



Photo by PETER HVIZDAK.

Bishop Walmsley discusses message with Judy Hopkins, director of the kitchen.

Walmsley urges aid to poor as church effort

By JANET KOCH
Staff Reporter

Bishop Arthur E. Walmsley brought messages against parochialism and for greater involvement with the poor Tuesday when he rejoined New Haven area Episcopalians for his first official visit since his consecration three weeks ago.

"The damning thing about parochialism is that it does not confirm the universality and scope of the faith in which we are baptized," the new bishop coadjutor of the Diocese of Connecticut told a gathering of the faithful at St. Peter's On the Hill in Hamden.

Walmsley, the former rector of St.

Paul's Church in Wooster Square, ate his noon meal at the Community Soup Kitchen at Christ Church on Broadway, noting a special spirit of love at the facility.

"You don't have to beat the drum for Jesus to get in here. The caring can be felt," he said.

More and more churches are putting ancient space to new use in direct service to people, he said. "The government is beginning to realize that churches are good ways to do things that need to be done. They can accomplish things in a disciplined context, with built-in controls, often better than agencies that are created fresh can."