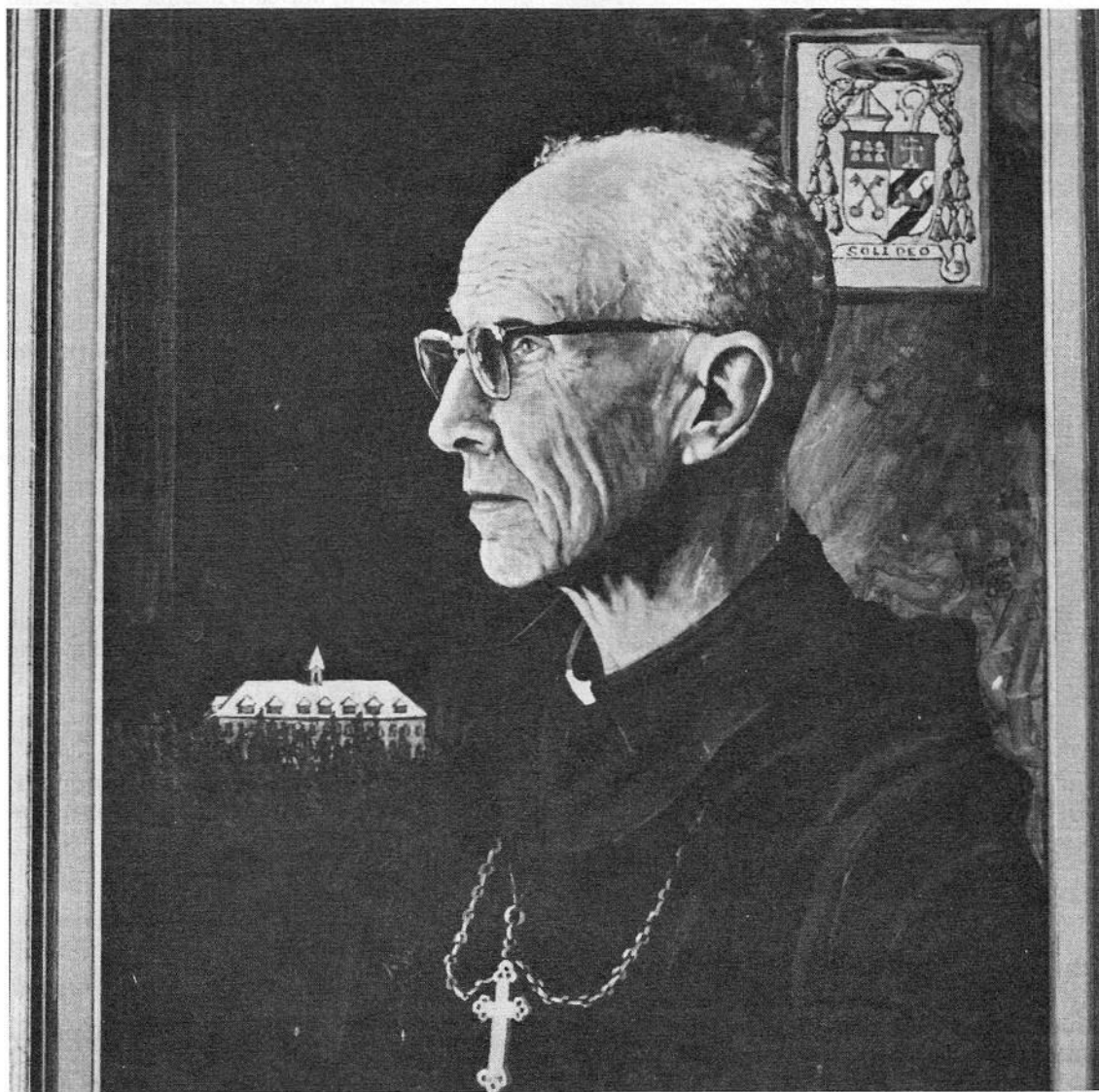


ST. PETER'S ABBEY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 9. No. 2

Muenster, Sask.

Autumn, 1985



Abbot Jerome's activities

This summer was one of an unusual number of anniversary celebrations.

Wedding Anniversaries:

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Stauber, the parents of Father Bernard, celebrated their 50th on July 20, in St. Bernard's Church. Father Emil April, with whom Father Bernard works in Brazil, was present also. The day concluded with a banquet and program in the hall of Holy Trinity Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Scheidl, of Bruno, celebrated their 60th on Aug. 10. Father Roman and I were the concelebrants for the Mass of Thanksgiving. The banquet and program took place in the town Hall in the evening. Mr.

Scheidl has given generously for education of priests.

Religious profession, priesthood, and parish anniversaries:

Elizabethian Sisters Immaculata, Fidelis, Josephine and Imelda, celebrated their 50th, Sister Magdalen, her 60th and Sister Paschal her 25th, in St. Augustine's Church, with relatives and friends, on Aug. 11, and with the Community on Sept. 12, at St. Elizabeth's Convent. I joined in the festivities on both occasions.

Sisters Bernarda, Aloysia and Ambrose, of the Ursulines, had their 60th anniversary celebration on Aug. 15, at Bruno.

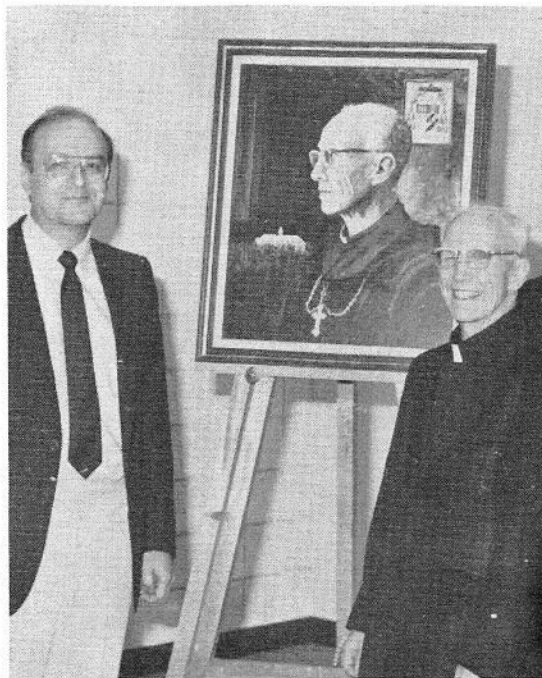
Likewise, at Bruno, his home parish, Father Norbert, on July 28, offered a Mass of Thanksgiving on his 50th anniversary of ordination. His brothers and sisters looked after the arrangements and the banquet and the enjoyable program. Father Norbert even gave the homily and a talk at the banquet.

