

# DIOCESAN NEWS

## Tier meeting stresses Synod's goals

By Mike Latona  
Staff writer

Priorities from the diocesan Synod are being taken seriously and implemented successfully, according to evidence gleaned from a gathering of Southern Tier social-ministry leaders.

Those four synod goals were the focus of the sixth annual Catholic Charities Summer Justice and Peace Institute, held July 13 at St. James Church in Waverly. Catholic Charities of the Southern Tier hosted the event, attended by approximately 50 people, according to conference organizer Kathleen Dubel.

Presentations focused on Scripture and the consistent life ethic (synod priority No. 2); small Christian communities (priority No. 4); spirituality and justice; and the recognition of women in the church and society (priority No. 3).

Giovina Caroscio, director of Finger Lakes Social Ministry, led a workshop titled "Small Christian Community Models." She shared with her audience the experiences of a group to which she belongs at St. Stephen's Church in Geneva.

Begun during Lent of this year, this community of eight to 12 people meets regularly to reflect on Sunday readings and to discuss how they can best minister

to the community. The group has proven so popular, Caroscio said, that it may soon spawn another small parish-based community.

"One of the real gifts of small Christian communities is that they give people the experience of belonging," Caroscio told the *Catholic Courier*. "There's an opportunity for spiritual formation beyond the Sunday homily."

Caroscio listed the four essential elements of a small Christian community as prayer and faith-sharing; support of the parish; continued learning; and outreach and evangelization.

"I see this as a model by which we can effect the other synod goals," Caroscio commented. "It encourages the laity to minister to each other, and it connects them to the larger faith community."

Other guest speakers at the July 13 conference included Pat and John Brewster, coordinators of Holy Trinity Monastery in Hornell; and Theresa MacNamara, theology instructor at Holy Family Junior High School in Elmira.

Dubel — who serves as justice-and-peace coordinator for Catholic Charities of the Southern Tier — noted that synod goals were also the theme of a conference her office sponsored in February 1994. Since that time, she said that parish so-

cial-ministry groups have made many strides toward implementing synod priorities.

For example, she said, "There's more work at building relationships with other ministries in the parishes. Social ministry and religious education can work on the No. 1 synod goal (lifelong faith formation) together."

Dubel added that synod goals such as lifelong faith formation and its accompanying priority of Catholic moral education, are essential components of justice-and-peace efforts.

"These are things our social-ministry people are looking at, at all times, in terms of public policy," Dubel said.

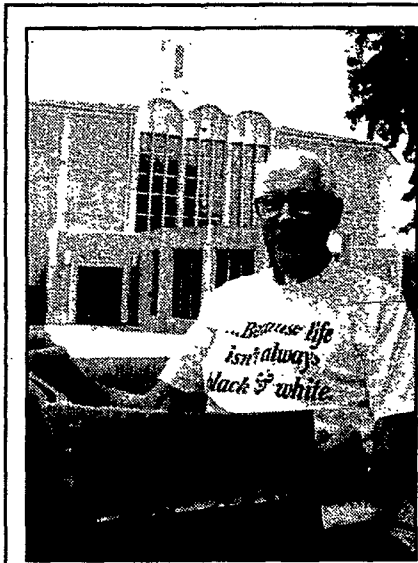
She remarked that social-ministry leaders are better suited to "continue struggling for justice" with the spirituality they gain practicing synod goals.

"When defeat comes, we don't throw in the towel," Dubel said.

In fact, one synod priority has been carried out so well that it prompted a question by Dubel.

During the workshop on women in the church, she realized an interesting trend in terms of social ministry.

"(Lay) women are such strong leaders in parish social ministry. But where are the men?" Dubel remarked.



Matthew Scott/Staff photographer  
Concluding a four-month letter campaign, Father Raymond Heisel finally received his *Catholic Courier* T-shirt. This was the prize awarded to him in the first ever "Courier non-contest" which was spawned by Father Heisel's commentary on a published photo. "I am pleased to have won and proud to wear the first prize awarded in the *Catholic Courier* non-contest," Father Heisel said. "Like the *Catholic Courier*, it fits me to a T."

## Obituaries

### Father John O'Hare, 60; pastor of St. James, Trumansburg

Father John O'Hare, OFM Cap., 60, pastor of St. James the Apostle Church, Trumansburg, since 1994, died of cancer July 20, 1996, at Cayuga Medical Center in Ithaca.

Father O'Hare was born June 9, 1936, in New York City to the late John and Mary Lavelle O'Hare.

He attended Glenclyffe High School, the minor seminary of the Capuchin Franciscan Province of St. Mary, in Garrison, and entered the New York-New England Province of St. Mary in 1953 at St. Lawrence Friary in Milton, Mass., where he made his first profession of vows in September 1954. He attended

college from 1954 to 1958 at Mary Immaculate Friary in Garrison, then at St. Anthony Friary in Hudson, N.H. He returned to Mary Immaculate for post-graduate theological studies in 1958.

