

## Catholic Alumnae Invited To Join IFCA Unit In April

Rochester Circle, International Federation of Catholic Alumnae opened its annual membership drive on Wednesday, March 31, with a meeting of workers at the Catholic Women's Club. The drive will continue through the month of April.

Mrs. Donald Greenfield, Membership Chairman, says the aim of the workers is to canvas alumnae in this area, eligibility for membership being that one

must be a graduate of an affiliated Catholic high school, academy or college.

**PRIMARY OBJECT** of I.F.C.A. according to Mrs. John J. Mahoney, Regent of the local Circle is to bring together the alumnae of these schools for the purpose of upholding the ideals of Catholic womanhood and extending Catholic education, Catholic literature and Catholic social services; also to strengthen the ties of the various alumnae groups and at the same time share their common interests.

Rochester Circle, I.F.C.A. of area is sponsoring a cultural program carrying out these ideals. A monthly First Saturday Mass and breakfast in annual Mary's Day observance. A Catechism course a closed retreat at the Circle provide members with opportunities to grow in personal sanctity.

In the field of social service, a day's collection is planned for blind, deaf and crippled. The Mission Group collects and mails clothing and medical supplies for domestic and foreign relief and gives financial assistance to domestic and

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foreign missions.  
**THE ANNUAL** College Fair arranged by the Education Committee, enables high school junior and senior girls to secure first hand information about Catholic colleges and to talk with their representatives. A scholarship donation is given Nazareth College as well as a donation to the Optics Fund of the Diocese of Rochester.

The Literature Group sponsors book reviews of appropriate best sellers; donates autographed books to the Sisters' Library of Catholic University; and distributes current novels to shut-ins in local hospitals.

The Motion Picture Committee promotes support of the Legion of Decency and aims to develop an analysis of the entertainment value of motion pictures.

Assisting Mrs. Greenfield are the following Circle members: Misses Esther Cleary, Gloria Connor, Beverly McLaughlin, Marlene Meagher, Jeanne Schneider and Rita Trout; also, Meadames Donald Coffey, Peter Cuiross, James Fahy, John Fitzgibbon, William Fitzpatrick, George Foster, Joseph Gleason, Philip Goetz, John Groden, Daniel Macken, Frank Richardson and Paul Romhaut.

**Bishop Haas** Grand Rapids, Mich. (NC)—The personal papers of the late Bishop Francis J. Haas of Grand Rapids have been turned over to the department of archives and manuscripts of the Catholic University of America in Washington. It has been announced by the Chancery Office here.

### WHAT'S DOING AT THE DAILY'S

## Home Is The Sailor

By Mary Tully Daly

"Johnny's home!" It was like a theme song, backrounding everything at our house. Of course Johnny was a home only for the weekend, a

week-end, a about Navy assignment sending him to the a p p r o x i m a t e vicinity of our town—the approximate vicinity being 300 miles away.

That seems so nothing because, for 15 months, Johnny has really been away—in Japan, Korea, on a carrier in the Pacific, then based on the West Coast where he was joined by his wife and baby.

Too bad that Lu and Baby Lu Anne couldn't come with him, but brief Navy assignments do not include transfer of families.

Our first sight of Johnny was from the visitors' gallery of the airport, as we squinted our eyes and scanned alighting passengers. "There!" I shouted as a blue uniform came down the steps. "Hold on," the Head of the House grabbed my arm. "That's an admiral. Don't kiss him."

Well, the admiral didn't get a kiss but OUR part of the Navy certainly did—one red-headed lieutenant (j.g.). How much water he looked, and older... but there was the same wide grin... and the same Johnny expression: "I'm fine—very fine indeed."

"WHAT YOU CRYING for, Mom?" Johnny teased. "Sorry to have me home?" But I noticed that his Adam's apple rippled up and down a couple of times.

None of us admitted, on the trip to the house from the airport, that we'd been lonesome—not actually. It had been, of course, an unconscious stealing of ourselves to the inevitable. And now it was so good to see those stubby fingers at the old steering wheel again!