The religious of the abbacy joined the Ursulines at Bruno on Aug. 8 in celebrating the 450th anniversary of the beginning of their order by St. Angela Merici, in Italy. After the Mass in the chapel all present enjoyed a banquet and a time for socializing in the sisters' refectory.

The Parish of St. Martin had its 75th anniversary on Aug. 4. I offered the Mass together with the pastor, Father George. Since that time St. Martin's Parish has been joined to St. George's Parish, in Naicam.

Funerals:

During the absence of Father Florian, on Aug. 20, at Englefeld, I officiated at the funeral



COVER

Acrylic painting of Abbot Jerome Weber done by Humboldt artist Doctor Zymont Kondzielewski and presented on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of Abbot Jerome's blessing as abbot-ordinary.

ST. PETER'S ABBEY NEWSLETTER

Published by the Benedictine community of St. Peter's Abbey, Muenster, Sask. four times a year: January, April, July and October.

Editor: Damian Yaskowich, OSB.

Regular contributors: Abbot Jerome Weber, OSB, Albert Ruetz, OSB, Peter Novocosky, OSB.

Photographer: Damian Yaskowich, OSB.

Mass and burial of William van der Buhs, the father of Raymond, a former member of our community.

On Sept. 10, I had the funeral of Sister Amelia Sieben, at St. Elizabeth's Convent, Humboldt.

Sept. 12 took me to Regina, to be present for the blessing of the new Precious Blood Monastery by Archbishop Halpin. The former monastery, very near the new one, which I often visited during the past 15 years, is being used by the Archdiocese of Regina as the Pope John Paul II Renewal Centre.

I went to Regina a second time, on Sept. 14, for the ecumenical celebrations at the Centre of the Arts to honor the Anglican Archbishop of Canterbury, Robert Runcie, during his visit to that city, as part of his tour of Canada. In an informal discussion of about half an hour he spoke with the church leaders of various denominations in Saskatchewan, including the Roman Catholics bishops. The first archbishop of Canterbury was St. Augustine, a Benedictine,

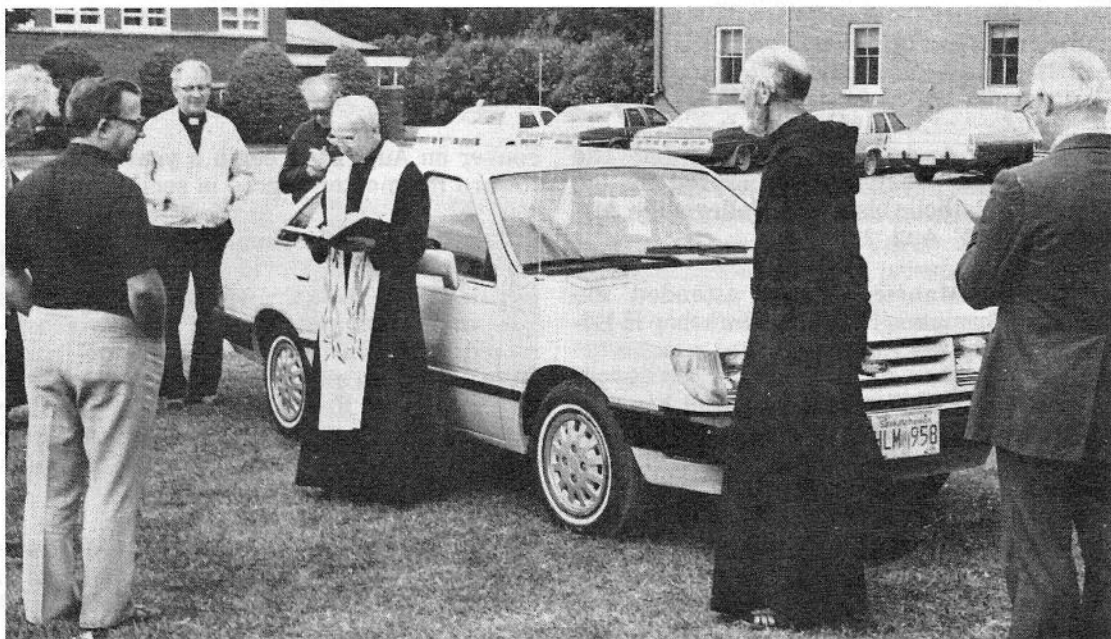
whom Pope Gregory I sent to England from Italy as a missionary, about the year 600.

I attended the blessing of the new St. Mary's Church, in Lanigan, on the afternoon, of Oct. 6.

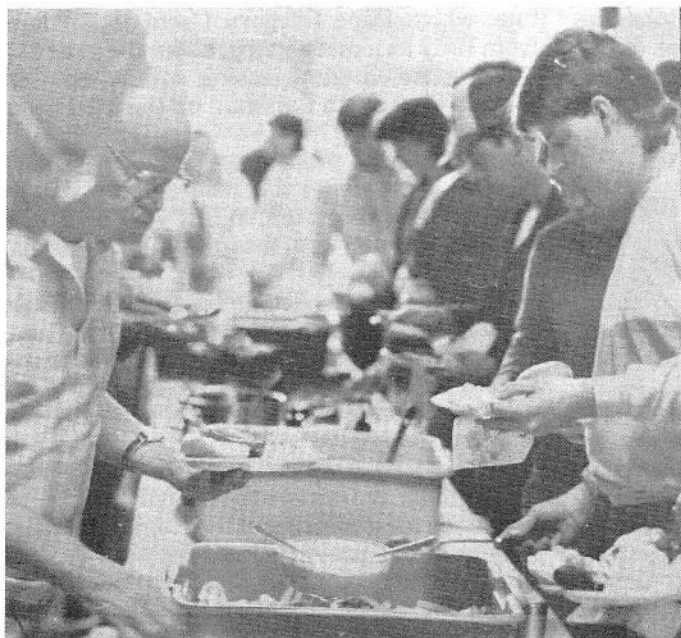
The annual pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel was held on July 21. The DPC Youth Committee, in this year of Youth, contributed very much to the liturgy on that day.

