

## Tell Johnny He's Good

Cape Girardeau, Mo. — (NC) — When Johnny does something unusually well in school, tell his parents about it!

That's the advice of a veteran nun educator, Sister Mary Anselm of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. She is coordinator of early childhood education at Fontbonne College in Clayton, Mo., and director of the St. Louis University department of home economics.

Nothing that the things that every child needs first and foremost are affection and trust, she said. Teachers can foster parents' affection for their children.

"How often our parent-teacher conferences do just the opposite," she said. "When a child cooperates day after day, or when he turns in an especially

good assignment, we are far too busy to call his triumph to his parents' attention.

"But let him disrupt the routine one way or another, and it is surprising how promptly we invite the parents in to hear what a young delinquent they have developed.

"As teachers we can accentuate the positive. We can let parents know the good things their child does, however insignificant they may seem. We can encourage parents to enjoy their children. We can and must consciously draw families closer together."

### BOOK SHELF

### American Amen

By Sister Margaret Teresa, Nazareth College

An American Amen: A Statement of Hope, by John LaFarge, S.J., Farrar, Straus & Cudahy '58. 254 pp. \$3.75. Available at Trant's & other bookstores.

This long and friendly conversation on the capacities and hopes of Americans and of everyman, written by the genial founder of the Catholic Interracial Councils, makes a natural sequel to Maritain's "Reflections On America."

Maritain gave us credit for a latent Christianity, for charity, for a generous policy toward all nations, but reminded us that we do not adequately translate ourselves to the world. We give, but we do not give our philosophy—we do not even sufficiently formulate it for ourselves.

Father LaFarge examines with us Part I of his "Amen," "The City and the World," the inner character of the American way, noting that "the eyes of the uncommitted multitude are upon us. . . . They wish to see what we hold as individuals . . . and our public philosophy."

IF WE ARE drifting, if our moral fiber is weakening, still we have what the world longs for, a great concept of freedom and a great practice of it to show. "Here is our most potent weapon; our opportunity; that will not recur, if lost."

In Part II, "The Wind and the Rain," Father LaFarge explains frankly to Mr. American what the wearer of a Roman collar is like, how his mind works, from his Morning Offering (explained) to his Compline said in the last echoes of the city noises.

"Eratres, sobri estotes. . . . Brethren, go easy on the cocktails and tranquilizers, and keep

your eyes open. For the Enemy of human liberty is prowling around the country . . .

Whom do you resist, strong in faith . . . And God, the giver of all grace, will himself give you mastery."

He voices the priest's Amen to all the ways of Mother Church, repeating the explanations he gave on a certain Mr. Wallace's "Night Boat" program, ranging over the events and V.P.'s of our years with the same unpretentious and astonishing grasp and mellowness that breathed from his autobiography, "The Manner Is Ordinary."

Then comes The Mind's Pilgrimage, Part III. You couldn't buy it for money—except in this book! We are privileged to share in a nightlong session (a Four-millies conference?) on the latest and farthest reaches of the mind in the various sciences and disciplines.

FATHER LAFARGE knows thinkers, and presents them here, talking on everything from the limitations of human discourse and the mental filters we all use in listening to each other, up to the possible ways in which our varied human knowledge may be brought into a total anthropology, permitting in future a full mental growth and the real exercise of love.

If you have an ultra-modern questioning friend, here's a University course of answers for him.



Oh Lord! that lends me life

lend me a heart

replete with thankfulness

On the 337th anniversary  
of the first Thanksgiving, Sibley's joins with  
you in giving reverent thanks. May the  
blessings of a Happy Thanksgiving  
be yours in abundance!

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## Mass League Seeks Members

Bishop Kearney's announcement this week that 1959 will be observed as a diocesan wide "Eucharistic Year" came as especially welcome news to over 7,000 members of the Daily Mass League.

The Mass League is a unique organization which boasts "no dues, no meetings, no officers, no promises."

There is only one requirement for membership — "a genuine desire to attend Mass daily and to urge others to do so."

Even shut-ins who are bed-ridden may qualify for membership by their simple "desire" to be at Mass.

The organization has Bishop Kearney's warm approval and in 1957 received Vatican recognition authorizing special spiritual benefits to League members.

Since the League's foundation in 1951, attendance at daily Mass has increased in virtually every parish of the Diocese. Added impetus to the devotion was given by Pope Pius XII's easing of the ancient fast laws for Holy Communion.

Noon-time Masses in downtown Rochester, Auburn and Elmira churches are crowded with office and factory workers, shoppers and housewives who found early morning Masses impossible to attend.

Two Rochester churches have weekday after-work Masses, St. Mary's at 5:15 p.m. and St. Joseph's at 5:25 p.m.

Headquarters of the Daily Mass League is at Our Lady of Victory Church (the "French Church") on Pleasant St., Rochester. League director is the church's rector, Rev. Edward P. Callens, S.S., C.C.

Catholics who would like to enroll in the League or obtain more information about it are invited to mail the coupon below to Father Callens at 10 Pleasant St., Rochester 4, N. Y.

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Please, enroll me as a member of the Daily Mass League.  
Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City and Zone \_\_\_\_\_  
Parish \_\_\_\_\_  
Check here if you desire more information \_\_\_\_\_