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General absolution in Memphis did not establish precedent

Reactions from around the country to the use of general absolution in the Memphis, Tenn., diocese show that that form of the sacrament of Penance has been used in other dioceses in the United States.

Bishop Walter F. Sullivan of Richmond, Va., disclosed that he had given 15 parishes in his diocese permission to use general confession and absolution in the past year. He said he has given permission to southern Virginia parishes, on request and because of extraordinary circumstances, before Easter and during Advent since last year.

Bishop Leo T. Maher of San Diego, Calif., gave permission for the use of general absolution at the diocesan Confraternity of Christian Doctrine

(CCD) Congress last February, which was also a bicentennial celebration.

IN AN ADVENT experiment, Bishop James D. Niedergesess of Nashville, Tenn., has given pastors permission to use general absolution when individual confessions cannot be heard within "a reasonable length of time" during communal services. He said the time span considered reasonable would be one to one-and-a-half hours.

In 1972, Bishop Francis T. Hurley of Juneau, Alaska, now archbishop of Anchorage, introduced general absolution to encourage confessions among Catholics in his sparsely populated diocese.

Boston, however, has said that the conditions laid down by the Vatican for the use of general absolution are not present in the Boston archdiocese.

In a letter to the clergy at the beginning of November on the introduction of the new rite of Penance, Cardinal Medeiros said that the bishops of New England had reached his conclusion regarding their region after prayer and consultation. The number of penitents is not so great that they will be deprived of sacramental grace of Holy Communion for a long time because sufficient confessors are not available, the bishops concluded.

ON DEC. 5 AND DEC. 12, Bishop Carroll T. Dozier of Memphis presided at two reconciliation liturgies during which general absolution was given to thousands of Catholics. The two services were part of a diocesan reconciliation effort to bring inactive Catholics back into full communion with their Church and to strengthen the faith and brotherhood of regular churchgoers.

Programs distributed at the services said that anyone with a grave sin is required to confess it to a priest within a reasonable time after receiving general absolution.

In a statement issued after the first Memphis service, Archbishop Joseph L. Bernardin of Cincinnati, president of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, said that individual confession is still the norm for Catholics but that he would not dispute the decision of a bishop to grant general absolution.

FRANCISCAN FATHER Edgar Holden, director of the Newark, N.J., archdiocesan ministry to divorced Catholics, called Bishop Dozier's action a "courageous, enlightened and apostolic step." Noting that many at the Memphis services were Catholics who had divorced and remarried, Father Holden predicted that Bishop Dozier's outreach would be considered prophetic. (The bishop had urged those with marriage problems to bring their cases to diocesan tribunals.)

General absolution may not be the "ideal or proper" solution in other dioceses, Father Holden said, because its use could impose great legal and administrative burdens on some Church offices.

In San Diego last February, Father Dennis Krouse, diocesan director of liturgy and worship, gave general absolution.

(Continued on Page 2)



MITRED MITE—Bishop Francis J. Mugavero of Brooklyn greets a young participant in a parade celebrating the Centennial Year of the founding of St. Joseph's parish, Long Island, N.Y. (NC photo by Ed Wilkinson)

Report from the Chancery

A record of activities in Archdiocesan agencies published the third Friday of each month.

CHANCERY OFFICE—Approximately 60 celebrations of the sacrament of Confirmation are scheduled for next spring. Father Tuohy and Father Mohrhaus will administer the sacrament. . . . The Office Space Committee established by Archbishop Bileup is currently analyzing the situation of current and projected office requirements of the Archdiocese and space available for meeting these needs. Analysis of data and development of a long range plan is expected to require several months. Committee members are Joseph Wood, Chairman, John Hart, James Wilhelm, Father John Ryan and Father Harold Kneven. . . . The Retirement Plans Committee was represented at a recent workshop in Chicago by Kenneth Borders, Harry Dearing, and Father Robert Mohrhaus. The one day workshop was presented by Stewardship Services, Inc. of Washington, D.C. for Religious communities and dioceses to assist in planning and funding pension programs. Also attending from the Archdiocese were Sister Barbara Ann Zeller, S.P., representing the Sisters of Providence, and Father Rupert Ostlick, O.S.B., representing St. Meinrad Archabbey.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES—It is anticipated that work will begin in mid-January on the rewriting of the Catholic Charities Constitution. Archdiocesan Social Ministries—Social Ministries will serve as a branch for Marion County for the legislative information service of Indiana Center on Law and Poverty. This is a first such effort for that agency and could be a major step toward implementing a network of information and education around social and moral issues and the teaching of the Church. . . . Social Ministries will be investing considerable staff time in working with the Priests' Senate Committee to implement teen-age marriage guidelines. Catholic Social Services—Newly elected board members: Christopher Duffy, J. William Julian, Gerald Jenn. St. Elizabeth's Home—Newly appointed board members: Peter Skelton, David Smith, Janice Reed, Thomas Moynahan. St. Mary's Child Center—in addition to testing and evaluation is also able to offer remedial help. Ability to expand this service is dependent on volunteer recruitment. Discussion of this problem at the first regular meeting of agency heads revealed possibilities of cooperation. . . . With Social Ministries as the agency for recruiting volunteers, the possibility exists that one agency (Continued on Page 7)

Abortion, arms race denounced by Pope

WASHINGTON—"If you want peace, defend life," Pope Paul VI told the people of the world in his 10th annual message to mark the World Day of Peace celebrated by Catholics on Jan. 1.

Pope Paul denounced "the false and dangerous program of the arms race, of the secret rivalry between peoples for military superiority," and called abortion a "crime against life" and "a blow at peace."

The Pope's message for the 1977 World Day of Peace was made public here by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops (NCCB).

POPE PAUL SAID that "if, in defiance of logic, peace and life can in practice be dissociated, there looms on the horizon of the future a catastrophe that in our days could be immeasurable and irreparable for both peace and life." He added: "Hiroshima is a terribly eloquent proof and a frighteningly prophetic example of this."

If "peace were thought of in unnatural separation from its relationship with life, peace could be imposed as the sad triumph of death," the Pope said, quoting the words of the Roman historian Tacitus: "They make a desert and call it peace."

"Again, in the same hypothesis, the privileged life of some can be exalted, can be selfishly and almost idolatrously preferred, at the expense of the oppression or suppression of others," the Pope said. "Is that peace?"

Although peace and life "are supreme values in the civil order" and are "interdependent," they have often been in conflict in human history, the Pope noted. Even today this conflict "continues to desecrate and stain with blood many a page of human society,"

he said. "The key to truth in the matter can be found only by recognizing the primacy of life as a value and as a condition for peace."

"The formula is: 'If you want peace, defend life.' Life is the crown of peace. If we base the logic of our activity on the sacredness of life, war is virtually disqualified as a normal and habitual means of asserting rights and so of insuring peace."

DENOUNCING THE ARMS RACE, the Pope said that, even if war does not break out, "how can we fall to lament the incalculable outpouring of economic resources and human energies expended in order to preserve for each individual state its shield of ever more costly, ever more efficient weapons, and this to the detriment of resources for schools, culture, agriculture, health and civic welfare."

"Peace and life support enormous burdens in order to maintain a peace founded on a perpetual threat to life, as also to defend life by means of a constant threat to peace," Pope Paul said.

Warning that such a concept of international relations "must one day be resolved in the ruination of peace and of countless human lives," the Pope praised "the efforts already begun to reduce and finally to eliminate this senseless cold war resulting from the progressive increase of the military potential of the various nations, as if these nations should necessarily be enemies of each other. . . ."

REVIEWING THIS "hundred forms in which offenses against life seem to be becoming normal behavior," the Pope cited "individual crime . . . organized to become collective; to ensure the silence and complicity of (Continued on Page 5)

Giant step completed in Canon Law revision

BY JOHN MUTHIG

VATICAN CITY—A giant step toward finishing the vast revision of the Church's Code of Canon Law has just been completed here by international specialists.