On Oct. 8 I attended an ecumenical service of thanksgiving for the senior citizens in Humboldt. It was organized by Mrs. Mary Schriml, a member of the DPC executive. Thanks to her for a very wonderful program of prayer, readings, and songs.

On Sept. 17 I was at the Catholic Centre in Saskatoon for a meeting of the Roman Catholic bishops of our province, and the next day for a joint meeting with them and the major superiors of religious communities in Saskatchewan. We discussed several concerns for the church in our province.



Abbot Jerome blesses the new Ford Tempo which he received as a gift from all the parishes of the abbacy on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of his blessing as abbot-ordinary. The car was blessed Aug. 28.



Our annual family day, Sept. 1, featured an outdoor barbecue supper, visiting, games and the now-famous beanbag tournament.

Abbey chronicle

Father Andrew Britz attended the workshop on ecumenism sponsored by the American Catholic bishops at Collegeville, MN from July 22 - Aug. 2.

Father Maurice Weber attended the Spiritual Formation Directors Workshop in Edmonton, July 28 - Aug. 2.

Father Lawrence DeMong who has just completed a three-year term as national director of religious education, Ottawa spent July 29 - Aug. 10 at the abbey.

Brother Bernard Lange was present at the John Bosco Camp awards day, Aug. 18, to accept an award of appreciation for the many potatoes we have supplied to the camp over the past few years.

Brother Stanley Vindevogel left for Van-

couver on Aug. 20 to begin a year of studies toward his master degree in social work.

Brothers Basil Schaan, Kurt Van Kuren, Alex Mullie and David Gauthier, novices **Gerald Moran, Ken Crawford and Nicodemus van Amelsvoort** and **Father Peter Novecosky** attended the Institute for Religious living, Human Growth and Development at the Grey Nun's Centre, Edmonton, Aug. 25 - 27. The resource person for the workshop was Sister Barbara Becnel, OSU, from St. Louis University.

Brother William Thurmeier left for Rome on Aug. 26. He will be continuing his studies in theology at San' Anselmo, the international Benedictine college.

Members of our community and many of our lay staff gathered on Aug. 30 for a farewell

tea for Mary Smith. Mary, an oblate of St. Benedict, worked in our college and abbey library. She decided to move to Vancouver where she hopes to enjoy a more favorable climate!

On Aug. 30 Brothers Patrick Genoie and Kurt Van Kuren motored to St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, MN. Kurt remained there to continue his studies and Patrick returned Sept. 5. He visited Assumption Abbey, Richardton, ND, on the way.

The two Coptic Catholic seminarians from Cairo, Egypt who spent the summer with us, Nadi Gayed and Talaat Ayaad, left on Sept. 5. They visited Father Lawrence DeMong in Ottawa and then went on to New York where they joined a fellow seminarian before returning to Egypt.

Father Peter Novecosky attended the Saskatchewan Weekly Newspaper convention in Saskatoon, Sept. 26 - 28.

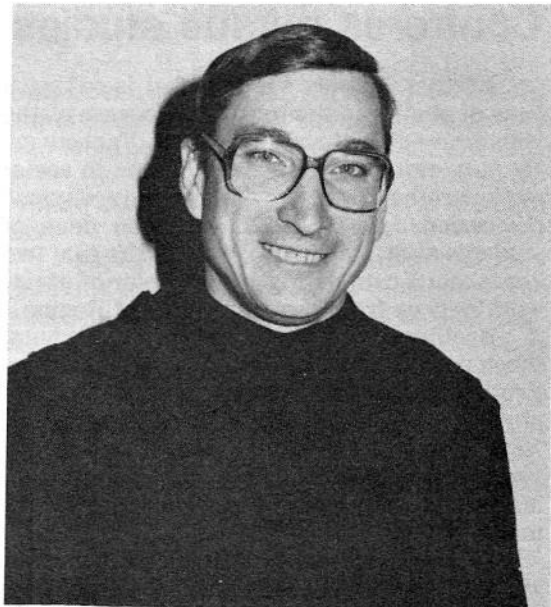
A farewell gathering was held for Father Bernard Stauber on Sept. 29. Father Bernard, one of our missionaries in Brazil returned to Brazil on Oct. 2 after visiting here since June 27.

Father Werner Renneberg attended the annual meeting of the National Federation of Senate of Priests (NFSP) at Mississauga, on Sept. 30 - Oct. 3.

Father Damian Yaskowich attended the first annual show of Christian art, "The Cross and the Resurrection," at Holy Spirit Parish, Saskatoon, Oct. 4. The show, sponsored by the Diocese of Saskatoon, featured artist Michael O'Brien from Mission, B.C., and invited works from all Christian artists. Jacynthe de Margerie was among the Saskatchewan artists who exhibited works.

Father Albert Ruetz took part in a weekend retreat on "Dreams and Christian Healing," conducted by the Pecos Benedictine Community at Queen's House, Saskatoon, Oct. 4 - 6.

On Oct. 9, Father Damian Yaskowich,



Brother Basil Schaan attended the Summer Monastic Institute for Junior Monks at St. Bede Abbey, Peru, Ill. from July 12 - Aug. 10.

judged a Community Health Centre-sponsored "Picture of Health" photo contest at Wynyard.

John Murphy, CBC radio, visited at St. Peter's on Oct. 17 and 18 to tape a CBC national radio Media Profile program on the Prairie Messenger, aired Oct. 29.

