



File photo

Bishop Hogan greets a former teacher from his school days, Sister Lucinda Gilmartin, SSJ, at St. Joseph's Convent Infirmary, Sept. 11, 1972.



File photo

Father George Wiant with Bishop Hogan.

even the role of priesthood," he said. "A lot of people are much opposed to that."

On church today

One outgrowth of the priest shortage — the eventual clustering of parishes — did not surprise Bishop Hogan.

"We didn't realize, but sometimes it takes a real crisis to make this happen. I think people are gradually getting educated to the fact we were living in days of luxuries with all these parishes," he commented in May.

"A lot of parishes were put together with a limited view of church," he said. It was understandable that ethnic parishes were founded by immigrants, he noted. "But the time comes when it's not needed. ... and we don't go by horse and buggy anymore."

"It really struck me that we had more churches than we needed to take care of our people. But people are hanging on ... to attract people to my parish — a pronoun we are trying, ought, to destroy."

"So the concept is broadening people to what church is all about. I think they are realizing how desperate we are. ... We are and they know it," he remarked.

Retirement

Bishop Hogan resigned Nov. 28, 1978, nine years to the day from his ordination as bishop. He had suffered from emphysema and pneumonia, from illness aggravated by stress.

"Certain things were coming that I knew I wasn't capable of han-

dling. He had to answer Rome. He had to write a response back. He got help from some good bishops also being attacked by these crazy people. It was sent to Rome. They were satisfied."

Father Marvin chaired the Selection of Bishops Committee set up at the request of Bishop Hogan and approved by the Diocesan Pastoral Council. The committee was charged with assessing diocesan needs and the qualities Bishop Hogan's successor would need to have, the priest noted, adding that it conducted listening sessions and sent questionnaires throughout the diocese.

"We really don't know what happened in Rome," Father Marvin said of Vatican reaction to his committee's report. But Bishop Matthew H. Clark "turned out to be the person we were looking for. That's how the Holy Spirit and Providence works."

When Bishop Clark was installed, Bishop Hogan noted, "I thanked publicly the apostolic delegate, and said send my word to the Holy Father to thank him for instant health. ... It was like having a tremendous burden taken from my shoulders."



File photo

Bishop Hogan made a hit with children across the diocese.

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— Jean Pryor, outreach/evangelization coordinator for St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Rochester, and a founder of the Diocesan Office of Black Ministry

I'd see him quite frequently. Every time, he always would say to me, "I'm so glad I did what I did," because he saw what the deacons were doing in the parishes.

— Deacon Stan Douglas of St. Rita's Parish, Webster, on the founding of the permanent diaconate program

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