



Gift To Mercy Hospital

FLOWER GUILD of Mercy Hospital held its annual banquet at Auburn Golf and Country Club recently and presented a check to the hospital for \$800. Left to right: Sister Joseph Gilmary, principal at St. Mary's School, speaker; Sister Joan Alice, hospital administrator; Francis J. Gormley, president of the hospital advisory board; and Mrs. Thomas F. Ferguson, president of the guild, as she presents the check.

John E. Caufield Rites Father of Three Nuns

Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence B. Casey gave the final Absolution and Rev. William C. Sisson, at Funeral Mass for John E. Caufield in St. Monica's Church, Friday, May 15.

Mr. Caufield of 56 Earl St., father of three Sisters of Mercy, died May 12, 1964. He was a member of the Nocturnal Adoration Society and of St. Monica's Holy Name Society.

THE SOLEMN Requiem Mass was celebrated by Rt. Rev. Msgr. Gerald C. Lambert assisted by

Rev. Gerald E. Dunn, Deacon, and Rev. William C. Sisson. Also in attendance were the Right Reverend Monsignors Charles V. Boyle, Leo V. Smith and the Reverend Fathers James Slattery, William Nolan, Joseph Donovan and Elmer McDonald.

Surviving are his five daughters, Sister Mary Benedict, R.S.M., Sister Mary Scholastica, R.S.M., Sister Mary Janet, R.S.M., Mrs. Edward (Mary E.) Tydings, Mrs. James (Patricia) Quigley; four sons, John J., Thomas E., Edward F. and Daniel E. Caufield, 28 grandchild-

COURIER-JOURNAL Thursday, May 21, 1964

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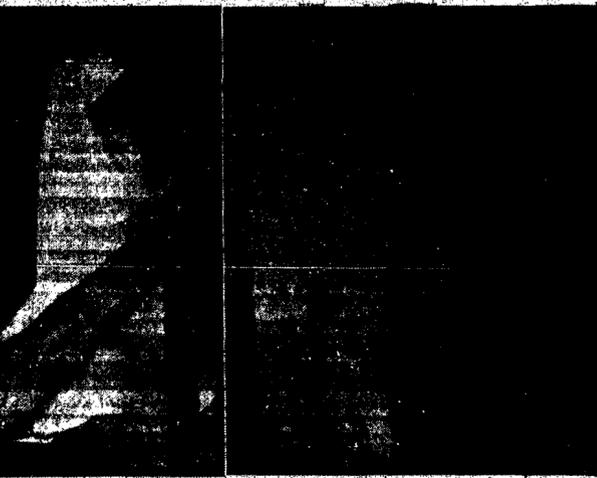
Nun-Student Repeats Vows Far From India Homeland

Sister Selka, S.I.C. of Trivandrum, South India, renewed her vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience for three years, Wednesday, May 6, in the Motherhouse chapel of the Sisters of Mercy.

Sister Selka's profession was made during the Community Mass just before Holy Communion. Mother Mary Bride, Mother General of the Sisters of Mercy, was delegated by Mother Maxa, Mother General of the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, to witness the written and vocal profession of Sister Selka's vows. Sister has lived under these vows for the past three years; at the end of the present temporary profession she will be free to renew them for life.

Together with her companion, Sister Edith, S.I.C. who renewed her vows last year, May 6, Sister Selka has been a student at Catherine McAuley College since September, 1962. Two more Indian sisters, also from the state of Kerala, will enroll in Catherine McAuley College next September.

SISTER SELKA and Sister Edith belong to a Pontifical Congregation which was founded in 1925. Originally members of the Jacobite rite, trained under Anglican religious, the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception converted to Catholicism in 1930. They now belong to



SISTER SELKA, Indian nun studying at Catherine McAuley College, renews her vows in Mercy Motherhouse Chapel and later receives congratulations from Mother Bride.

the Syro-Malankara rite, which is in union with Rome. The conversion of the sisters, together with the priests of the Order of the Immaculate Conception, and eleven lay people took place under the authority of Archbishop Mar Ivanios; all pronounced their affiliation with Roman Catholicism on the same day. Sister Selka's family belonged to the Marthoma Church until she was eight years old, at which time her father, P. O. Abraham, was instrumental in converting many Marthomites to Catholicism. He has worked with 130 families in the process of converting to the Catholic Church; together with his wife, Mrs. Annamma Abraham, he is still actively engaged in this apostolic work. Both are teachers. Mr. Abraham is an instructor in Malayalam in a private secondary school and Mrs. Abraham teaches in a public elementary school. Asked to comment on the differences between Indian and American religious life, Sister Selka said, "The active religious of India are more like the cloistered religious of America, in my opinion. In this country, priests and sisters are closer to the people's needs, in more direct public contact, than in India. I can see now that this is possible without sacrificing the intensity of one's spiritual life. I hope that when I return to



Area Prison Chaplains Confer

DIOCESAN PRIESTS who serve as chaplains at correctional institutions in area, confer at Eastern Regional Meeting of American Correctional Chaplains Association at Hotel New Yorker, New York City. They are: (from left) Rev. Jerome F. Schifferl, Reception Center, Elmira; Rev. Clarence W. Gardner, Auburn Prison; Rev. James P. Collins, Elmira Reforma-

tory. They heard James Hutchens, representative at Children's Court for Archdiocese-Catholic Charities; Lt. Robert Schurr, Narcotics Bureau, New York Police Department. Narcotic problem presentation was made through Deputy Chief Inspector Patrick J. McCormick, head of Narcotics Bureau.

Former Elmiran Given Mother Of Year Title

Mrs. Peter Plante, former Elmiran now of White River Junction, Vermont has been named Catholic Mother of the year of that State. Mrs. Plante, the daughter of Howard Donahue and the late Anna Donahue of 1165 Charles Street, Elmira, attended St. Mary's grammar school, Southside high school, Elmira College and also graduated from the Arnot Ogden Hospital School of Technology.

THE MOTHER of 11 children, seven girls and 4 boys, Mrs. Donahue despite all the demands on her time in the care of her family, teaches catechism at her parish church.

A brother, Edward Donahue resides on Charles Street, Elmira.

Fisher Receives Chemistry Grant

Very Rev. Charles J. Lavery, president of St. John Fisher College, announced this week that the college has received a grant of \$3,140.00 from the National Science Foundation for support of an "undergraduate institutional equipment program" in the Department of Chemistry. The college will match the fund and the grant will be under the direction of Dr. Aleksy Sirotenko, director of the school's chemistry department.

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