According to officials of the Pontifical Commission for the Revision of the Code of Canon Law, study groups charged with rewriting the present 2,414 canons (laws) of the 60-year-old code have completed their work.

The drafts submitted by the study groups, made up of about 100 clergy and lay experts from various fields, are now being sent to the world's bishops, to offices of the Roman Curia (the Church's central administration) and to Catholic universities for evaluation and criticism.

THE CONSULTATION with these groups is expected to take a year, according to Msgr. Mariano De Nicolò, an official of the papal commission.

The revised draft on Church trials and "processes" has already been sent for criticism to the bishops, Curia and universities, and the other sections of the drafts will be in the mail soon, Msgr. De Nicolò added.

The suggestions resulting from the consultation will then be analyzed by the commission. "The time it takes for the commission to complete the analysis will simply depend upon whether we get back 1,000 or 10,000 responses," said the monsignor.

The present code of Canon Law, which became the general law of the Church in 1917, lists rights, duties and obligations of various groups in the Church from the Pope and bishops, to priests, Religious and associations of lay people.

It regulates celebration of the sacraments, and includes lengthy sections on marriage legislation—much of which has already been updated by special papal decrees.

The current code also regulates penalties for various offenses, process for ecclesiastical trials, and a host of other disciplinary matters.

POPE JOHN XXIII announced in 1959 that he would begin revision of the World-War-I era code. The papal commission has been working since 1963 on the current revision. The 1917 revision had taken 13 years to complete.

Eastern Catholic Churches have a code of law distinct from that used in the Western or Latin church. In 1972 Pope Paul VI established a separate pontifical commission to revise the Eastern Code.

Forty-four cardinals from all over the world are the members of the Latin-rite law commission.

Their task is to review the work of the 100 experts and the suggestions of the world's bishops, the Curia and Catholic universities.

Composition of the commission and appointment of the 100 consultants have been strongly criticized as sexist. Although the Code of Canon Law must legislate in many areas in which women are directly involved, not one woman is among the members, consultants or staff of the commission.

Rome lauds U.S. pastoral

WASHINGTON—Writing on behalf of Pope Paul VI, the papal secretary of state has told the U.S. bishops that their recently adopted pastoral letter on moral values is "providential and timely."

In a letter to Archbishop Joseph L. Bernardin of Cincinnati, president of the National Conference of Catholic

Bishops (NCCB), Cardinal Jean Villot, the papal secretary of state, called the pastoral "a strong reaffirmation and faithful expression, on the part of the American hierarchy, of the authentic magisterium of the Holy See and of the entire universal Church in the field of morality."

The NCCB adopted the 10,000-word pastoral on moral values, "To Live in Christ Jesus," during the conference's fall general meeting here last month. An ad hoc NCCB committee had prepared the document through extensive consultation of bishops and theologians over the past two years.

Pope's Midnight Mass to be aired

VATICAN CITY—About 40 countries will receive the broadcast of Pope Paul VI's Christmas Midnight Mass from St. Peter's Basilica.

The large-scale transmission of the papal ceremonies was made possible by a 1975 grant to the Pontifical Commission for Social Communications by the Knights of Columbus, headquartered in the United States.

In the United States, NBC will broadcast the Mass beginning at midnight, EST, Christmas Eve. English Franciscan Father Agnellus Andrew, president of the International Catholic Broadcaster's Association, UNDA, will be commentator for the U.S. broadcast.

The remainder of Pope Paul's Christmas schedule includes a morning Mass in St. Peter's, followed by the "Urbe et Orbe" (to the city and the world) blessing from the front balcony of the basilica.

REMINDER

The Criterion is offering \$25 for the best amateur photograph this month on the subject of "People in Parishes in the Archdiocese." All photos submitted must be 8 x 10 glossy prints and must be in the Criterion offices by midnight, December 31. Besides the cash prize, the first winning photograph will appear in the January 7 issue of the Criterion. There is no limit on the number of entries, but all become the property of the Criterion. Be sure to include identification of individuals in the photographs and your own name, address and phone number. Include parish affiliation, too. If no entry is judged to be of sufficient quality to merit selection, no award will be made for that particular month.



NEW ALBANY SCHOOL WINS RECYCLING DERBY—For the second consecutive year Holy Family School, New Albany, was the winner of the Recycling Derby sponsored by Reynolds Aluminum Recycling Company in Louisville. About 50 schools in southern Indiana and the Louisville area participated in the year-long contest. The children earned \$962 by collecting 6,414 pounds of aluminum with an average of 21.7 pounds per student. Shown above are youngsters from the school receiving a plaque and certificate for their efforts.

Week's News in Brief

BY NC NEWS SERVICE

Bishop received threats to life

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico—As police began investigating the burning of a Madonna statue here, Cardinal Luis Aponte of San Juan revealed that he received a series of threats before crowning it as patroness of Puerto Rico. The threats accompanied pre-canonization events centered on a colonial sculpture of Our Lady of Providence and the Child, which had been recently restored in Spain. Unconfirmed reports blamed an extremist Protestant sect for the burning.

Officials denounce Moon

NEW YORK—Two top officials of the American Jewish Committee (AJC) have denounced the Rev. Sun Myung Moon's publication, *Divine Principle*, calling it anti-Semitic and indicating it may be involved in South Korean lobbying on Capitol Hill. The charges by Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum and James Rudin of the AJC are based on a report asserting that the chief theological work of Rev. Moon's Unification Church contains more than 125 examples "of an unremitting litany of anti-Jewish teachings."

Bishops discuss 'access'

WASHINGTON—Bishop James Rausch, general secretary of the U.S. Catholic Conference, has discussed procedures for "access" to President-Elect Jimmy Carter in an informal, hour-long Dec. 8th meeting with one of Carter's top aides, Greg Schneider. Bishop Rausch said no specific issues were discussed at the meeting.

In capsule form . . .

The Vatican has authorized the bishops' conferences of Ireland and Mexico to permit Communion in the hand, bringing the number of conferences with the approval to 43 . . . A military policeman charged with killing Jesuit Father Jose Besco Penido Burnier in October while the priest was pleading for three women prisoners, escaped from jail with the aid of his guards, Church sources confirmed at Curitiba, Brazil . . . Pope Paul VI said Dec. 6 that he was maintaining for the time being a "thoughtful silence" on the Detroit Call to Action conference, called by the American bishops in October. Speaking from his apartment window to a small group of pilgrims in St. Peter's Square, the Pope indicated that the Call to Action was among several events of "extreme interest in the life of the Church" . . . The Food and Drug Administration is asking birth control pill manufacturers to begin voluntary compliance with proposed tighter regulations surrounding the sales of the pills, which an estimated 8 million to 10 million American women take regularly.

Neumann date changed

VATICAN CITY—Well-informed sources said here Dec. 10 that the date of the canonization of Blessed John Nepomucene Neumann will be Sunday, June 26, 1977. The sources said that the date will not be absolutely official until announced by Pope Paul VI at the Dec. 20 consistory. The canonization of the fourth bishop of Philadelphia had been tentatively set for April 24.

Repeat sterilization ban

VATICAN CITY—A Vatican document recently released here has clearly restated that direct sterilization is still "absolutely banned" by the Catholic Church. The restatement or the sterilization ban came in a document released for the first time here Dec. 11 by the Vatican's Doctrinal Congregation.

Board bars 'Godspell'

HARRISON, N.J.—By a vote of 4 to 2, the Harrison Board of Education told the high school drama club not to make "Godspell" its annual production. The long-running Broadway musical is based on the Gospel. About 75 public and Catholic schools in New Jersey have produced the play in recent years.

