

Social Ministry abets 'Children's Sabbaths'

Parishes offered variety of events

By Lee Strong
Senior staff writer

In conjunction with last weekend's National Observance of Children's Sabbaths, the Finger Lakes Office of Social Ministry sponsored Finger Lakes Social Ministry Sunday during weekend Masses Oct. 16-17.

As part of the weekend, members of FLOSM's staff and board of directors spoke during weekend liturgies at 18 parishes throughout the five-county Finger Lakes region.

In addition, parishes were furnished with resource packets prepared by the Children's Defense Fund — a Washington, D.C.-based advocacy group — for the Children's Sabbath weekend. Included with those packets were Bishop Matthew H. Clark's prayer for children and pledge-of-commitment cards that had been offered to parishes in the Rochester diocese around the feast of the Holy Family in 1992.

Diocesan Social Ministry and the Southern Tier Office of Social Ministry mailed the packets to other parishes throughout the diocese.

The purpose of the National Observance of Children's Sabbaths was to express concern for children facing poverty, abuse, neglect, illness and other crises.

FLOSM scheduled its event to focus the attention of the 33 Catholic parishes in Yates, Ontario, Wayne, Seneca and Cayuga counties on these same issues, observed Giovina Carosco, FLOSM's executive director.

"We deliberately chose this weekend because we wanted to link these two events," Carosco said.

According to Judy Taylor, education and advocacy communications manager for diocesan Social Ministry, the diocese linked the Children's Sabbath weekend to the Catholic Campaign for Children and Families. The campaign stemmed from the National Conference of Catholic Bishops' 1991 pastoral letter titled, *Children and Families First*.

Taylor said she had received requests for packets from more than a dozen parishes, and that information had been sent to other diocesan parishes as well. She noted that two parishes planned special liturgies to focus attention on the observance — Au-

burn's St. Francis of Assisi Parish Oct. 16-17; and Hamlin's St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Oct. 23-24.

Other parishes had not indicated if or when they would sponsor events or liturgies related to the campaign, Taylor said. But she speculated that because many parishes were busy with other events last weekend, or they did not have enough time to adequately prepare for the weekend, they would keep the information in the packets for future use.

Kathy Dubel, director of peace and justice for the Southern Tier Office of Social Ministry, noted that her office had also distributed Children's Sabbath packets to parishes throughout the region. A number of parishes had indicated that they would incorporate the prayers and homily suggestions in the packets in their Masses over the Children's Sabbath weekend.

In addition, Dubel noted that some parishes expressed interest in doing more. At St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Ithaca, for example, the parish's Witnessing with the Poor Committee delivered short reports about children in poverty at all weekend Masses.

Meanwhile, Dubel reported that St. John the Evangelist Parish in Newark Valley and St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Catonk distributed a brochure she and Taylor had developed, detailing 50 ways to help children.

As part of the Children's Sabbath activities in the diocese, Taylor also represented the diocese at an Oct. 14 interfaith service at Temple B'rith Kodesh to mark the beginning of the weekend. Gaynelle Wethers, director of multicultural affairs at Nazareth College of Rochester, was the service's keynote speaker.

Carosco noted that one of the reasons for distributing the packets was to help parishes deal with the ongoing concerns of children.

"Finger Lakes Social Ministry Sunday and Children's Sabbath are not intended to be one-day events," Carosco said. "Instead, we hope this focused weekend will provide the impetus to raise awareness, renew commitment and stimulate long-term efforts to meet the needs of children and families in the Finger Lakes region."

A brother's tears



S. John Wilkin/Staff photographer

Marchers call for end to violence

Steve Fickess weeps after looking at a picture of his brother, Gregory, a 19-year-old University of Rochester student who died during a beating in downtown Rochester. The photo was placed on a wreath bearing the names of 51 people slain in Rochester this year. As part of the march remembering victims, participants offered prayers and placed wreaths at the Monroe County Office Building, City Hall, and the Liberty Pole.

Ex-Planned Parenthood head to speak at CPC dinner

ROCHESTER — Leo Holmsten, former director of Planned Parenthood in Rochester, and Herbert London, the Conservative candidate for New York governor, are scheduled to speak at an upcoming breakfast banquet to benefit Crisis Pregnancy Centers, Inc. The dinner is scheduled for 8:45 a.m. on

Saturday, Nov. 6, at the Mapledale Party House, 1020 Maple St.

Holmsten who served as director of Planned Parenthood 23 years ago, has since become a pro-life advocate. According to a press release on the event, he travels the country to talk about Planned Parenthood's efforts promoting abortion.

London, who ran for N.Y. governor in 1990, plans to run again in 1994. He

is a professor of humanities at New York University.

Cost for the breakfast is \$7.95 for adults, \$5 for teens and college students. Reservations are requested by Oct. 28.

Proceeds from the breakfast will benefit Crisis Pregnancy Centers' offices in Greece, Rochester and Brighton/Henrietta.

Call 716/383-2765 for information.

DOUD POST
Restaurant & Party House

FRIDAYS ONLY
Lunches Served 11am-2pm, Dinners 4-9pm
STOP OUT AND TRY OUR FANTASTIC FISH Fry!

Private Party & Banquet Facilities for groups of up to 300!
898 BUFFALO RD. (716) 235-3775

Catholic Courier (USPS 135-580)
Vol. 105 No. 3 October 21, 1993
Published weekly except the last Thursday in December.

Subscription rates: single copy, 75¢; one-year subscription in U.S., \$19.50; Canada and foreign \$19.50 plus postage.
Offices: 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624, 716/328-4340.
Second-Class postage paid at Rochester, N.Y.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Catholic Courier, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624.

BARTOLOMEO FUNERAL HOME, INC.

Peter W. Giullari, Jr. Philip P. Perotto Michael P. Perotto

Personalized service in the community since 1922.

1425 Lexington Avenue, Rochester, NY 14606
conveniently located near 390

(716) 254-5400

Di Maria Travel

1521 MONROE AVE. 271-0100

Mid Winter Cruise on the S/S Norway February 19-26

"THE WORLDS LARGEST CRUISE SHIP"

\$1169⁰⁰pp/do-inside cabin
\$1269⁰⁰pp/do-outside cabin

MISS SAIGON DEC. 30-JAN. 1
(Two nights in Toronto)

Motor coach from Rochester. Staying at the Deluxe Intercontinental Hotel in Yorkville. Evening performance with the best seats in the house! Time for shopping. Limited to 30 persons only. (Optional New Year's Eve Dinner Celebration)

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND PRICING ON THIS VERY SPECIAL PACKAGE, CALL TODAY

Take advantage of our special group rates. Don't delay. Call Today!