As Johnny slithered us in and out of traffic with a sureness of long practice, it seemed like no time at all since we used to scream, "Watch out, Johnny!"

"Old Healy Tower," Johnny said, "and the new gym at Geo. It's good to be back."

"Too bad the weather's so awful," Pat commented. "We ordered a nice day but this is what we got."

"RAIN AND COLD, it's wonderful," Johnny sniffed the damp chill. "I'm sick of perpetual balminess. Say, there's Ray Smith—Hi-ya, Ray!"

Ray responded with a so-what "Hi" and passed.

Ray Smith had gone through grade school with Johnny; they'd never been particularly close friends—but it was one more heartening bond of the same old bearing bond of the same old.

Inside the house, Johnny kept wandering from room to room, talking in everything as though this simple house were an example from HOUSE BEAUTIFUL. "New dining-room rug," he commented. "I like it... new linoleum in the kitchen—nice pattern... Is that the same old trash can Daddy sent me Christmas. Compliments of the City Refuse Department?"

(I knew just how Johnny felt—remembered my first time home after the first year away at college, when even the heat-up old touch was dear because it was part of home.)

"Sure it's good to see you again, Mary," as he swung Ginny up over his head.

"THE GINNY," she said. "Don't you remember me?" "Sure do," he laughed, "but you look just the way Mary used to. Manky and Markie and Bileen—well, they've grown up so much. I wouldn't know 'em. Say..." he looked out the window, "the Kellys have painted their house."

"The Kellys are gone," we reminded him. "The Longs live there now."

### AMONG WOMEN

## Mother Of Sorrows

By Mary Lennon Snyder

Readers of this column in the years that I have written it have frequently commented to me that I rarely write about my family or my personal affairs. I do not do so for a variety of reasons all of which I consider good. Even today, on the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, I, Mrs. Snyder should like to break this custom and write about someone very near to me.

Eight years ago this afternoon, on the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows in 1946, my mother, will chatting with my sister and a dear friend, dropped dead. At the time we were shocked by the suddenness of the blow, but in the ensuing years I have come to see that it was a beautiful death; and I like to think that God spared her a lingering illness because she had been such a good daughter during the four years of my grandmother's last illness and a heroic wife during the prolonged last illness of my father.

But my purpose in writing this is not to extol someone who needs no praise from me, but rather to inquire how I can prove myself a grateful daughter true to the principles she tried to inculcate in my youthful mind.

THIS HAS a universal application because every good mother is a wonderful mother in the estimation of her own children. As adults we sometimes try to analyze the forces which formed our mothers and the influences which moulded them.

But when an individual stands at the base of the Rock of Gibraltar he cannot gauge its size or strength; however as his boat puts out to sea and the intervening distance grows, he can begin to realize the grandeur and strength of the promontory. And so, perhaps, it is with our own families.

visits to the Corbett, to the neighbors, the relatives, to the newspaper office where Johnny had worked.

"If only Lu Anne could have been here, it would have been perfect."

Family reunions—we love 'em!

There were so many changes—and so much the same. His old room, now occupied by Ginny, in it temporarily. The rosebud-looking strange with manager-print curtains instead of the former plain Venetian blinds. Pictures of the third grade and the Brownie troop in place of school pennants. The small blue-painted desk in the place where his big student desk had been.

"Nice of you to let me use your room for the weekend, Mary," he said.

"Ginny!" she giggled.

"mean Ginny." He snapped his fingers. "The old man's memory is weakening."

THEN BEGAN THE telephoning—plans for getting the old gang together that night.



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their patient love of us? **AND WE SHOULD** also turn to the Blessed Mother whose sorrows we commemorate today. This should be pleasing to Our Blessed Lord Who Loved His own mother so much that He gave her to us to love and to emulate that we might all be living memorials of her, "whose heart the sword has pierced."

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