U.S. harbors 130,000 refugees

WASHINGTON—More than 130,000 Indochina refugees were resettled in the United States within the last year, but there are still more than 11 million refugees worldwide, according to the annual report of the United States Committee for Refugees, a non-profit organization involved in public education programs concerning the plight of refugees. The report said more than two million refugees were created in the last year or so by civil wars and wars of independence in Southern Africa.

Lodge visits Pope Paul

VATICAN CITY—Pope Paul VI received U.S. presidential envoy to the Holy See, Henry Cabot Lodge, in private audience Dec. 11. According to the special envoy's office, the trip was Lodge's third this year to the Vatican. Observers speculated that the Pope discussed with Lodge the new Jimmy Carter administration. Lodge has been making regular calls on Pope Paul since President Richard M. Nixon named him special presidential envoy in 1970.

Names . . .

Father Joseph A. Cusack, president of the American Extension Society, died unexpectedly Nov. 22, at age 53 in Chicago. Pope Paul VI has appointed Bishop Jose de Jesus Tirado Pedraza, 68, as archbishop of Monterrey, Mexico. He succeeds Archbishop Alfonso Espino y Silva, who died May 31. Father Patrick Rice told reporters in London that he was beaten and subjected to water torture and electric shock treatment by Argentine police during the first three days of his eight-week imprisonment before he was released and deported Dec. 3. Cardinal Humberto Medeiros of Boston has turned down a request that he approve Communion in the hand as a hygienic measure to prevent the spread of influenza and other viral and bacterial infections.

Plan Viet Christmas program

INDIANAPOLIS — Vietnamese families and their sponsors in the Archdiocese have been invited to a special program on Christmas Day at immaculate Heart of Mary parish, 5692 Central Ave. At 3 p.m. a Christmas Mass will be celebrated with Father Dominic Dinh Luong as the celebrant. A reception will follow the Mass in the parish auditorium. Refreshments will be furnished by the Archdiocesan Social Ministries. This holiday program is a continuing effort by Archdiocesan Social Ministries to provide special religious and social events for Vietnamese families.

There will be an opportunity for the Sacrament of Penance at 1 p.m. Reservations for the event can be made by calling Social Ministries, 317-634-1913.

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- Old Humidifiers
- Old Air Purifiers
- Old Water Filters
- Old Vacuum Cleaners

I NEED POCKET WATCHES

General absolution not precedent

(Continued from Page 1)
absolution to about 500 persons at a workshop during the CCD congress. A message from Bishop Maher reminded those at the rite that those with serious sin were obliged to make an individual confession subsequent to the general absolution. All were asked to bow their heads to indicate sorrow as Father Krouse gave general absolution.

Commenting on the Memphis service, Richmond's Bishop Sullivan called it a "hopeful sign."

"The very fact of such a tremendous outpouring of people shows (Bishop Dozier) is responding to a great pastoral need in his diocese," Bishop Sullivan said.

He said the Richmond diocese has not publicized his decision to permit certain parishes to use general absolution "because it might be misunderstood as a way of avoiding individual confession, which is the norm, or as a way of getting Christmas

confessions over within an hour—the easy way out of the ministry of healing."
Permission was given usually in cases in which large numbers of penitents attended communal celebrations of Penance held by several churches in an area during Lent or Advent.

Noting that the new rite of Reconciliation requires an "extended period of prayer within individual confession," Bishop Sullivan observed that even with a number of confessors "it is not possible to hear confessions properly."

"It's a mockery if individual confession is rushed and not prayerful," he said.

WHILE EMPHASIZING that general confession and absolution "must not replace individual confession," Bishop Sullivan said: "Let's not replace individual confession." Bishop Sullivan said: "Let's face it, there are many people for whom individual confession is a difficult,

traumatic experience. General absolution can never take the place of individual confession, but it has provided an opportunity for people to become reconciled with the Church who might not otherwise avail themselves of the sacrament for deep psychological reasons."

The Richmond bishop said he was deeply concerned about reaching out "in healing and reconciliation" to alienated Catholics in his diocese.

"Fundamental to the Church's mission to evangelize," he said, "is our ministry to our own Catholic people who are separated from the Church either by problems of faith, disillusionment with Church practices, apathy or divorce and remarriage."

"Not to reach out to others seems self-righteous. Not to see the hurt in people's lives is blindness. What obligation do we have to them? Do we ignore or condemn them? Or do we reach out in a loving manner? This seems to be the obligation of every Catholic."

Society elects new officers

INDIANAPOLIS — New officers for the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Andrew Church were elected at a recent reorganizational meeting.

They include Barbara Edwards, president; Sister Mary Joan, vice-president; Sister Elizabeth Cecile, secretary; and Virgil Madden, treasurer.

St. Andrew's group meets each Wednesday to outline activities, which include a variety of "good neighbor" policies.

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THE TACKER

Seasonal hazard

BY FRED W. FRIES

Reading Christmas newsletters is what you could label a seasonal hazard. You can easily tell them in the stack of greetings: They are the heavy ones with extra postage—usually mimeographed. If you've ever received one (one banner year we got three!), you know what we are talking about. In a typical Christmas newsletter, one member of the family (usually the wife) meticulously lists the accomplishments of the family during the year and the strides it has made up the ladder of success. Such communications strike us as nothing more than a once-a-year ego trip. For one thing, it takes a lot of nerve to presume that the recipient of such a boring recital (other than a close relative) will take the time to wade through it, especially if he hasn't enjoyed a particularly good year himself. Here is a dreamed up, but fairly accurate sample of what we mean:

Dear friends: This has really been some kind of year! Bill won a free trip to the Bahamas for being the top salesman in his division. Last year, you remember, he won us a trip to Nassau. On top of that, he was given the St. Procopius Award for his work with the Boy Scouts and a papal medal for his contributions to the diocesan fund campaign. Good old Bill also won the country club golf tournament for the third year in a row. Little Lionel skipped the second grade at St. Ichabod's Preparatory (chip off the old block, you know), and our dear Sally became the first girl to make the Notre Dame debate team. Bill, Jr., was elected president of the senior class at the Military Academy and earned his letter in baseball, football, basketball and track. (He's a super jock!) Not to be outdone, Cynthia was named head of the student council at St. Agnella's and was voted (for the second year in a row) homecoming queen. O yes, before I forget it, we sold our house on Spring Street to the first person who answered the ad. We made a cool \$22,000 on it and then turned around and picked up a five-bedroom dream home on Allegheny Boulevard for, well, a song. Friends, I hope you don't mind if I cut this short. I have to go over to the rectory to pick up a trophy for selling the most houses for the quilt raffle at the parish bazaar. You won't believe it, but my sister Josephine won the darn quilt. Just like I said, it has been some kind of a year!

Love, Martha

Now, wouldn't it be refreshing to get a Christmas newsletter some year that read something like this? Dear friends: This has been a gosh awful year! Marlin lost his job back in October, and we are back on welfare. Worst of all, he developed laryngitis two weeks ago and was bounced as head bingo caller at St. Albert's. Clarence got tossed out of high school for using pot, Marian flunked geometry again, and Ephrem got washed out of CCD class. Elmer had been riding the bench in football all season, so they ran him in for the last play of the season. Wouldn't you know some giant tackled him and broke his right leg in two places. Remember Uncle Oscar? Well, he came to

visit us for a week-end last May and stayed all summer. Not only did he eat us out of house and home, but his arthritis started acting up and he stuck us with a \$300 hospital bill. Just like I said, folks, it's been a gosh awful year! Merry Christmas.

