

Annunciation Pastor

**Prepares Marriage Course**

First Date — Kissing — Poking — Going Steady... would seem unlikely subjects for discussion when one meets the urbane and handsome Monsignor Albert L. Simonetti, pastor of the Church of the Annunciation.

But these are serious subjects to our young people and Monsignor is a pastor aware of their needs.

These topics and many others make up a study manual entitled "High School Course on Marriage"

that Monsignor Simonetti began to compile twenty years ago when he was administrator of St. Anthony's Church, Elmira.

IT WAS AIMED at high school seniors attending public schools and its purpose of 1944 remains the same as it is today.

While a vacation to the priesthood or to the convent is accompanied by years of preparation, the equally important vocation to the married state receives comparatively little.

Monsignor said. The marriage course is an attempt to fill that void.

Now in its fourth revision, the book encompasses more than 100 instructions in preparing for marriage but what Monsignor prefers to call a course in "life."

The twenty original pages now have grown to 61 — a growth made necessary, according to Monsignor, by the new and varied subjects brought up by the students themselves.

On some of his weekly classes with 30 to 40 high school seniors, a topic such as "The Miracle of Birth" (one of their favorites) will initiate a barrage of questions and ideas that will fill the entire class time.

The new edition of the course on marriage has been mimeographed by Monsignor Simonetti and his part-time secretary, Mrs. Alice Reiter, and is now being prepared for the diocese.

As to the success of the course, Monsignor has had proof many times both from parents and students. It is not uncommon for young couples to come to the pastor and praise the value of the course during the formative years of marriage.

Golden Jubilee Noted

**Retreat Center Drive Readied**

Bishop Kearney will mark the golden jubilee of the laymen's retreat movement in the Rochester Diocese by launching a campaign for a permanent retreat center, by launching a campaign for a permanent retreat center, by launching a campaign for a permanent retreat center.

Nearly 200 men from parish retreat leagues throughout the 12-county Diocese will attend. It will be the special gifts committee kickoff in a drive among retreatants for a minimum of \$500,000.

Funds are being sought for construction of a new Notre Dame Retreat Center on a 50-acre site on Canandaigua Lake, to replace facilities at 246 Alexander St., Rochester.

It was in the Summer of 1914 that a group of laymen gathered at St. Bernard's Seminary for the first weekend retreat. These were continued at the

West Lake Road, Canandaigua. A review of figures shows the growth of the retreat movement in its 50-year history.

During the 28 years of one-yearly retreats at the seminary, the number of annual retreatants ranged from 80 to 200 men. This number was tripled during the eight-year period at Geneva, totaling 628 retreatants in 1959.

At Alexander Street the total rose to 3,400 for 1963 — an increase of nearly 450% in the last 14 years.

In a projection over the next few years, it is estimated that the present number can be doubled to a total of more than 7,000 yearly. This is based on the greater capacity and desirability of the proposed new center, the increasing realization of the value of closed retreats, of the promotion of midweek and couples' retreats, and the growing ease of transportation.

The laymen's retreat movement in the United States began about 70 years ago. What was then a little-known and unpracticed religious exercise practiced by a small number of Catholics soon has grown until currently there are more than 350,000 men in 180 retreat houses in all parts of the nation who draw apart from their families, their work and their pleasures for 40 hours of prayer and meditation.

In any history of the movement, the story of the men of the Rochester Diocese comprises an impressive chapter. They now are being asked to add a new phase — construction of a permanent retreat center.

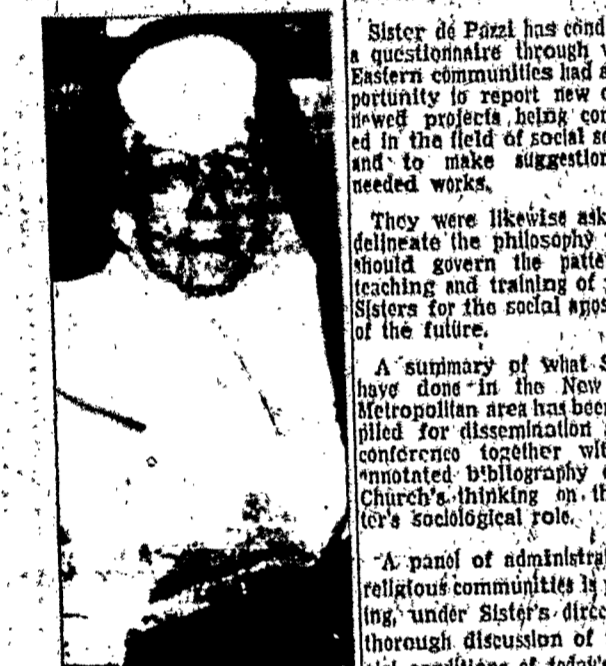


MONSIGNOR SIMONETTI types notes for the current revision of his "High School Course on Marriage" in the rectory office at Annunciation parish.