Father Andrew Britz conducted a two-day workshop on priesthood for the clergy in the Archdiocese of Regina at Regina, Oct. 16 and 17.

Brother Basil Schaan attended the Development and Peace annual fall seminar and provincial meeting at Regina, Oct 18 - 20. The theme for the weekend was, "Who feeds whom?: A look at the causes of hunger." Key-note speaker was Pat Mooney of Brandon.

A "29 hand" in cribbage is rather rare, but the thrill was experienced by Brother David Gauthier while having a match with Father Martin Brodner during evening recreation on Oct. 25.

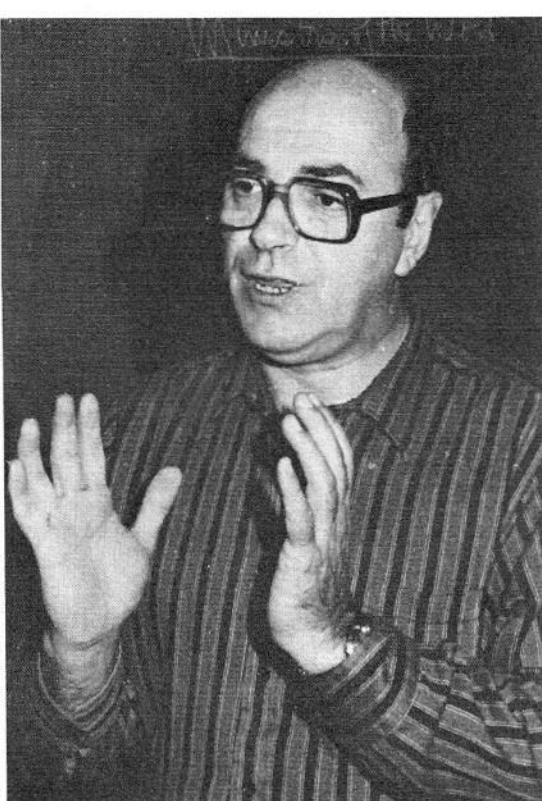
Confreres pursue studies

Brother Stanley Vindevoghel is taking a year of studies in the masters program at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. He is working on a masters degree in social work. Brother Stanley, who made his religious profession July 11, 1969, acted as dean of students at St. Peter's College for the past two years since completing his bachelor of social work degree from the University of Regina.

Brother William Thurmeier is studying theology at San' Anselmo College, Rome. Brother William completed his BA in philosophy from St. Anselm's College, Manchester, New Hampshire one year ago. He studied a year of theology at St. John Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota this past year. Brother William made his religious profession July 11, 1981.

Brother Kurt van Kuren is continuing his work on a BA in philosophy at St. John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota. Brother Kurt, who made his religious profession July 11, 1984, studied this past year at St. Peter's College.

Two other junior monks, Brothers Basil Schaan and David Gauthier, are studying at St. Peter's College. Brother David is taking his first year and Brother Basil, who took three classes last year, is taking another three university classes this year. Brother David made his religious profession this July and Brother Basil one year ago.



Father Bernard de Margerie conducted our summer theology study week, Aug. 12 - 16. The topic was ecumenism with an emphasis on the BEM document.

Addresses

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Father Bernard Stauber, OSB

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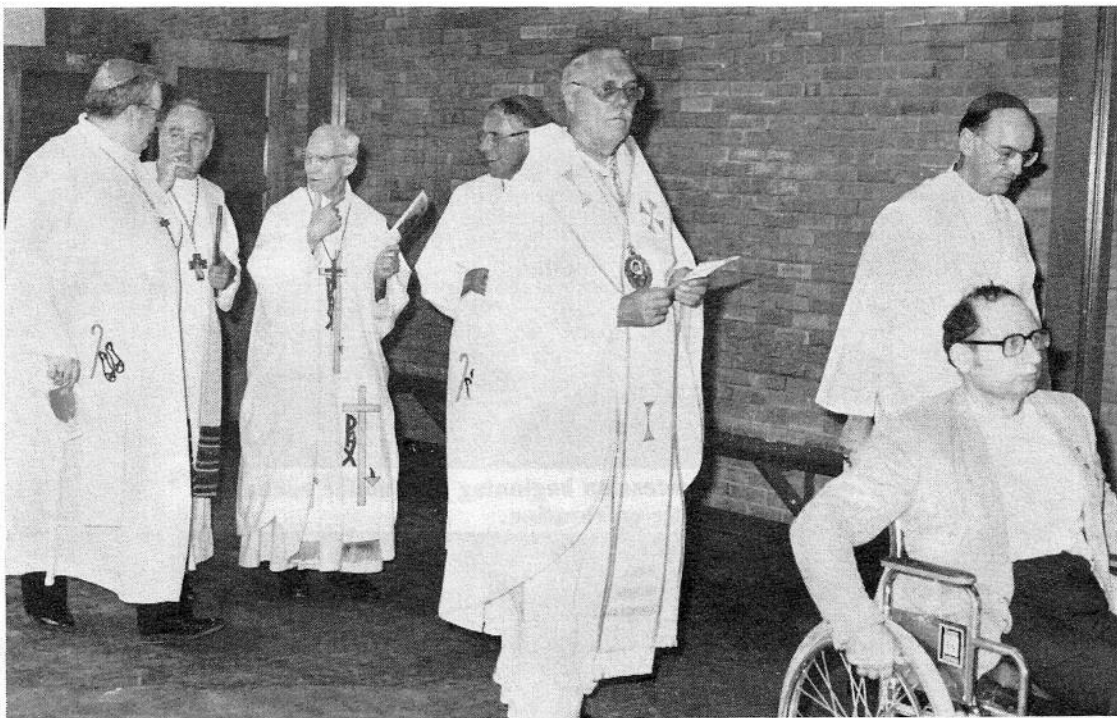
V6T 1J7

Brother Kurt Van Kuren, OSB

St. John's Abbey

Collegeville, Minn.

56321 U.S.A.



Abbot Jerome chats with his fellow bishops prior to forming procession to begin the jubilee eucharistic celebration.