EDITOR'S NOTE—On Monday, Dec. 13, the Abigail Van Buren ("Dear Abby") column which appears in the Indianapolis News [and possibly other daily papers in the Criterion circulation area] was devoted to a satirical treatment of the Christmas Newsletter phenomenon. To dispel any hint of plagiarism, we wish to point out that the above version was written several weeks ago, and the appearance of the two columns on the same subject is, as they say, purely coincidental.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TABLEAU—Father Thomas Lyons and the parishioners of St. Anne Church, Hamburg, have announced plans for the annual Living Nativity Tableau to be presented at 7:30 p.m. Sunday and Monday, Dec. 19 and 20. This will be the third year for the unique project, which features live persons and animals in its rendition of the Bethlehem story. Guest choirs from St. Anthony, Morris, and Holy Family, Oldenburg, (on Sunday and Monday respectively) will be supplemented by the St. Anne's guitar group in providing the music. The public is invited.

FOR NURSES ONLY—St. Francis Hospital Center, Beech Grove, will conduct a Nurse Refresher Course designed for registered nurses who have been away from hospital nursing for several years. Registered nurses who have been away from the profession for periods of five years to 25 years are invited to enroll. The ten-week course is held during the day Monday through Thursday, with the first classes scheduled for January 10, 1977. The program includes both theory and clinical experience to fully update the nurse's background in current nursing techniques. Applications are now being taken for a limited number of openings for the January class. A brochure explaining the program is available on request. Candidates should contact the Staff Education Department of St. Francis Hospital Center, 1600 Albany St., Beech Grove, Ind. 46107, or telephone 783-8161 for an appointment.

GREENSBURG PARISH HONORS ITS NUNS—Father John Geis and his parishioners at St. Mary parish, Greensburg, paid special tribute to the Franciscan Sisters of Oldenburg on Saturday, Dec. 4, for 100 years of dedicated service to that parish. Special guests at the Eucharistic celebration, dinner and reception included the Sisters who have taught at St. Mary's as well as Franciscan daughters of the parish. Thirty-three Sisters were on hand for the celebration.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT—More than half the world's breadwinners earn less than your newspaper carrier.

Scholarships are established for Henninger

INDIANAPOLIS — Two of the schools at which he served as teacher and principal have announced the establishment of memorial scholarships to the late John Joseph Henninger, who died last week of cancer at the age of 34. Soecina High School students have set up a Henninger Scholarship Memorial Fund, which will benefit incoming freshmen. A second scholarship fund has been founded at Little Flower School, where young Henninger spent part of the past school year as principal, after five years of service at Soecina as teacher, coach and dean of studies.

FIFTEEN priests celebrated the Funeral Mass at Little Flower on Thursday, Dec. 9, with Msgr. R. T. Bosler serving as principal celebrant. Hundreds of Henninger's former students attended the Mass. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery.

Henninger, a Cathedral High School graduate, was affiliated with the Congregation of Holy Cross for six years. He attended the University of Notre Dame, St. Edward University in Austin, Tex., and Butler University. He taught at St. Jude Grade School, Roncalli, and Cathedral in addition to Soecina and Little Flower.

Henninger is survived by his wife, Judith; a son, Matthew John, a daughter, Victoria Elaine; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John E. Henninger; two brothers, George and Jeffrey; and his grandmother, Mrs. Victoria D. Hendrixson.

Providence nun is appointed to agency post

INDIANAPOLIS — The Archdiocesan Social Ministries of Catholic Charities has announced the appointment of Sister Barbara Ann Zeller, S.P., of St. Mary-of-the-Woods, as program convener for that agency.

During the coming months, Sister Barbara Ann's primary responsibility will be that of job development and training for Indo-Chinese refugees. To facilitate this program, she will use a volunteer group made up principally of retired persons.

Beginning in October, 1977, her task will center around the Simeon Project where her emphasis will be on the development of services for retired and elderly people.



BENEDICTINE CHORAL GROUP ON TV—The Sisters of St. Benedict of Our Lady of Grace Convent, Beech Grove, will present a half-hour program of Christmas music on WFYI, Channel 20, Indianapolis, Thursday, Dec. 23, at 7 p.m. The choral group is under the direction of Sister Harriet Woehler. Sister Eileen Price is the accompanist. The photo was taken in the recording studio at Channel 20, during the taping session. Pictured, left to right, front row are Sisters Marietta Lueken, Mary Philip Seib, Emily Emmert, Eileen

and Mary Cecile Deken; second row, Sisters Heidi Marie Krack, Norma Gettelfinger, Marguerite Hunter, Lynette Marie Saunders and Joann Hunt; back row, Sisters Harriet and Jeanne Voges. Postulant Mary Oberhausen, Sister Mary Judith Howe, Postulant Mary Kay Greenawalt, Sisters Margaret Ann Dalley, Mary Sue Freiburger and Donna Fyffe, Postulant Marilyn Merkel and Sister Mary Jonathan Schultz. (Photo by Gene Alvarez)

Remember them in your prayers

- CLARKSVILLE
1 AMOS BRANDENBURG, 62, St. Anthony, Nov. 30. No survivors listed.
1 JOHN T. LINDSEY, 62, Sacred Heart, Dec. 13. Husband of Jacqueline; father of Steven and Lisa Lindsey of Clinton; and Janna Seta of West Lebanon, Ind.; brother of Robert and Irene Bennetti of Clinton; and Clement of Hillside.
1 MARION COSTELLA, 62, Sacred Heart, Dec. 15. Husband of Maria; father of Rosemary Price of Rosko, Va.; Delores Flint and Joanne Ellis, both of Clinton.
INDIANAPOLIS
1 VINCENT S. CRISAFULLI, 62, Little Flower, Dec. 9. Husband of Carmelina; father of Joan Duncan; brother of Frank R. Crisafulli.
1 JOHN BEYERSDORFER, 75, St. John, Dec. 8. Husband of Frances; father of Michael and John J. Beyersdorfer; brother of Marie Hutnagel and Pauline Kimberlin.
1 ELIZABETH F. YETTER, 76, Sacred Heart, Dec. 11. Wife of Joseph F., Sr.; mother of Joseph F., Jr. and James Yetter and Edna Goding.
1 JOHN H. HUNT, 74, St. Philip Neri, Dec. 13. Brother of Marie F. Hunt.
1 RAYMOND F. IVORY, 67, St. Anthony, Dec. 13. No immediate survivors.
NEW ALBANY
1 ADDIE ABEL, 90, St. Mary, Dec. 2. Mother of Elsie W., Sr., of New Salisbury; Charisette Elmer and Louise Hutton, both of Louisville; Lois M. Graham of Floyd Knobs; sister of Maude Aude of Whitesville, Ky.
RICHMOND
1 JOHN W. WEDDING, 80, St. Mary, Dec. 15. Husband of Edna; father of Mary Combs of Long Beach, Calif.; brother of Theodore Wedding, Rose Kemper and Catherine Sigley, all of Cincinnati.
1 REGINA C. SHARRITT, 82, St. Mary, Dec. 7. Mother of Margaret Haas and Edna Seikel, both of Richmond; Regina Dubs of Canton, Ohio; Dorothy Schultz of Red Hook, N.Y.; James of Marion; Patrick of Silver Springs, Md.; and Robert Sharritt of Wheaton, Md.; sister of Paul Drudy of Richmond.
1 MARY G. CODY, 77, Holy Family, Dec. 10. Mother of William, at home; Keith of Kokomo; Louise Kindley of Cincinnati; and Mrs. William Walton of Hartford, Conn.

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Commentary

The opinions expressed in these editorial columns represent a Catholic viewpoint—not necessarily THE Catholic viewpoint. They are efforts of the editors to serve public opinion within the Church and within the Nation.

Giant steps

The American Catholic Church took a giant step forward when it was announced last week that Bishop Carroll Dozier of the Memphis diocese conferred general absolution on more than 11,000 Catholics there in an unprecedented Day of Reconciliation.

From a viewpoint of sheer numbers alone, the event was impressive. The size of the turnout staggers the mind when one considers that Bishop Dozier's diocese has only about 45,000 Catholics. But consider some questions which weren't clear in the reports.

