

Rochester Missioner Feeds

Souls and Tummies

The social drinkers are a greater menace than commonly believed as their critical judgment is impaired with a fairly low alcohol concentration and they outnumber the obviously intoxicated drivers.

A Rochester priest in Bolivia was eaten "out of house and home" as a result of his all-out drive to bring youngsters of his mountain parish to First Communion.

For most of the children it was not only their First Communion but the first time they went to Mass, said the Rosary, attended Benediction and went to Confession.

Biggest problem was getting food supplies to the remote mission outpost to feed the children, Father Courneen said. "But it was a pleasure to do it for the boys and girls so badly in need of spiritual nourishment."

Father James P. Courneen, a Maryknoll missioner, is the son of Mrs. Frank Courneen and the late Mr. Courneen, 54 Rugby Ave.

White suits and dresses were borrowed from other parishes for the First Communion rite climaxing each week of instructions.

"We gave them good food all week and then we gave them the Best Food," he stated.

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HIS SOLUTION to provide the children with food for their souls created another problem—food for their tummies.

Dutch Priests Propose Changes In Church Rites

Fashioners live scattered miles apart and separated from the mission by ravines and raging streams. Children could not be trusted to make the hazardous trip so Father Courneen invited parents to bring their youngsters to live a week at the mission center.

The Hague — (NC) — Increased use of vernacular languages in Catholic worship would be a big contribution toward bringing people closer to the Word of God, according to two Dutch priests who are prominent in the movement for Christian unity.

Father Thijsen told the congress that rubrics should be changed so that the whole of the Mass is recited by the priest audibly and clearly. He indicated that the present requirement for the prayers of the Canon of the Mass to be recited in a low voice hinders the full participation of the congregation in the Mass.

A total of 775 promptly enrolled, ranging in age from 7 to 16.

This was far beyond the center's capacity so groups up to 160 were admitted each week. Eight weeks were needed to complete the program.



D-P's Christmas Pageant

Talpet — (RNS) — Maryknoll Sister Mary Rosalia of Altoona, Pa., arranges the cast of characters for a parish Christmas play on Formosa. Christmas in this World Refugee Year finds many such youngsters, who have fled from Communist terror, bravely enduring their present state of living.

Church, Reds Team Up To Fight Alcoholism

Warsaw — (RNS) — Tribute was paid to the "good work" of Catholic organizations in combatting alcoholism in Communist Poland by the Warsaw Radio in a broadcast exhorting all Poles to join in a national campaign against the evil.

The broadcast stressed that the consumption of alcohol in Poland is now the highest in Europe. It said excessive drinking annually costs thousands of lives lost in brawls, road accidents, fires caused by drinkers, and innumerable crimes committed under the influence of alcohol.

Although generally applauding the station's denunciation of alcoholism, commentators here said it was "somewhat hypocritical," since the government has a complete monopoly in the production, distribution and sale of alcohol throughout Poland.

ANNOUNCING that new laws aimed at curbing alcoholism will be passed during the next session of the Polish parliament, the broadcast said, "We have had enough of tolerance and drunkenness. We demand severe measures against alcoholism and severe punishment of the guilty."

The new legislation, the Warsaw Radio said, will include compulsory forced labor and medical treatment for drunkards.

Cabrini Unit Slates Parties
Mrs. Thomas J. McCarthy, chairman of the Mother Cabrini Committee, announces a tentative date of Sunday, Dec. 20 for Christmas parties to be given in several local convalescent homes and to a few individual people confined to their homes. Nativity sets and refreshments will be given. ALL MEMBERS will attend Mass Dec. 22, in their respective churches in honor of the feast day of their patron saint, St. Francis Xavier Cabrini.

Triduum Set At St. Anthony's

A triduum in preparation for the Feast of Christmas will open in St. Anthony Church, Elmira, on Monday, Dec. 21 at 7.30 p.m.

The Rev. Neil Boyle, O.F.M., will conduct the services.

Solemn closing will be on Wednesday evening and daily Masses will be celebrated each morning at 7, 7.30 and 8.

Sodalists To Visit Nursing Homes

Members of the High School Sodality of St. Anthony parish, Elmira, have arranged to visit Elmira area Nursing Homes on Tuesday evening of next week. The Sodalists will bring gifts to the patients and entertain with singing Carols.

Hibernians

Slates Party

The Msgr. John J. Lee Division, Ancient Order of Hibernians, will hold its annual pre-Christmas party Saturday night, Dec. 19, at 8 in the Green Room of Columbus Center.

Awards for attendance during 1959 will be made.

Robert L. Pautz is general chairman, with John P. Allen and James F. Larkin serving as co-chairmen.

Special holiday studies by the National Safety Council showed that 55% of the Christmas season fatal traffic accidents involved a drinking driver.

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