Abbot-ordinary for 25 years

On Monday, Aug. 5, over 600 people gathered to join Abbot Jerome Weber and celebrate his 25th anniversary as abbot-ordinary of St. Peter's Abbacy Nullius. Abbot Jerome was blessed as abbot-ordinary on Aug. 24, 1960.

The celebration was marked with a Eucharist at St. Peter's College Gymnasium and a banquet at Humboldt Uniplex. Approximately 600 people attended the eucharistic celebration. The two readings were taken by John Kelly and Sister Juliana Weber, OSU. The St. Peter's Parish Senior Choir, directed by Rose Marie Strueby and accompanied by Dolores Hinz and Carmel Saretsky, led the singing. Brother Kurt van Kuren was cantor.

The homily was given by Archbishop Charles Halpin from the archdiocese of Regina. Archbishop Halpin said it was appropriate to

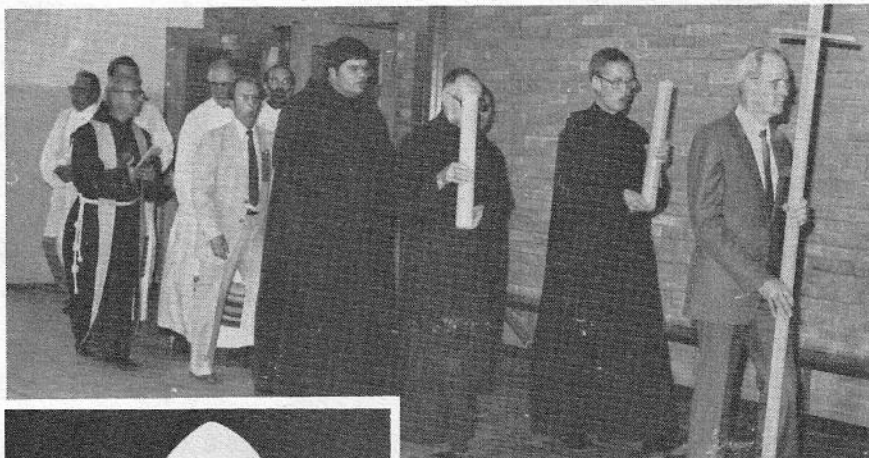
hold this celebration on Heritage Day, "because part of our heritage is our faith" and that much of the heritage of those of us in the area has been shaped by the abbey.

"The abbacy means something different to each of us, but whether we have come to know it through the college, the Prairie Messenger, the monks, or the church community, we have all come to pay tribute to the leadership given the church of Muenster," he said.

Following the Eucharist and a short reception at the Uniplex, a banquet was held in the main hall of the Uniplex. Father George Brodner acted as master of ceremonies.

Prior Albert Ruetz began the after-dinner program with a toast to the abbot. He told Abbot Jerome, "You may be small in stature, but you stand mighty tall in our hearts and minds."

Louis Domotor, Humboldt MLA and minis-



Procession beginning the jubilee eucharistic celebration.



Archbishop Charles Halpin delivered the homily.



Some of the concelebrants.



Jubilee cake was baked by novice Nicodemus van der...



Offertory gifts were presented by Abbot Jerome's brother Peter and his wife (left), plus Mary Louise Nieman (center), the abbot's sister.



Muenster choir lead the singing.



Part of the head table.

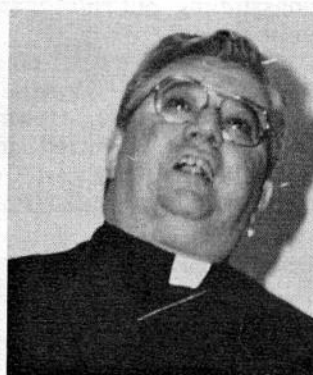
ed and decorated by Amelsvoort.



Abbot Lawrence Wagner



Rev. Irving Fraser



Bishop James Mahoney



Brothers Kurt Van Kuren and William Thurmeier provided musical interludes.



Leo Weber

ter of Rural Development, extended congratulations on behalf of all civic governments. He thanked the abbot for the service provided to the surrounding community.

"It is the church which gives a new meaning to life, giving people a hope and trust in life after death," Mr. Domotor said.

Leo Weber of Muenster, brother of Abbot Jerome, introduced the abbot's family. After relating some of the abbot's childhood experiences, he congratulated him and thanked Abbot Jerome for the wonderful example he has been for all around him.

Father Martin Brodner, also related some stories of "Fritz" Weber, of whom Father Martin has been a classmate and friend since 1929. He said the abbot "has always been unassuming, but right there when the job had to be done."

Walter Germann, chairman of the Diocesan Pastoral Council, presented Abbot Jerome with a cheque toward a new car. Other presentations followed, including a cheque from the Saskatchewan Knights of Columbus, a specially-made quilt with large patches from

all the abbacy CWL councils, and a photograph from the Dicoesan Youth Council.

A presentation was also made on behalf of the monks — a portrait of Abbot Jerome. The portrait was donated by Dr. Zygmunt Kondzielewski of Humboldt.

Rev. Irving Fraser, representing the other churches in the area, congratulated the abbot and thanked him for allowing those in the religious community to be a part of ecumenical services.

Representatives from the religious of the diocese extended their congratulations and thanked Abbot Jerome for his leadership. They were Sister Rita Gallagher of the Daughters of Providence; Sister Viola Bens of the Sisters of St. Elizabeth; and Sister Juliana Weber (Abbot Jerome's sister) of the Ursuline Sisters.

Ted Bergermann, a long-time friend and school mate of Abbot Jerome, reminisced about the school days they shared in Muenster and at Campion College. Mr. Bergermann said he was sure the abbot could have been a professional hockey player, "but we are all proud of the decision you have made."



Blood relatives in the three religious orders got together for a "family" photo at the celebration hosted by the Ursuline sisters, Aug. 8. The occasion was the 450th anniversary of their founding. Present were Elizabethian sisters and Benedictine monks as well as the Ursulines.