The reports stressed heavily the presumably large number of divorced and remarried Catholics participating in the ceremony. The National Council of Catholic Bishops played that aspect down. Did a large number of such persons actually participate or were the bulk of those attending "inactive" Catholics who had simply dropped out of the Church because of laxity? Will those who participated now follow up by completing the requirement of going to confession within a year? How many of the marriage cases involved will actually go through the Church courts? Father Jim Young, a Paulist

priest who heads a ministry to the divorced in Boston, saw the event as a major breakthrough in Church relations with the divorced. Others are criticizing it for the "Pandora's box" it appears to be opening. But what the good bishop did was totally legitimate and altogether within the spirit of the new Rite of Reconciliation.

What is bothering many, it seems, is the mercy expressed in the action. What Bishop Dozier did was to demonstrate the overwhelming love and mercy of the Church. Of late, the Church has been stressing the theme of justice. Mercy is a concept which is not in conflict with justice, but it does not have the same rationale or logic. Indeed, mercy is not rational at all. It is an expression of love. It is a gift. It has no reason for expression other than the gift-bearer's love.

That medical care is best which considers the comfort of the patient first. So also is spiritual care. As a doctor of souls, Bishop Dozier has reflected the true physician's care and service and concern for his patients.

The only question remaining for us now is—when will we see such mercy expressed in our own Archdiocese?—T.W.

Penance reconciles sinners with the Church

BY FR. THOMAS C. WIDNER

Last week I stated that Monika Hellwig in her book *The Meaning of the Sacraments* discusses two important developments in the history of the Sacrament of Penance. The first was that penance in the early Church was considered only as a once-in-a-lifetime event.

The second is that frequent repetition of the sacrament came into being through the practice of Celtic missionary monks toward the beginning of the Middle Ages. Those who use the Sacrament of Penance today are tending to return to the older tradition.

Customs change with time, and, as the Church grew, individuals came to the bishop to seek reconciliation with the Church for sins committed which separated them from participation in the Church. Such people were distinguished by their dress and activities. These became the public penitents we know of from Church history.

The most important point to note again, however, is the reason for penance. Sin caused the sinner to be separated from the Church, and penance was required to reconcile the sinner with the Church. Our notions and attitudes about penance today are sometimes so foreign to that concept that there is really no sacrament. Our attitudes about penance convey a very weak faith in God, if we believe that we are not forgiven until we go to confession.

TWO CONCEPTS are crucial here. "Forgiveness" occurs between God and myself when I seek It. God is always ready to forgive. The sinner merely has to ask Him. "Repentance" occurs between the Church and myself when I seek the sacrament of reconciliation. The problem today, I

believe, is not that people are unwilling to seek God's forgiveness, but that people do not see tied into this thing called "Church" or that thing called "sacrament."

To illustrate this, Hellwig uses the classic Scripture example of the Prodigal Son. She says, "The Father of the story never at any time repudiates the younger son. He has already forgiven, but his forgiveness cannot take effect, unless and until the son himself returns, that is, until he can bring himself to turn around so that he can meet the forgiveness of the father. The problem of the story is the elder son who was unwilling."

GOD FORGIVES, but man, in order to be truly forgiven, must turn to God and recognize this. He must repent. The Father had forgiven the son, but it made little difference until the son knew he was forgiven. The son sought forgiveness and was repentant. The community then celebrated. The elder son, however, was unwilling to forgive. He is like the self-righteous

who demand an equal justice, but are totally confused by mercy.

As a digression it might be well to consider the recent event of general absolution which occurred in the diocese of Memphis. Criticism of the event has a deep truth to it—the truth of justice. Despite that, there is the willingness of the Ordinary of that diocese to exercise the Church's mercy; it is not that the two qualities are incompatible; it is that justice is rational and logical, while mercy is illogical and a gift.

So forgiveness is given by a God who is always forgiving. But to take effect, there must be a response in the sinner. This tells us something about our Christianity today. For many people the act of going to confession was something that was done because one is a Catholic, and Catholics go to confession. What the Church is attempting to get us to recognize now is that one goes to confession in order to be reconciled to the Church. Sin is a breakdown in relations. It cannot be

more than good psychological release to confess one's sins if one is not serious about the relationships that are broken down by sin.

OUR FAILURE TO RECOGNIZE the importance of repairing these relationships is a failure to recognize the importance of Church. Indeed, it means that we see ourselves as individuals living by ourselves, isolated from one another, having no attachment to nor responsibility for one another, and therefore, seeing ourselves as the center of all morality.

Such a perspective creates individuals who eventually regard other individuals as their enemies. Society thus becomes a place where individuals not only compete with one another, but seek to destroy one another in order to preserve their integrity as an individual. The logical consequence of such a perspective produced the horrors of Nazism in our own century and similar evils in other ages.

DALE FRANCIS SAYS

Laity are not substitute priests

BY DALE FRANCIS

When Archbishop Jean Jadot, the Apostolic Delegate, spoke at the Bishops' meeting, he warned of the coming shortage of priests and said that there must be an increasing involvement of the laity in the work of the Church.

I'm all for that, but I do hope that the laity will be used in ways that will give priests more time to do what they are qualified to do best and not as substitutes for priests.

The lay diaconate can give real help in a parish, but obviously there can't be enough lay deacons to serve everywhere. At least, I hope not. We've rushed into the lay diaconate in rather substantial numbers already—there are more permanent deacons in this country than in all the rest of the world—without really knowing if problems may develop or if this is best for the Church. It may be. I'm just saying we've already rushed it hard, have ordained a great many men and don't know yet what the long range prospects are. It wouldn't be wise to move to ordination of thousands more not knowing exactly what we are doing.

IT SEEMS TO ME that Archbishop Jadot may have mentioned permanent deacons as one of the ways help could come from the laity and extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist as another. It may be that extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist are a way of helping meet the priest shortage—but I doubt it.

When they are used to bring Communion to the ill in homes, hospitals and nursing homes, they do help. But most are used to distribute Communion at Sunday Mass. The instruction that provides for this emphasizes it should be something for extraordinary situations. My own observation is it is used in many parishes as just a way to hurry the people through the Communion line.

If there is one thing in this day of a kind of a casualness towards the Eucharist that we don't need, it is something to hurry people in reception of Communion. It already moves like a cafeteria line, devoid of anything to remind the people they are truly receiving Our Lord. So you get two or three more lines going, and that gets the people out to the parking lots maybe two or three minutes earlier.

Then I've been in parishes where the priest, once there were even two priests, sat down while lay people distributed Communion. That not only is something that the instruction said should not be done, it at least symbolically moves the priest one step further from the people, which is another thing that is exactly what shouldn't be done today.

But I believe in the involvement of the laity. What way? Doing things they know how to do as well or better than priests. Priests shouldn't have to be handling problems of finance, housekeeping and the hundred and one other tasks which now burden them. They shouldn't have to be keeping the books, the records. There are lay people who could do these things. The pastor could still keep an executive's hand on these things, but he could delegate authority and let the

contest of mutual oppression with men, but rather in harmonious and fruitful integration, based on respectful recognition of each other's distinct roles," he added.

In his speech—one of the most positive he has given on the topic of women's liberation—the Pope asserted that "Christianity, more than any other religion, has given a special status of dignity to women, right from its very beginning."

He said that the role of women in the structure of the early Church was so "remarkable that perhaps its essence has not yet been clarified."

Authorize Communion in hand

BY JOHN MUTHIG

VATICAN CITY—The Vatican has authorized 42 bishops' conferences, covering about 50 countries to permit distribution of Communion in the hand, according to the Vatican's Congregation for Sacraments and Divine Worship.

The Vatican has authorized the optional reception of Communion in the hand in countries where bishops have requested it following a two-thirds vote of the hierarchy.

In countries where the practice is permitted, communicants wishing to receive Communion on the tongue can continue to do so.