Father O'Hare was ordained a priest in 1961 in Yonkers. From 1962 to 1963, he served as parochial vicar at Our Lady Queen of Angels Church in East Harlem. From 1963 to 1967, he taught at St. Mary Seminary in Garrison while also serving as chaplain to the Motherhouse of the Good Shepherd Sisters in Peekskill.

From 1967 to 1969, he was spiritual assistant to the Secular Franciscan Order and confessor to Capuchin Franciscan

novices. Then, from 1969 to 1978, Father O'Hare served as chaplain at three facilities successively: North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset, Pilgrim State Psychiatric Center in Brentwood, and St. John Hospital in Smithtown.

From 1978 to 1981, Father O'Hare served as parochial vicar at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. He then became a chaplain at Brookhaven Memorial Hospital in Patchogue until 1984.

From 1984 to 1990, Father O'Hare was the provincial spiritual assistant of the Secular Franciscan Order in New York and New England. In 1990, he became pastor of St. Francis Solanus Church in Interlaken, and also served as guardian of the Capuchin Franciscan fraternity at the St. Fidelis Friary in Interlaken. In addi-

tion, he was a chaplain at the now-closed Willard Psychiatric Center.

He is survived by his sister, Kathleen Martin of Hudson, Fla., and his brother, Hugh O'Hare of North Merrick. He was predeceased by his brother James.

A Mass of Christ the High Priest was celebrated July 22 at St. James Church. A funeral Mass was celebrated July 23, at Sacred Heart Church in Yonkers. Interment took place at the Capuchin Franciscan Friars' cemetery at St. Clare/Sacred Heart Friaries in Yonkers.

Memorial donations may be sent to: Father John O'Hare Memorial Scholarship Burse, 210 West St., New York, N.Y. 10001-2876. The burse will support the education and formation of future Capuchin Franciscans.

### Sr. Judith Heberle; Mercy head

Sister Mary Judith Heberle, RSM, died July 12, 1996, from leukemia.

A lifelong educator, Sister Judith also served as president of the former Federation of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas from 1974 to 1975, and as a member of its executive committee from 1971 to 1980.

Born Joanne M. Heberle Aug. 3, 1928, in Rochester, she entered the Sisters of Mercy in 1946, professing vows in 1952. She received her bachelor's degree in secretarial science from Nazareth College in 1958 and a master's degree in education with a specialization in guidance from the University of Rochester in 1965.

Superior general of the Sisters of Mercy of the Rochester Diocese from 1970 to 1981, she was instrumental in opening Melita House for pregnant women and the Andrew's Center for foster care.

She served as principal of Our Lady of Mercy High School (1983-1989), where she taught for 18 years, headed the business department and managed the school office. She was serving her second term as a councilor on the congregation's administrative Leadership Team and was vice president at the time of her death.

Sister Heberle also served on the Board of Governors for Notre Dame High School in Elmira, and never missed a meeting, according to Sister Walter Hickey, RSM, prin-



cipal.

Sister Hickey recalled that Sister Judith inspired her at Mercy High School, where she had been her homeroom teacher and taught her typing. The two became better acquainted, especially when Sister Hickey served on the Leadership Team.


"She was always a person looking toward the future. She had a vision," she said. "She served as a focus of unity. It was very very hard. This was after Vatican II and lots of changes were coming into the church."

"She was a woman who created an environment for us to dream as Sisters of Mercy and to believe that religious life was an exciting and viable lifestyle," observed Sister Kathleen Wayne, RSM, who entered the congregation while Sister Judith was superior general.

Sister Judith was predeceased by her twin, Sister Mary Rita Heberle, RSM, and her father, Arthur P.J. Heberle. She is survived by her mother, Mrs. Margaret Heberle; her brother and sister-in-law Donald and Beverly Heberle; her brother Arthur H. Heberle; her sister-in-law Jean Heberle; her aunts, Mrs. Loretta Lewis, Mrs. Claudia Miles, Mrs. Dorothy Collins, Mrs. Dorothy Heberle and Mrs. Gerad Otto; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

A funeral Mass for Sister Judith was celebrated July 16 at the motherhouse chapel. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Sisters of Mercy Ministry Fund, 1437 Blossom Road, Rochester, NY 14610-2298.



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<p><b>GREECE</b> (716) 225-0410 120 Erie Canal Dr., Suite 300 Ronald Guzman, MD</p>	<p><b>PERINTON</b> (716) 421-4630 420 Cross Keys Office Park Lauri Carrier, MD Robin Yirinec, MD</p>
<p><b>IRONDEQUOIT</b> (716) 266-3880 2118 Hudson Avenue Benedetto Tarantino, MD</p>	<p><b>WEBSTER</b> (716) 787-1250 2000 Empire Blvd., Suite 200 Harold Kanthor, MD</p>

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