

A CALL TO MERCY

Have you heard it? Christ is calling you to the apostolate of mercy as a BROTHER OF MERCY, to nurse the sick in hospitals, infirmaries and private homes, or practice a trade or other domestic work necessary for the welfare of the Community. The Brothers are engaged in works of mercy in the U.S.A., Germany, England and the mission fields of Africa. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Save your soul the mercy way. For information write REVEREND BROTHER PROVINCIAL.

BROTHERS OF MERCY
RANSOM ROAD
CLARENCE, NEW YORK

DOINGS AT THE DALY'S

By Mary Daly-Daly

"Christmas depression" is a phrase we had not heard until a year or so ago. However, it seems to be a common phenomenon.

"I always suffer the Christmas blues," a friend says. "I'd like to go to sleep December 24 and not wake up until the 26th."

"Christmas is fine for other people," another friend said. "For myself, I want to forget all about it."

Have we been so wrapped up in our own "good will" feeling in our snug little world of family, school, club and church activities that we fail to see beyond the periphery of the hereabouts, the parish, the neighborhood and community?

We asked other friends.

A newspaper reporter: "Ever notice the December 25 papers? The guys assigned to Christmas beats have a sorry lot of report-

WHEN A FAMILY is young, traditions are being built the closest as it were. Tot are taught of the birth of Christ - and that the presents are but the symbol of His love of mankind. Young parents get the small fry off to bed as early as possible, struggle with the tree, with assembling intricate toys, arrange for everybody to get to Mass. Bone tired, Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus grope their way upstairs, to be awakened by the joyous, "Santa Claus came!"

In an older family, things are not so hectic. Traditions have been set.

This is when we can look beyond our own thresholds, see the countless men and women suffering from "Christmas depression."

What to do?

For one thing, a good hunting ground is the oft-suspected and generally criticized "office party." With everybody on a friendly basis, those to whom this is the only touch of Christmas will generally reveal that hidden loneliness. An invitation to Christmas dinner at home can be a godsend for one far from his or her own home. Can you imagine anything bleaker than a restaurant Christmas dinner alone?

Pre-Christmas activities for the normal family include visits to orphanages, donating to baskets for the poor — those poor we never see. It also means giving a bit to holders of tin cups on the streets as we do our shopping, perhaps a visit to a home for the aged — days before Christmas so that it won't "interfere" with our own enjoyment of the day by sad reminders of those who will never again enjoy Christmas as we know it.

OTHER CONTACTS: those who join in this giving, sublimating their own loneliness, and those whom we visit . . .

"The Little Match Girl" is a tear-jerker of classical proportions, a play we have all seen. However, there are "Little Match Girls," boys — of all ages. With a little effort — sometimes only a telephone call — we can help them.

There are those bereaved with in the past year, the ill, the aged.

Let's not forget that there is "Christmas depression" — very real, and all too common.

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COURIER JOURNAL
Friday, December 19, 1958 3-A

Christmas Music Set At Museum

Christmas music by early 14th century composers will be presented in a candlelight concert in the Fountain Court of the Memorial Art Gallery on Sunday, Dec. 21, at 4 p.m.

The Rochester Madrigal Singers and Players, directed by Hal Hoffman and Mrs. Elizabeth Zuehlke will appear in medieval costume in the traditional "turntable" fashion of the early madrigals, with flute, oboe recorder, violin, viola da gamba and harpsichord accompaniment. The public is invited.

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Remember Your Dead

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Christmas Films At Museum

A program of Christmas films in color will be shown at Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences on Sunday, Dec. 21, at 3 p.m.

One film presents the "Song of Christmas" from many lands and the story of the Nativity; another shows creative ways of making Christmas tree ornaments and the third film, "The Night Before Christmas," dramatizes Clement Moore's famous poem.

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Six Days Till Christmas

By Mary Lennon Snyder

LADY OF Mt. CARMEL. There are also the Oblates of St. Benedict:

SINCE THESE constitute a way of life, profession, or membership, in Third Order is not to be entered into lightly. The chapter generally sets a period of Novitiate during which the individual has an opportunity to learn about the Order and to decide whether or not he wishes to become a member.

Another, less spiritual, growth is The Total Consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary, frequently referred to as the DeMontfort Way.

Almost any pamphlet Jack has a booklet explaining this way of life which consists of offering ourselves and all we possess to Mary. If you are unable to find material on this method, highly praised and blessed by several Pontiffs, information may be secured from the DeMontfort Fathers Bay Shore Long Island.

At this season of the year when we honor the Word made flesh, when we recall the work of our redemption and the all important part played by the Mother of God, we should examine and carefully study any method or approved practice which will tend to bring us closer to Mary and Her Divine Son.

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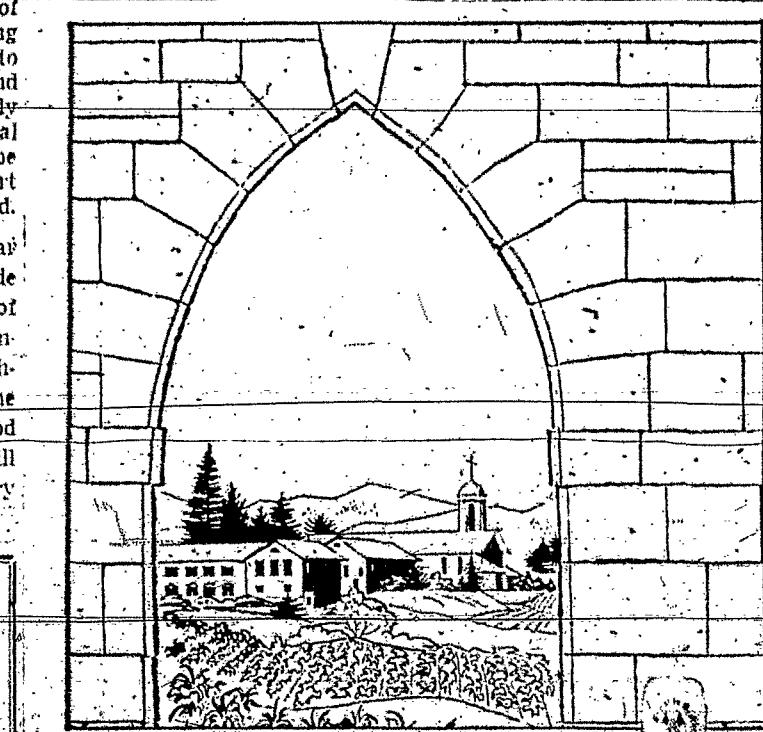
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