THE ISSUE OF COMMUNION in the hand has been a source of continued lively debate among the U.S. Bishops, who have twice defeated moves to approve the practice.

Italy has not requested permission for Communion in the hand, but priest-distributors at St. Peter's, Rome's major basilica, often place the consecrated wafers in the hands of foreign visitors.

English-speaking nations where Communion may be distributed in the hand are England and Wales, Scotland, Australia, New Zealand, Papua-New Guinea, Zambia, South Africa, Rhodesia, Jamaica and Canada.

Since Vatican records show that the permission for Scotland dates from early 1975, and the Scottish bishops issued a statement in 1976 saying they had not asked for general permission for Communion in the hand "as have done the bishops of England and Wales," NC News called the Catholic Press office in Glasgow for an explanation of the apparent discrepancy.

A spokesman explained that England and Wales had asked for general permission, while the Scottish bishops asked only for a limited permission, restricted to Communion in the hand at Masses in small groups and on special occasions.

Bishops of Japan, Indonesia, the Pacific Islands, Korea and Pakistan have asked for and received permission for the practice.

Latin American countries where Communion in the hand is permitted are Bolivia, Uruguay, Paraguay, Panama, Chile, Costa Rica, Brazil and Peru.

ALL OF THE BISHOPS of North Africa have received permission for the practice, as have the bishops of Chad, Upper Volta, Niger, Madagascar, Mozambique, Angola, the territory of the Afars and Issas, Mali and the already mentioned countries of South Africa and Rhodesia.

In Europe, the countries which have received permission are Belgium, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Monaco, all the Scandinavian countries, Austria, Yugoslavia, Portugal and the already mentioned lands of England and Wales, Scotland, and Spain.

Except for most recent additions, the bishops' conferences which have received permission are listed in Notitia, official publication of the Congregation for Sacraments and Divine Worship.

The Vatican press office supplied NC News with the names of the conferences most recently authorized to permit Communion in the hand.

the role of women is being followed "with interest and trepidation" by the entire Church.

"We fully believe that the participation of women at various levels of society must be not only recognized, but also promoted and above all appreciated," the Pope added.

He warned Christian women, however, that the women's movement should not reject the natural differences between the sexes.

"Women must not reject the fact that they have their own nature . . . which differentiates woman from man—not in the sense of natural dignity, but rather with regard to difference of functions," the Pope said.

"WE MUST GUARD against a crafty form of undervaluation of the female condition through which the diversifying traits written by nature in both sexes are misunderstood," warned the Pontiff.

"It is part of the order of creation itself that women fulfill themselves as women—certainly not through a

lighthouse for our journey in time."

DESPITE GENERAL programs, men have not found real happiness, according to the Pope.

"This does not reflect a pessimism which nullifies the aims of progress, but is rather a fundamental experience which stimulates us to search once more on a higher level for the highest good," he said.

Pontiff declares Church must take side of women

VATICAN CITY—The Church must be "on the side of women" who are discriminated against on the job or manipulated by power-seekers in society, Pope Paul VI declared Dec. 6.

"Like the early Church, the Church of today absolutely must be on the side of women, especially when they are demoted from the role of active and responsible subject to that of passive, insignificant object," Pope Paul told members of an Italian Christian women's organization here. The 79-year-old Pope said that the Church is opposed to job discrimination, but also to "even worse forms of manipulation by the mass media, society and the family."

"One could say that women represent the easiest way for some people today to call attention to their own tendency toward violence and social injustice," the Pope charged.

ACCORDING TO THE Pope, the "bitter and even violent way of answering back" which characterizes some feminist groups can be "explained and even partly understood" by attempts of others to manipulate the feminist cause.

Pope Paul assured the group that the "very lively" public debate about

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FORGET IT, MRS. RAFFERTY!

QUESTION BOX

Is Communion different in other churches?

BY MSGR. R. T. BOSLER

Q. I wrote you some time ago but have not yet seen my question and answer in the paper...



A. Other readers have asked why their questions have not been answered...

rest in. Frequently I receive questions that I have answered already within the year.

Now to your question, which has puzzled other readers. Vatican Council II had this to say about Communion in other churches...

and the Church's worship and ministry." This appears in the Decree on Ecumenism...

Since the council, Rome has issued instructions permitting Catholics to receive Communion in Orthodox churches...

Since the council, also, dialogues have been going on between official representatives of our Church and representatives of the Orthodox, Anglican and various Protestant churches...

developing understanding of the greater extensiveness of the Church, have come to the conclusion that Anglican and some Protestant ordinations are valid...

Q. The medical profession is producing strong evidence that smoking is injurious to health. In view of this information, is it not self-destructive and, therefore, sinful to smoke?

A. I presume you mean smoking cigarettes. Being one who has been liberated from the slavery of this particular smoking urge for 30 years...

It seems to have been established that smoking can cause in certain individuals emphysema, cancer of the lungs and heart conditions that can shorten life...

shorten life, but eating too much beef and animal fat also is considered harmful for some individuals. There is no certainty that any one individual will be harmed by smoking...

Smokers are very foolish to take the risk and remain the slaves of a habit that makes them frequently indifferent to the health and feelings of others...

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Reconciliation key to penance

BY REV. STEPHEN T. JARRELL (Last of three articles)

Traditionally, there have been four principal ingredients in sacramental Penance: contrition, confession, satisfaction and absolution.

The renewed Order of Penance directs us to shift our emphasis not to confession or penance, but to reconciliation; thus, the new title of the sacrament—the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

In scope, it leaves one with the impression that man "does" the sacrament.

The Revised Rite of Penance places the emphasis on the action of God: he heals, he forgives, he reconciles—and all of this is worth celebrating.

NOT EVERYTHING ABOUT the new rite is "new"; many of the structural elements are the same as in the past.

The first thing you will notice is its community orientation. We

acknowledge that our sin is not only an offense against God, but an offense and a disservice to the Christian community.

For example, our observance of Lent, Advent, Ember Days, and Fridays, as well as our faithful adherence to the disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, indicated that we were serious about sin in our personal lives and the life of the Church as a whole.

The New Order of Penance provides for the communal celebration of the sacrament whereby this dimension becomes more clear.

Abortion, arms race

(Continued from Page 1)

whole groups of citizens; to make private vendetta a vile collective duty, terrorism a phenomenon of legitimate political or social affirmation...

"It is impossible for peace to flourish where the safety of life is compromised in this way," Pope Paul stated. "Where violence rages, true peace ends," he continued. "But where human rights are truly

professed and publicly recognized and defended, peace becomes the joyful and operative atmosphere of life in society."

"The texts of international commitment for the protection of human rights, for the defense of children and for the safeguarding of fundamental human freedoms are proofs of our civil progress," the Pope stated. "This reality is full and glorious if these declarations are transferred into consciences and moral conduct; it is mocked and violated if they remain a dead letter."

The revised Order of Penance further emphasizes that the sacrament is an act of worship of the Church.

As the Church is affected by the sin of each one of us, so should it joyfully participate in the reconciliation of the sinner to the Church.

The rite incorporates many tangible signs by which the repentant sinner knows that he has been forgiven by God and accepted back into the community.

For example a warm Welcome is encouraged. The presupposition is (Continued on Page 6)

Indianapolis Parish Shopping List

Grid of advertisements for various businesses including Waddy Hayden's PKG. LIQUOR STORE, TEETER'S South Side Pharmacy, HEIDENREICH florist, and many others.

Grinstainer Funeral Home - Established 1854, Harold D. Unger, 1801 E. New York St., Indianapolis, Ind. - 632-3374

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Saint John Church - CAPITOL and GEORGIA (Across from the Civic Center) Telephone 635-2021. REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE: Saturday-5:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. (Anticipation Masses), Sunday-6:00, 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m., 12:15, 5:30 p.m.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Grid of classified advertisements including Business Services, Termite and Pest Control Service, JOE'S PLUMBING, FURNACE, HOME IMPROVEMENTS, R. JAY CONSTRUCTION CO., and SHEA'S FURNITURE STRIPPING & REFINISHING.