Abbot Lawrence Wagner, OSB, of Richardson, N.D. who represented the American Cassinese Federation of Abbeys, told the audience that no abbot has served nearly as long as Abbot Jerome. The second longest term of an Abbot in the federation is 15 years in Florida, and he is about to retire. He also said Abbot Jerome is also the only head of an abbey-nullius in North America.

Abbot Lawrence offered his congratulations to Abbot Jerome "on the care he has given to one of the most respected abbeys of the federation."

Bishop James Mahoney of the Saskatoon Diocese spoke on behalf of the bishops of the province. He entertained the audience with his memories of being a student at St. Peter's College when Abbot Jerome was prefect of disci-

pline, giving examples of "how he scared the living daylights out of us."

"Abbot Jerome has the wisdom that proceeds, not from man, but from God. He has the gift of universal charity and complete dedication to principle. For the bishops of Saskatchewan, the abbacy of Muenster is quintessentially what the church should be," Bishop Mahoney said.

Abbot Jerome concluded the program by thanking the members of the monastery and asking each monk to rise as his name was mentioned. He briefly described the work each was involved in. Abbot Jerome also introduced members of his family, who had not been all together since his ordination in 1941 but were all here for this occasion.

The evening ended with Father Abbot leading us all in a prayer of thanksgiving.



Pictured above are some of the Oblates who were present at the July Oblate Meeting. Oblates who are able, try to meet at the abbey three times a year to join the community in prayer and worship. At each meeting some topic is treated to try to help oblates see how the Rule of St. Benedict can apply to their daily lives.



On Aug. 15, Father Norbert Schwinghammer (left) and Andrew Britz were honored by the community on the occasion of their anniversaries. Father Norbert observed the 50th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood and Father Andrew the 25th anniversary of religious profession. Father Francis Lohmer also celebrated his 60th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood.

Bruno honors native son

Sunday, July 28 was a festive occasion for the Parish of St. Bruno, Bruno. Father Norbert Schwinghammer, a son of the parish, celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. Relatives and friends filled the church for the afternoon Mass which the jubilarian concelebrated with Abbot Jerome Weber and a number of his confreres. Father Norbert gave a stirring and inspiring homily. The combined Bruno senior and junior choirs under the direction of Mildred Lemke added to the joyousness of the service.

Following the celebration of the Eucharist relatives and friends — among whom were Father Norbert's two sisters, Susan and Mildred, as well as three brothers, Alfonse, Francis and Rollin, with their wives and some of their children and grandchildren — gathered in the church hall where a festive banquet awaited them.

At the banquet, John Kelly, cousin of the

jubilarian, acted as master of ceremonies. Relatives of Father Norbert were introduced, presentations were made and speeches by Abbot Jerome and other friends humorously recounted Father Norbert's virtues and achievements.

Father Norbert was born on Sept. 4, 1910, at Bruno. He received his primary education from the Ursuline Sisters at Bruno. He attended St. Peter's College from 1924 - 28 and later received his BA from St. John's University, Collegeville, Minn. It was there that he made his novitiate in 1928. On June 10, 1935, he was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Joseph Busch of St. Cloud. He returned to Bruno to celebrate his first Mass after seven years without a break or home visit.

Since his return Father Norbert has been busy at various occupations at St. Peter's. Between 1935 and 1972 he taught English literature and composition for 25 years; religion in high

school and arts, 10 years; German, 10 years; French, 12 years; and typing, 6 years. No one prepared more thoroughly for his classes. For two years he also served as student chaplain, while Father Augustine was in the san. From 1936 - 67 he served as monastic organist and choir director and taught music. He also directed the correspondence course prepared by the Ursuline Sisters.

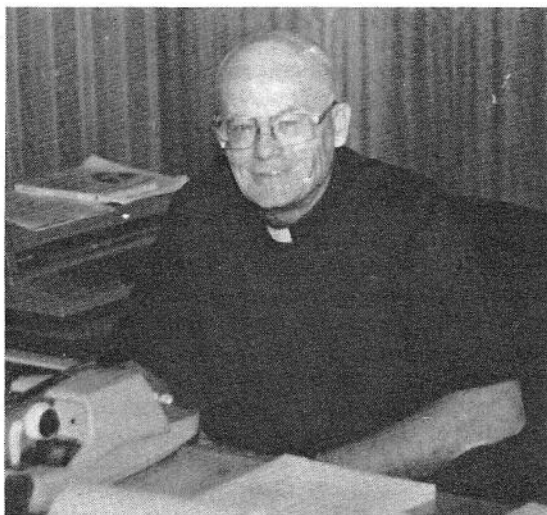
Under the PM editorship of Father Augustine — Father Norbert's daily walking companion for many years — he wrote weekly editorials from 1955 - 62. From 1940 - 60 he conducted the Junior Clergy examinations at the abbey, and for many years he gave Sunday spiritual conferences to the Sisters of St. Elizabeth here.

Never a pastor himself, Father Norbert has in recent years assisted in many parishes in the abbacy and outside. He also gave many Sisters retreats from 1950 - 60 and from 1965 - 70.

Father Norbert tirelessly devotes much of his time caring for the aged in our community. Many monks appreciate him as a kind and generous confessor and advisor. Over the years he has acted as faithful organist, both for our hours of praise and often at our eucharistic celebrations. Father Norbert is also abbey archivist.



Our Elizabethian family doubled this summer at St. Scholastica Convent when, from left, Sisters Clothilde Gartner and Martina Gramlich joined Valerie Scheiber and Ottilia Saretsky.



Father Harvey Wingfield

Pastoral change

Father Harvey Wingfield, OSB, took over as administrator of St. Ann's Parish, Annaheim on Sept. 1. Father Harvey, joined St. Martin's Abbey, Lacey, Washington in 1973. He studied theology at Mount Angel Abbey, Oregon.

Since his ordination on Oct. 3, 1981, Father Harvey has done some weekend pastoral work, and for 14 months he was associate pastor in Everett, Washington, a parish of about 1,800 families served by three priests.

