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... project of the...
... of Christmas...
... Joseph Costello...
... chairman of the...
... Mrs. Paul Bren...
... group; Miss Carol...
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... Plans, the Water...



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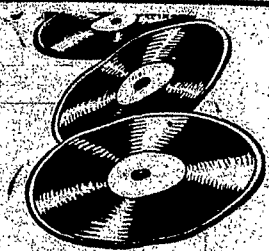
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... Magnolia,

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... SUNDAYS



Turntable Talk

Religious

By JOSEPH McLELLAN

Francis Poulenc: Dialogues des Carmelites, Opéra in three acts; text from the play of Georges Bernanos; Denise Duval, Denise Scharley, Régine Crespin, Rita Gorr, Liliane Berion, Xavier Dupraz, Paul Finkel, etc.; Orchestra and chorus of the Théâtre National de l'Opéra de Paris, conducted by Pierre Dervaux; leader René Duclos; Sung in French (Angel 5585 C/L, 3 LPs).

On July 17, 1794, during the French Revolution's Reign of Terror, 16 nuns from the Carmel of Compiègne were executed for "counter-revolutionary activities." The story of these victims of the guillotine, who



... were beatified in 1906, gives a somewhat fictionalized background to the opera. The chief character, Blanche de la Force, suffers from an excess of timidity, but in a highly dramatic scene at the end she finds courage to accept martyrdom with her companions.

"Dialogues des Carmelites" is one of those rare operas that combine a libretto of high literary quality with music that is scrupulously faithful to the spirit of the words. Poulenc's setting undresses the fine prose of Bernanos, never obstructing the text and exaggerating its dramatic effect only once or twice in the whole composition. Those whose operatic tastes have been formed on 19th-century models, either in the Wagnerian or the Italian manner, will find that the excesses of both forms have given way, here, to a more concentrated, straightforward style.

Poulenc's orchestration is powerful, but he eliminates the orchestral dominance of the Wagnerian style, limiting the instruments to their proper operative functions; supporting the voices during the action, and conveying the atmosphere of the next scene during the interludes.

The vocal beauty of the music is consistently high, but the composer avoids showstopping arias of the type that ravished the ears of our forefathers. Those in search of the merely pretty will find only partial satisfaction; the object of this opera is beauty, something quite different and much superior. Nothing is allowed to distract attention from the fact that a musical drama is in progress.

There are magnificent scenes throughout the opera, but they are eclipsed by the tremendous conclusion. One by one, the Carmelites, condemned to death, march to the guillotine, singing the Salve Regina. The first stroke of the guillotine strikes the listener with the force of a physical blow; the chorus of nuns steps for a shocked moment, then picks up the hymn again with greater strength than before. The hymn continues to the end, with the guillotine stroke removing the singers, one by one, until a single voice is left—cut off in the middle of a syllable.

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Aquinas Orator Wins In 'Optimist' Contest

Paul C. Reiter, Aquinas Institute sophomore, won first place trophies in both the city and regional finals of the annual Optimist Club oratorical contest.

Paul, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Reiter of Holy Rosary parish, spoke his way to victory over seven finalists at the Sheraton Hotel on April 15, to win the city championship.

JOSEPH MANGINI of McQuaid took second place and Michael Carroll of Aquinas came in third. All contestants spoke on the topic, "Optimism."

Reiter also captured first place in the regional finals held at Lockport, N. Y., on April 19. He will now compete in the State finals at Endicott, N. Y., on May 3.

Immaculate Holds Brownie Ceremony

Brownie Troop 518 of Immaculate Conception School held a fly-up ceremony, Monday afternoon, April 20.

Margaret Flannery, Arleta Ghee, Rita Haring, Dorothy Henry, Linda Lauth, Barbara Merritt, Margaret Murray, Kathleen O'Keefe, Joyce Reimann, Kathleen Reisinger, Catherine Smith, Edith Stewart, Sandra Van Darn, and Linda Ward received their wings from Mrs. Francis Smith, leader and Mrs. Frank Reineman, assistant leader.

The girls were invested and received their Girl Scout pins from Mrs. Charles Young and Mrs. Harold Quinn, leaders of Girl Scout Troop 20.

All-Time High Reported In Camp Registration

Camp Stella Maris reports that nearly 700 boys and girls have registered for the 1959 season. Camp officials are predicting the largest registration in the 34 year history of the diocesan camp on Conesus Lake.

TWO ENCAMPMENTS (July 12-25 and Aug. 16-22) have been filled to capacity and are accepting boys and girls on a waiting list. There are a few places remaining in the Aug. 2-15 encampment for girls and in the July 22-Aug. 1 encampment for boys.

Younger boys, especially 8 year olds, may still register for the June 21-27 encampment, a time especially adapted for the young campers. Encampment "B" (June 28-July 11) has vacancies for boys age 8-15.

GEORGE WYANT of St. Bernard's Seminary is head counselor for the boys, assisted by a staff of 24 seminarians. Miss Marcia MacAdam is returning as director for the girls' camp and will supervise a staff of 24 teachers, college girls and high school seniors.

Camp registration has been established at 150 campers per encampment with a ratio of 1 counselor to every 6 campers.

Rev. Eugene H. McFarland is executive director and resident chaplain.

Parents are urged to register immediately by writing or calling Miss Joan Staffieri, camp secretary, 50 Chestnut Street (4), BAKER 5-7400 Ext. 1.

Parish Group Sponsors Tour To New England

The Eucharistic League of Holy Family Church, Rochester has planned a weekend bus trip to Boston, leaving on Friday, May 1 and returning Sunday, May 3.

Group will tour historic and educational Boston, Charleston, Cambridge and Brookline. They will also visit Sturbridge Village, a reconstructed New England Village.

Anyone interested in further information or making reservations is asked to call Ruth Friday, FAirview 8-1693 today.

"The Golden Hour of the Day"
DAILY NOON MASS 12:10 P.M.
Afternoon Mass
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 5:30 P.M.
CORPUS CHRISTI CHURCH
East Main at Prince St.

Fashion Show Highlights St. Agnes Students' Work

Spring at St. Agnes High School brings the annual Fashion Show on Friday, April 24, of dresses, skirts and blouses, and suits made by members of the Home Economics Department.

Sophomores, juniors, and seniors will model their own creations on the stage of the school auditorium for the student audience.

KATHLEEN McCUSKER, senior Home Economics student, will act as narrator.

According to Sister Teresa Edwards, Home Economics department head, three faculty members, Sisters Joseph Eileen, Eustace and Maria, have been asked to judge the entries and decide the prize-winning outfit. Decision will be based on workmanship and the appearance of the finished product.

Prizes will be of a nature to further the recipients in their needlecraft ventures.



More Club Slates Dance

St. Thomas More Club of St. Andrew Parish will hold its "Blue Hawaii" dance at the church hall, 501 Portland Ave., on April 25 from 8:30 p.m. until midnight.

Mike Russo's orchestra will play. Admission is \$1.00 per person. Mros is chairman.

Pledge \$10,300
Niagara University, N.Y. members of the senior class at Niagara University have subscribed \$10,300 to the university's Development Drive.

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