Report from the Chancery

(Continued from Page 1)
could be recruiting volunteers to expand the programs of another.

OFFICE OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION—Total attendance at the Indiana Catholic Education Institute came to 3,089 from throughout the state. Oral and written evaluations indicate extremely positive reception on the part of those who attended. A cash loss of \$3,801.34 must be absorbed by the Office of Catholic Education by prior agreement of the five dioceses which participated. . . . The OCE will present its 1977-78 budget with goals and objectives supporting it to the Archdiocesan board at the January board meeting. An ad hoc budget review committee will be appointed at that time. . . . 192 nominations for the Educational Planning Commission were received by the Archdiocesan board (this represented 178 individuals). Nominations were accepted by 59. The nominating committee of the board has reviewed background material on this number and will recommend 24 to the EPC at the Dec. 21 board meeting. . . . As of December 8, 1976, the Department of Religious Education has received 23 replies regarding the kind of inservice needed for the Youth Ministry Guidelines. Over 50% of the replies indicate the one 3-hour evening session at several locations as their preference. This information will be used in planning the inservice on the Youth Ministry Guidelines. . . . Parish Boards of Education have been sent a report on the certification status of the religion teachers in their parish (school and/or CCD). The purpose of this effort is to encourage the Board's support of the administrator's efforts to promote the continued growth of the religion teachers in the parish. . . . The Religious Education Resource Center booked and distributed the following numbers of AV materials: September—737; October—900;

November—850. These figures indicate the significant increase of the use of AV materials in religious education programs. They also indicate the substantial contribution of the Resource Center to religious education in the Archdiocese. At the present time, 70 parishes and institutions are Resource Center subscribers. . . . Plans are being made for the observance of Catholic Schools Week, February 8-12, 1977. The theme for this year is "Catholic Schools. . . A Plus for America!" Promotional kits are available for \$5.00 each from: Catholic Schools Week, NCEA, and USCC Department of Education, Suite 350, One Dupont Circle, Washington, D.C. 20036. . . . A Steering Committee organized to reorganize the Department of Schools has redefined the scope of accountability of the Department. Once accepted by the administrative staff of the OCE, work will begin on the writing of goals and objectives for the 1977-78 education year. It is from this that the budget for the Department of Schools will be generated. Once finalized by the Department of Schools, the administrative staff will bring together the parts of the budget, the departmental budgets, into the one total budget for the OCE which will be presented to the Archdiocesan Board in January. The Steering Committee will then write job descriptions and seek personnel for the Department of Schools to be hired by March 4, 1977 to assume posts July 1, 1977.

INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE—Social and Moral Issues Committee is meeting regularly to anticipate possible legislative questions in the upcoming session of the general assembly. The volume of potential issues is overwhelming. The committee is currently sorting through the various questions, attempting to provide a rationale for Church in-

volvement in specific questions and identify positions. . . . The current committee shows beginnings of much closer ties between the Catholic Conference and other groups interested in legislation. Such groups are the Indiana Center on Law and Poverty, Legal Services Organization, Indiana Interreligious Commission on Human Equality. . . . The Committee on Continuing Education of Priests is meeting to explore possible roles for the Conference in this area. Of great interest is the impact of the program with Father Vincent Dwyer and its implications. In addition, the committee has been examining offerings at St. Meinrad and at Notre Dame to examine what role the Conference might play in promoting these programs. . . . Ray Rufo, Conference director, is currently visiting respective dioceses to review the redevelopment plan and progress toward greater coordination within the dioceses. . . . Various pro-life groups are beginning to plan for January 22nd, the anniversary of the 1973 Supreme Court Decision. Parish leadership represented at the September Workshop on Respect Life continues to follow-up with local parish presentations.

CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS CENTER—Chuck Schlaef, director, and his staff recently coordinated the 1976 GABRIEL awards banquet in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. This 11th annual event, sponsored by the U.S. organization of Broadcasters and Allied Communicators, brings together industry leaders and religious communication personnel from the United States and Canada as well as religious media leaders from international Protestant and Catholic organizations. More than 300 persons representing more than 40 denominations attended.

—compiled by Fr. Thomas Widner



SCHULTE'S GOLDEN BEARS—Above are the Golden Bears of Schulte High School, Terre Haute, who posted an 8-3 record during the past season to capture the Western Conference championship. Jay Barrett is the head coach.

CYO NOTES

Letters have been mailed to the parish school principals in the Archdiocese to notify them of the Cadet Archdiocesan Basketball Tournament. All teams compete in their respective Diocese Tournament before becoming eligible for competition in the Archdiocesan Tourney.

Miss Jean Kesterson, head volleyball coach at Chataud High School, will conduct a clinic for CYO coaches at 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 19, at St. Andrew, Indianapolis.

Entries for the 1977 Junior CYO Style Show have been mailed and are due no later than Friday, Jan. 7.

Entries for the 1977 Publications Contest are due in the CYO Office by Friday, Dec. 24. The issues of the parish publication to be judged are January, February and March.

CYO 1977 Activity Calendars for Cadet and Junior Activities will be mailed the end of December.

Entry blanks for the Cadet and Junior Archdiocesan Basketball Tournaments have been mailed to Deanery Directors. They are due no later than Friday, Dec. 31.

Four teams are left in Quiz

Four teams enter the semi-final round of the Twenty-Third Annual CYO Criterion Quiz Contest this Sunday, December 19, at 7 p.m.

Our Lady of Lourdes meets St. Catherine's Number One team at St. Catherine, and Holy Trinity matches wits with St. Catherine's Number Two team at Holy Trinity.

In competition last Sunday, Our Lady of Lourdes defeated St. An-100-70.

CYO boxers post two victories

On Saturday, December 11, "Champ" Chaney's CYO Boxers defeated the Ormsby Boys' Club in Louisville, in a ten-bout boxing show. The CYO Boxers who came out on top include: Archie Chambers, second round knock-out; Jessie Dixon, decision; Ronald Simington, decision; Randy Howell, decision; Rodney Brown, decision; William Telfair, first round knock-out.

The boxers then went on to the West Terre Haute Community Center, to compete against the West Terre All-Star Boxers. St. Rita CYO Boxers again came out on top with the following boxers capturing titles, all by decision: Gonzales Glasgow, Ira Hathaway, Jerome Eason, Gary Brown, and Keith Whitaker.

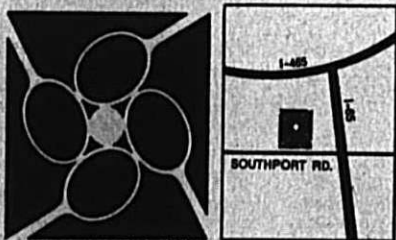
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VIEWING WITH ARNOLD

Pick of the flicks in '76

BY JAMES W. ARNOLD

If 1975 was the year of "Jaws," and 1974 was the year of "The Exorcist" and "The Sting," then 1976 wasn't anybody's year. No movie dominated either the box-office or the American consciousness with comparable clout or presence. It could be argued that two films came close, and were probably on almost everybody's must-see list: the multi-Oscar-winning "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" and that semi-documentary account of the political scandal of the decade, "All the President's Men." Then there was "The Omen," which set the trend for the year's level of taste, which was basically schlocky and bloody. But "The Omen" was only a symptom. "Jaws" and "Exorcist" provided the original thrust.

dealing with them. Defeat was everywhere in 1976 films. In "The Omen" and "Carrie," "Taxi Driver," "Hustle," and "The Next Man," "Two Minute Warning," etc., the dark powers triumph in one way or another. About all we can do, with a kind of sick fascination, is observe the physical cruelties of the combat. We did get to see hands shot off, teeth drilled, football fans trampled, people decapitated by sheets of glass, turned to ash by flamethrowers, necks snapped, hands come out of graves, women spreadeagled and raped, men drowned in excrement. Gallows humor was never too pleasant, but it was healthier than gallows horror.