His interest in working in a smaller rural community brought him to Saskatchewan. Although born in Washington, he lived his early years in Edmonton. Since then he spent four years in the U.S. Navy, attended University of Washington, worked in Washington and in Los Angeles, California. Prior to entering the monastery he was back working in Seattle.

Father Harvey has replaced Father Francis Lohmer who has been pastor of St. Ann's since 1982. Father Francis has taken over the ministry of chaplain at St. Mary's Villa, Humboldt, commuting there daily from St. Peter's Abbey.

St. Peter's College report

St. Peter's College began the school year with registration on Sept. 7 and classes on Sept. 9. Over 70 students registered as full-time and within the next week a similar number registered as part-time. By October the full-time registrants settled down to 67 and the part-time group to 77. There are also 21 students enrolled in the Office Education Class taught by Moose Jaw Technical Institute at St. Peter's College.

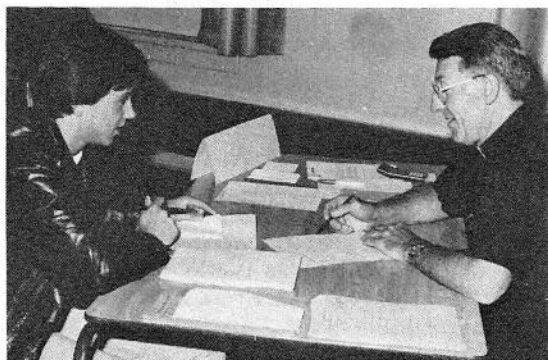
Father Albert Ruetz is helping to fill in the position of dean during this year, since Brother Stanley Vindevoghel is attending the University of British Columbia to finish off his degree as master of social work.

Sister Zita Maier is serving as chaplain and social activities co-ordinator. She teaches Music 100, cares for the bookstore, and assists in other capacities as well.

Father Maurice is principal and maintenance supervisor, and also teaches his regular Chemistry 110 as well as Religious Studies 110, World Religions. Other community faculty members are: Abbot Jerome Weber for History 112, Father Albert Ruetz for Mathematics 175 and 104, Father Florian Renneberg for Biological Sciences 100, Father James Gray for English 110. Father Andrew Britz continues as director of the library, and Father Daniel Muyres as business manager. Brother Alex Mullie has joined the staff as janitor for Michael Hall.

The teaching staff continues to be much the same as previous years except for the following new personnel: Stephen Baldner of St. Thomas More in Philosophy 110, Faline Bobier for French 120. Maureen Fox for Geography 110, John Hart for History 209, Larry Rode for Accounting 120, and Francis Zichy for English 256. Unfortunately we had to drop our plans for Education Curriculum Studies 341 and Sociology 225 because of inadequate enrolment.

We might also note that over half of the class of graduates of 1960 made it back to St. Peter's College for a reunion during July 27 - 28. They visited, had some contests at the horse shoe pits, a barbecue, a night campfire and singsong, a Sunday Mass with the Benedictine community and a dinner. It proved to be an enjoyable time for all involved.



College principal Father Maurice Weber assists a student with registration on Sept. 7.

A general alumni reunion is being planned for Aug. 3 - 4, 1986. Father Maurice hopes to have a number of alumni from the Humboldt district participate in co-ordinating the reunion. It should prove helpful to have this even occur near the date that the Ursuline Academy at Bruno is also planning for an alumnae reunion, Aug. 2 - 3, 1986.

St. Peter's College is also host to over two dozen pre-vocational students who, together with five teachers, use the facilities here. Thus, school life goes on much as it has in the past but with new faces and a different year.

Deceased confreres

Brother Bernard Aurentz, 71, St. Leo Abbey, Saint Leo, Florida, died on July 13.

Father Stephen Dowd, 86, Belmont Abbey, Belmont, North Carolina, died on July 20.

Father Philibert Harrer, 73, St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota, died on July 23.

Father Martin Roth, Saint Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe, Pennsylvania, died on Aug. 11.

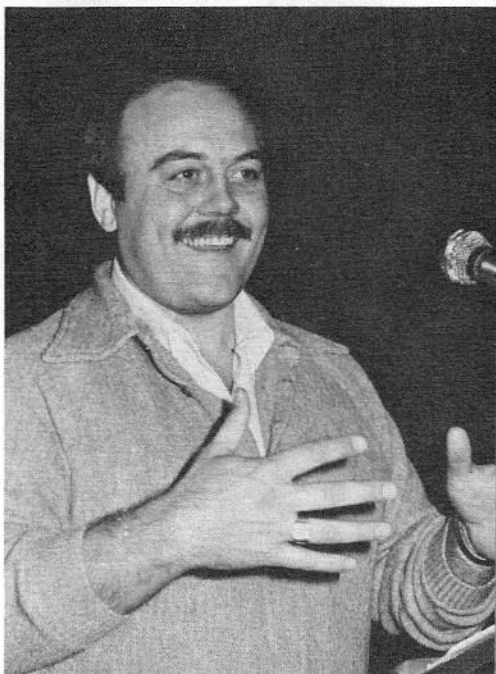
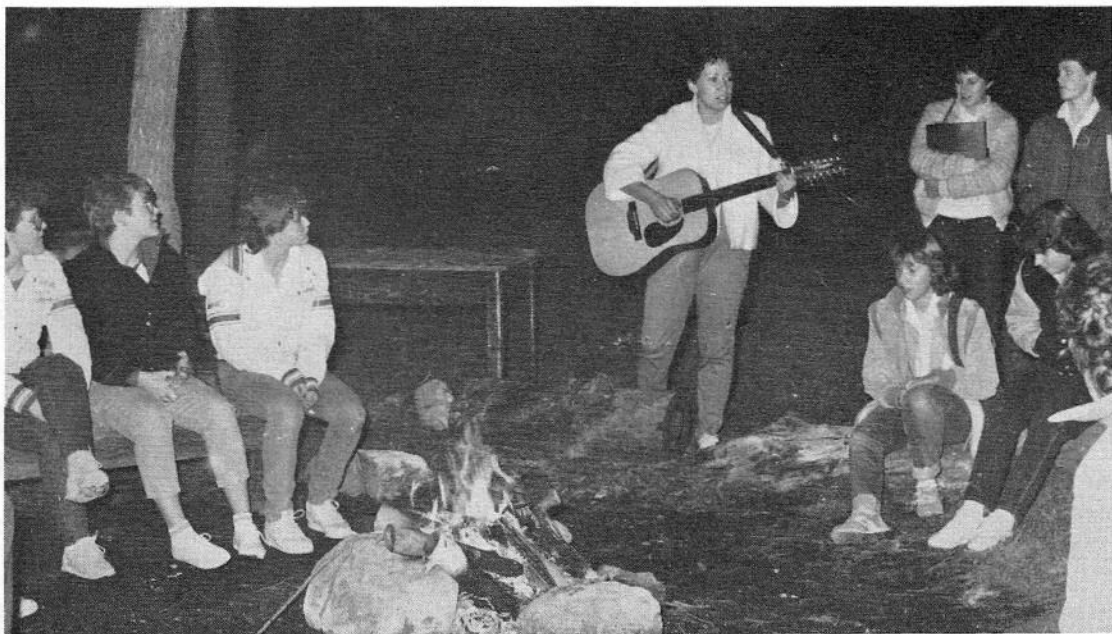
Father Raphael Salasek, 64, St. Bernard Abbey, Cullman, Alabama, died on Aug. 13.

