Catholic Cour

DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK ■ VOL. 105 NO. 28 ■ THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1994 ■ 75¢ ■ 24 PAGES/2 sections

Please look for annual vocations supplement after page10.

S. John Wilkin/Staff photographer

Father William G. Endres celebrates Mass April 14 with residents of the Bayside Independent Living Home in Webster.

Diocesan priests buoyed by people's support

By Lee Strong
Senior staff writer

The path to the priesthood takes many twists and turns.

For Father Timothy T. Brown, the road began at St. Pius X School before weaving through Gates Chili High School, Monroe Community College, the State University of New York College at Brockport and Immaculate Conception Seminary at Seton Hall University in Seton Hall, N.J. He was ordained on April 22, 1988.

Father William A. Moorby's road took him from Oneonta to the Rochester Institute of Technology, into the U.S. Army, to a management position with a food store and finally to St. Bernard's Seminary before his April 30, 1982 ordination.

On the other hand, Father William G. Endres went straight from St. Salome's School in Rochester to St. Andrew's Seminary at a teacher's suggestion. After studying further at St. Bernard's Seminary, he was ordained on June 7, 1969.

Father Michael C. Hogan's journey began with a suggestion from his mother that when they went to Rochester to buy a suit for his graduation from Lima High School that he take the entrance examination to Andrew's being offered that same weekend. He passed the test, going on through St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries before his ordination June 2, 1951.

While these priests took different routes to the priesthood, each of them voiced enthusiasm about his career as a priest. And all four cited their greatest sources of satisfaction and support the people they have served.

"Just being able to celebrate the Lord's presence in the lives of people – the baptisms, marriages, Eucharist, working with people in times of grief – the wide variety of experiences of people," said Father Brown, currently parochial vicar at Holy Cross Parish in Rochester. "After six years I'm still impressed by the spirit of people and the love of the Lord that's there."

While making his rounds, Father Endres — who is currently serving as temporary staff chaplain at Rochester General Hospital — blesses a patient recovering from surgery.

Father Moorby, pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Newark Valley and St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Catatonk, noted that he gains satisfaction from "the people I minister with and to in the parish – seeing them show their faith, seeing them grow in their faith and their willingness to share with others."

"Every place I've been has been a great source of satisfaction because the people have always been supportive and encouraging," observed Father Hogan, who is retiring this year after serving as pastor of St. Mary, Our Lady of the Hills Parish in Honeoye since 1987.

"Most satisfying?" mused Father Endres, who has served most recently as a temporary staff chaplain at Rochester General Hospital. "I would have to say the adulation and respect that I've received personally from parishioners in all the parishes I've been at. I still hear from people to whom I ministered to 20, 25 years ago."

Father Hogan probably has more people to look back on serving than the other three men. This year he marks 43 years as a priest.

As he was growing up, Father Hogan recalled, he thought about the priesthood. In part, he was inspired by parish priests at St. Rose Parish in Lima, such as the pastor, the late Monsignor John M. Ball. He also saw the example of his brother, retired Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, ordained in 1942.

Once ordained, Father Hogan served parishes in Geneva, Rochester, Elmira, Honeoye Falls,

Continued on page 18