduate studies at St. Bernard's Institute, 1100 S. Goodman St.

After earning a master of arts degree in theology at St. Bernard's in 1988, Deacon Chase was hired as director of religious education at St. Anne Parish, 1640 Mt. Hope Ave. He said he decided to become a priest while working at St. Anne Church.

"It was through the people of the parish that I discerned I wanted to be a priest," Deacon Chase observed.

Following his ordination to the priesthood, Deacon Chase will serve as parochial vicar at St. Mary Church, 17 Clark St., Auburn.

Ironically, Deacon Cool hails from Auburn's St. Mary Parish, but will serve as parochial vicar at St. John of Rochester Parish, 18 Wickford Way, Fairport, following his ordination.

An Auburn native, Deacon Cool was born Dec. 16, 1965, to Benjamin and Marion Cool. He attended St. Mary School, 17 Clymer St., Cayuga Community College, and Nazareth College, earning a degree in social sciences.

Deacon Cool said he had first started considering the priesthood while a student at Auburn High School. But he did not begin to think about it serious-

ly until the day he saw John Paul II on television asking young people to consider vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

"I had thought about (the priesthood) prior to that, but I'd kept it quiet to myself," Deacon Cool said.

During his three years at Nazareth College, Deacon Cool resided at Becket Hall, the diocese's residential program for men considering the priesthood. While at Becket, he performed hospital ministry at Strong Memorial Hospital; assisted at St. Joseph's House of Hospitality, 402 South Ave.; and staffed Kamp Koinonia in Italy Valley.

For his pastoral year, he served as youth minister at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, 1089 Joseph Ave.

Deacon Gonyo also lived at Becket Hall, both when it was a college seminary program at St. John Fisher College, 3690 East Ave., and after it became a residential program housed in the former convent of St. Boniface Parish, 330 Gregory St.

A Greece native, Deacon Gonyo was born Feb. 7, 1964, to Albert and Carolyn Gonyo. He was a member of St. John the Evangelist Parish, 2400 Ridge Road W., where he attended the parish school.

Deacon Gonyo said he began to seriously consider the priesthood while attending the Aquinas Institute, 1127 Dewey Ave.

"It was a combination of prayer and the people that I met — the (Basilian) priests that I met who were happy in their ministry," he explained.

While at Becket Hall, Deacon Gonyo assisted at St. Joseph House of Hospitality; St. Ann's Home, 1500 Portland Ave.; and St. Francis Xavier Parish, 34 Teresa St., where he worked with the parish's Hispanic youth group.

After completing a double major in psychology and philosophy at St. John Fisher College, Deacon Gonyo studied for one year at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., took a year off from school to work at Rochester's Center for Youth Services, 258 Alexander St., then entered Baltimore's St. Mary Seminary.

Following his June 5 ordination to the priesthood, Deacon Gonyo will serve as parochial vicar at Elmira's St. Mary Parish, 224 Franklin St.

Two experts on Balkans conflict to speak at Southern Tier venues

ELMIRA — Two experts on the situation in the former Yugoslavia are slated to speak at three separate venues as part of a June 7 program sponsored by the Southern Tier Office of Social Ministry and 11 area groups.

Kadra Fazlish, a native of Sarajevo, will speak at noon in Park Church, 208 W. Gray St., as part of the program, "Women's Dialogue and Luncetime Fast in Solidarity with the Women Victimized by War and Violence."

Dr. Ivan Kos, president of the International Therapy Association, a group of psychologists concerned with the prevention of war and ethnic violence, will speak at noon during a brown-bag lunch-forum at Corning Public Library.

Both Kos and Fazlish will also speak during a joint forum at 7:30 p.m. in First Baptist Church, 121 W. Church St.

In addition to working as a tour guide in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Fazlish participates in a New York City dialogue group comprising people of varied ethnic and religious backgrounds from the former Yugoslavia. She will speak about the conflict from the perspective of Muslim women faced by the pain of war and the need for reconciliation and healing.

Unlike most commentators on the

war in the former Yugoslavia, Kos attempts to look beyond historical and political reasons for war and digs beneath the psychological underpinnings of those who have taken up arms. He argues for the establishment of conflict resolution centers where tolerance and respect for differences is encouraged.

In a February article for *International Society of Political Psychology*, Kos extensively detailed how the former Yugoslavia's rulers — and those whom they ruled — lived in an "aristocratic bureaucracy" whose "suppressive methods were sophisticated enough to leave one with a belief of freedom and equality while in reality it was autocratic."

Citizens learned that "(e)very statement has a double, unclarified and unfinished meaning," a fact that "is best seen today in the process of peace negotiations" where opponents sign cease-fires only to begin shooting at each other as soon as the ink dries.

Political solutions can not end the war until Yugoslavs learn to replace warlike "aggression" with peaceful "assertiveness," he noted.

Call 607/734-9784 for information on the June 7 program.

— Rob Cullivan