Brother Louis Mangus, 81, Holy Cross Abbey, Canon City, Colorado, died on Aug. 27.

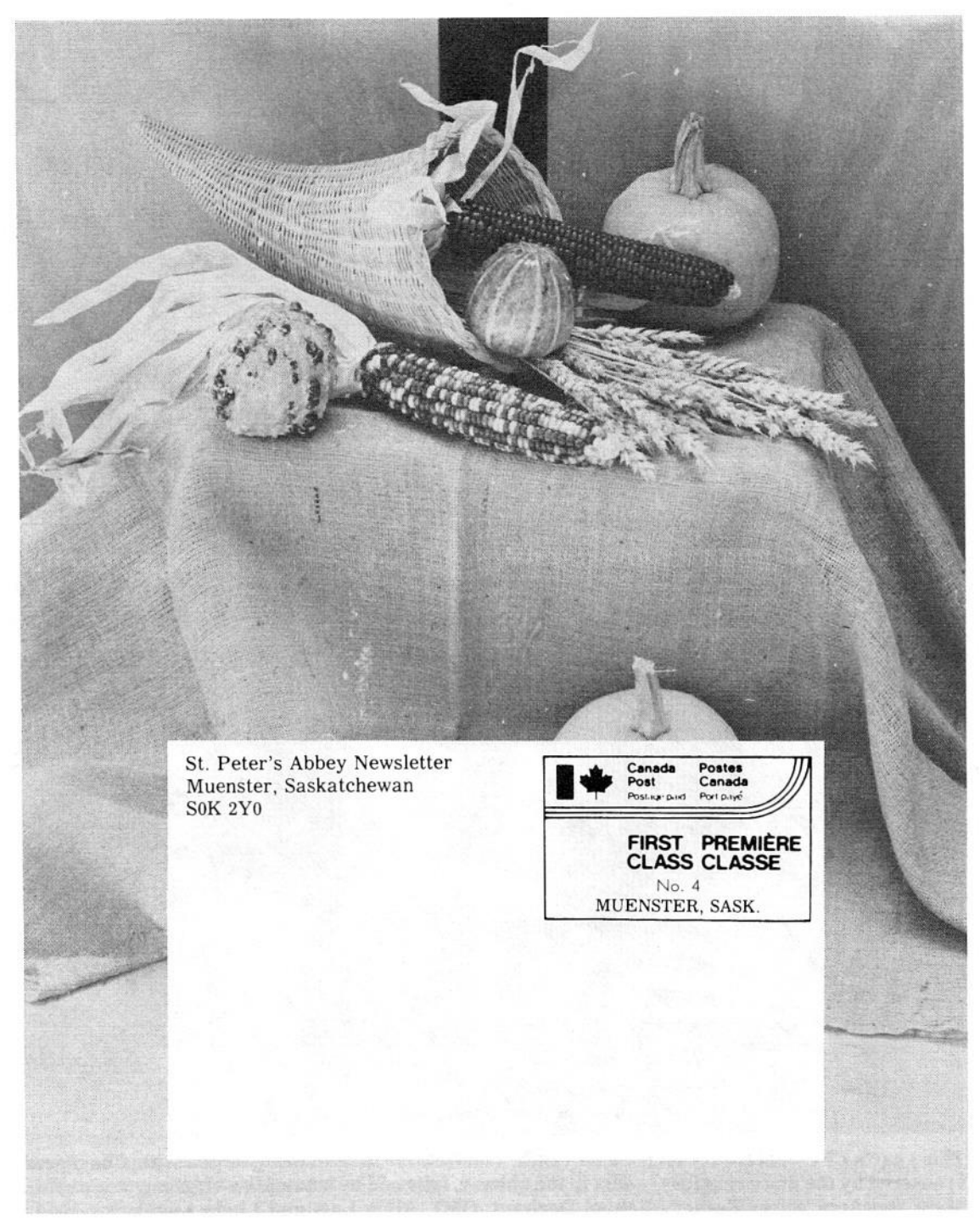
Father Clement Mengelkoch, 73, Assumption Abbey, Richardton, North Dakota, died on Aug. 27.

Father Wendelin Gallovich, 84, Saint Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe, Pennsylvania, died on Oct. 11.

Brother Charles Kirchner, 80, St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota, died on Oct. 14.



This year's CFC conference focused on youth. The Oct. 17 - 18 gathering began with a barbecue sponsored by the three religious orders in the abbacy, followed by a campfire sing-song (top photo). Main speakers were: Father Michael Dechant, OMI, Alvin Law and Linda Lucyk.



St. Peter's Abbey Newsletter
Muenster, Saskatchewan
S0K 2Y0