**Sister Formation Group Served By McAuley Dean**

Sister Mary de Pazzi of the Rochester Sisters of Mercy, as a member of the planning committee of the Sister Formation Conference, Eastern Region, will go to New York for a two-day conference, Oct. 25 and 26.

As chairman of the Socio-Ethical Committee, one of six committees preparing for the biennial conference, Sister de Pazzi is charged with the responsibility of investigating the



SISTER MARY DE PAZZE

future role and training of sisters for the social apostolate. The theme of the entire conference to be held in February, 1965, is the study of factors of change needed or noted as a result of the future training of sisters.

One hundred eighty religious communities will be represented at the conference by mothers, general mistresses, deans, and supervisors.

MOTHER MARY Heidi, Mother General of the Rochester Sisters of Mercy, will be in charge of the conference.



WORKING THE MIMEOGRAPH is one of the many steps in readying Monsignor Simonetti's book for the use of high school seniors in his parish.

**Ithaca Knights Hold Degree, Honor Rites**

Immediately following the Council meeting of Ithaca Council No. 277, Knights of Columbus, a First Degree was held for a class of candidates, on Sept. 10.

This class was known as the Thomas Solan Class. HASAN, 63 years; Bernard Clynch, 52 years; Joseph Driscoll, 50 years; Richard O'Brien, 50 years; Thomas Solan, 50 years.

He is a Past Grand Knight, former District Deputy and delegate to the State Convention a number of times. He has also been a delegate to the Supreme Convention, has held every office in Council No. 277 and is currently Council Treasurer, State Auxiliary Chairman of C. & B. and Chairman of the Mohawk Conference. He is also Past Faithful Navigator of the Fourth Degree Assembly.

Ithaca Council No. 277 honored its Old Elms at a dinner served in the Knights of Columbus Home at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday evening, Sept. 20.

Special honor was paid to honorary life members: George



PART-TIME SECRETARY, Mrs. Alice Reiter, who typed the new edition, helps Monsignor prepare his sixty-one pages for the bindery.

**Mrs. Tudi, Custodian, Honored at Immaculate**

Ithaca — Mrs. Angelina Tudi of 109 West Seneca Street, Ithaca was honored at a surprise celebration Tuesday evening, September 15th, at Immaculate Conception School, marking her

15th anniversary as a faithful and devoted employee of the parochial school — 13 years during which she has never missed a day's work due to illness. Attending the celebration were all the Sisters of St. Joseph who staff the school, and Rev. William Flynn, assistant pastor of Immaculate Conception Church.

It was on September 15, 1951 that Miss William Byrne, then pastor of Immaculate Conception Church called on Mrs. Tudi to assist in the custodial work of the classrooms at the school for a few days. The few days became a few weeks and Miss Byrne realized he could use her services permanently, and she readily agreed.

Her present duties include complete cleaning and care of the lunchrooms, the office, the new lounge, and the laboratories. She averages about six hours a day. Previous to reaching the age of 65, nearly five years ago, she was employed longer hours and her duties then included the cleaning of the classrooms.

Mrs. Tudi was born in Province of Pesaro, Italy on December 22, 1894, and came to America when she was 21 years old. Her first home in the new country was Boston, where she lived in her daily labor at Immaculate Conception School.



Mrs. Angelina Tudi, veteran employee of Immaculate Conception School in Ithaca, was surprised by an anniversary party in her honor. Sister Clare Frances, principal, and Father William Flynn, assistant pastor of Immaculate Conception Church, seem to be enjoying the occasion as much as Mrs. Tudi.



**NCCW Panel Discussion Held In Waverly**

"Understanding our Fellowmen" was the topic of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Panel Discussion held at St. James School Hall, Waverly on Sunday, Sept. 13. Panelists (from left): Rev. James F. O'Connell of Watertown, N.Y.; Mr. Romualdo Tadens, Cornell University student from the Philippines; Miss Eva Ferris, moderator; Rev. Otto Vogt, Elmira; and Rev. Chester Klock, Auburn.

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