

## Why June is a stimulating month

I am sitting here this Monday evening with my calendar for June open on the desk. I took it out in search of some events or stories from recent days that might interest, and alert, you to what's ahead.

As is typical of June, there have been the last meetings of groups that generally enjoy a break from meeting during July and August. A good example of that is the meeting I mentioned last week - a joint session of our Presbyteral Council and Stewardship Council to hear about trends affecting Catholic life in the United States. Similarly, the generous board of this newspaper met on Wednesday and will not meet again until after Labor Day. Bishop Sheen Ecumenical Housing had its annual meeting that same evening.

In addition to such business-oriented meetings, June holds its share of events that celebrate the work of the pre-vacation year just ending, and recognize the contributions made during the year by committed individuals.

One such recent event was the annual dinner for pastoral musicians, who do so much to strengthen and support our faith with the gift of music.

Tomorrow evening, I'll be at the Sharing the Light Dinner at Geneva's Club 86, at which Catholic Charities of the Finger Lakes will honor individuals who distinguish themselves in service to the work of that organization.

Liturgical celebrations are woven

### along the way



BY BISHOP MATTHEW H. CLARK

through these weeks. Confirmations last week at Christ the King, Irondequoit, and here at Sacred Heart Cathedral close my celebration of that sacrament until the fall.

Now it's ordination time. Last Saturday I ordained six deacons at the cathedral. On June 23, I'll ordain Gerard D'Souza, OCSO, to the priesthood at Our Lady of the Genesee Abbey, Piffard. The following Saturday our local church will gather at the cathedral once again to ordain Joe Marcoux as a priest of our diocese.

Other special parish celebrations enliven the month. Yesterday, I joined the community of Holy Ghost, Gates, for the celebration of that parish's 125th anniversary. Next Sunday, I'll be at St. Andrew's to join that community and bless the renovation work they have done in their beautiful church. Those in the parish and I will have a chance to express our thanks and good wishes to Father Tim Horan as he completes his service at St. Andrew's and pre-

pares to move on to his new pastorate at St. Margaret Mary, Irondequoit.

Regular features of June are meetings of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops and the bishops of New York state, I'll be in Atlanta this Wednesday through Saturday for the former. The New York state meeting will be in New York City on the following Thursday and Friday.

Then there are high school graduations. My schedule this year allows me to get to those of McQuaid Jesuit, Our Lady of Mercy and Nazareth Academy. These are wonderfully renewing events, and I mind missing any of them.

As I glance over the page, my eye lands on other days, other events - a visit to the rich community of Bethany House; brunch with the African priests who so kindly serve among us; a meeting with a group of gifted young men and women whose participation we would love in the affairs of our diocese; a meeting of our exciting Cathedral Renovation Committee; and a visit to Elmira's St. Joseph Hospital to rededicate their chapel.

These are some of the highlights and events that make June such a stimulating, enriching month. I say again what I've said to you so often in this space: I dearly wish I could have you with me for all these gatherings. They would give you some sense of the vitality of our local church and the inspiring faith of our people.

Peace to all.



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-Fred and Margaret Spangler

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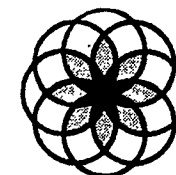
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