AMID ALL THE gloom, pessimism, and childish love of shock, there were some bright moments. Here are my picks for the Ten Best, or most worth seeing, movies of the year. As usual, the period covered is roughly from Advent 1975 to Advent 1976, and the list is generally in descending order of preference:

BARRY LYNDON (A-3, PG): Stanley Kubrick earns the top credit, not only for providing aesthetic delight in filming a classic 18th century story totally in the visual style and lighting of the 18th century, but by being so splendidly detached and unemotional in a year when the average level of feeling was wild hysteria.

LIES MY FATHER

TOLD ME (A-3, PG): A beautiful, funny, uplifting memoir of a six-year-old boy's love for his kind and wise grandfather, set in Montreal's Jewish ghetto in the 1920's. The real story of this unforgettable film is the conflict between two visions of life, the theological and the scientific. (Director: Jan Kadar).

ALL THE PRESIDENTS' MEN (A-3, PG): The hard-to-film saga of the heroes of the Washington Post vs. the villains and victims of Watergate, skillfully written and acted under the direction of Alan Pakula. The role model is that of the dogged professional reporter, spinning success from hard work.

STORY OF ADELE H. (A-3, PG): The tragedy of a mad young woman with an awesome capacity for love who is not loved in return. Francois Truffaut takes potentially bizarre, even comic material and plumbs its depths for compassion. Another oasis of artistic detachment in a season of emotional orgies.

SEVEN BEAUTIES (A-4, R): Lina Wertmüller's ironic and often bizarre comic tribute to people who survive the world's horrors by collaborating with them. The sheer vitality and originality, reminiscent of Fellini, redeems its physical excesses and philosophical cynicism.

ROBIN AND MARIAN (A-3, PG): An adult visit to the world's most beloved childhood hero offers a realistic but benevolent and touching perspective. The Merry Men ride, love, and die

again, in their madness, but they do it for the sake of a vision. A note of uplift in a downbeat season. (Director: Richard Lester).

OBSESSION (A-3, PG): The best thriller in a year of thrillers, primarily because its focus is more on love than violence, and it risks a happy ending. Directed with mind-boggling charisma by Brian DePalma.

ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST (A-4, R): Despite tons of reservations, this realist interpretation of Ken Kesey's cult novel is credited for its basic concern for oppressed humanity and affection for the free spirit. Its hero is an unlikely Christ figure, but his sacrifice is liberating. (Directed by Milos Forman).

BAD NEWS BEARS (B, PG): Sports-minded America's will to win the game at all costs is mocked in this lively, raucous, and yet warm comedy about a misfit Little League baseball team. Terrifically entertaining, it's also modestly profound social criticism. (Directed by Michael Ritchie).

CAR WASH (A-3, PG): An odd choice perhaps, but this is a brilliantly organized exploration of people and problems in the ghetto, set in the microcosm of a car wash. It survives borderline taste to celebrate both life and the value of human personality, wherever you find it. (Directed by Michael Schultz).

Close runners-up: "Ode to Billy Joe," "Silent Movie," "The Bingo Long Traveling All-Stars and Motor Kings," "The Clockmaker."

The week's TV network films

THE BICENTENNIAL year was a distressing one for Catholic moviegoers, at least for those who make a connection between their religious and humanistic values and their cinematic tastes. It was a minimal period in movies, for joy, celebration, love, compassion, faith, tenderness and hope. Except in isolated instances, there wasn't even much prophetic judgment and anger, which one might normally expect if the times themselves were bad. Also scarce were role models, characters to admire or inspire, men and women who might suggest new paths out of the wilderness. Much more common were detailed descriptions of the darkness, a flashlight on a disaster here or a monster there, with no sense that "forces of good" (if they existed) were capable of

POCKET MONEY (1972) (CBS, Friday, Dec. 17): An offbeat contemporary western teaming Paul Newman and Lee Marvin as a pair of likeable con-men trying to buy rodeo bulls from smart rancheros in Mexico. The comedy is occasionally delightful, but the total enterprise is too lightweight. Satisfactory for adults and mature youth.

MAME (1974) (NBC, Saturday, Dec. 18): The empty-umth reincarnation of Auntie Mame, this is the film of the musical version. Unfortunately, the catchy Jerry Herman score has been left mostly to non-singers (Lucille Ball, Bea Arthur, Robert Preston), and little effort is expended by anybody to adapt the show intelligently to film. Mame herself is the embodiment of New York moral chic, and

those with deeper sensibilities will find much to offend them. What virtues remain are aimed straight at the mass female audience. Not recommended.

JEREMIAH JOHNSON (1972) (ABC, Sunday, Dec. 19): Sydney Pollack's superbly subtle, gorgeously photographed tale about a 19th century war veteran (Robert Redford) who goes to the mountains to live as a hermit and finds himself constantly confronted by moral responsibilities and choices. Recommended for all but very young children.

TOM SAWYER (1973) (CBS, second part, Tuesday, Dec. 21): This is the musical version of the Twain classic, produced by Reader's Digest and starring Johnny Whitaker as Tom, with Jodie Foster as Becky and a fine adult cast including Celeste Holm and Warren Oates. Despite a tendency to be too cute and obvious, the film has some outstanding moments and is both inventive and faithful in dealing with the well-known story. Recommended for children.

CAHILL, U.S. MARSHAL (1973) (CBS, Wednesday, Dec. 22): A routine, late vintage John Wayne western, in which Duke as an aging overworked lawman pursues and destroys a gang of outlaws as an object lesson in morality for his budding delinquent sons. The film is equally low on sensitivity, smarts and budget. Not recommended.

Talbot Open House set

INDIANAPOLIS — The Board of Directors of Talbot House, a residence for recovering male alcoholics, will sponsor an open house and Christmas party Sunday, Dec. 19, from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. A number of Vietnamese families have been invited to attend this annual party as special guests.

Principal entertainment will consist of a program of Christmas carols by the Singing Knights, under the direction of Joseph F. Doerr. Mopey McGill, the clown, will entertain the children and Dan Crowe with members of his family, known as the Singing Crowes, will lead the guests in a sing-along.

In keeping with the custom for this season of

the year, an oversized whiskey bottle normally used for advertising purposes has been placed in the Talbot House lounge for receiving donations. The proceeds are directed to a worthy charity on a rotation basis.

Children's theatre

CLARKSVILLE, Ind. — Providence High School recently organized a children's theatre group, the Popcorn Players, which is currently putting on a "Traveling Christmas Show." For further information contact the show's director, Rebecca Reiser, at Providence High School, 945-2538.



SPECIAL AUDIENCE—Pope Paul VI greets Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez during a recent special audience in the Vatican. The 45-minute visit was the first by a Venezuelan head of state to the Pope. [NC photo]

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Two Franciscan nuns buried

OLDENBURG, Ind. — Sister Rose Helen Bosse, O.F.M., 85, and Sister Mary Canisia Hittel, O.F.M., 81, died at the Franciscan Motherhouse here. The Mass of Christian burial was celebrated for Sister Rose Helen on Tuesday, Dec. 7, and for Sister Mary Canisia on Thursday, Dec. 9. Sister Rose Helen was a junior high school teacher and principal in parishes in

Ohio before her retirement. There are no immediate survivors. She has two cousins in the congregation: Sister Mary Dumas Bosse of Oldenburg and Sister Mary Roche Bosse of St. Bernard. Sister Canisia was a specialist in primary education and taught for 45 years in St. Louis and in schools in Ohio. Surviving is one sister, Mrs. Alma Gosmeyer, of Duarte, Calif.

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