Our Sisters in Brazil Mark First Anniversary

By FATHER EDWARD J. BARRETT, O.M.I.

"To part is to die a little," says the French phrase expressing neatly a deepfelt human happening. But, to die is the presage and promise of a new flowering life — here in nature and hereafter in super-

So, when the community and friends of the Sisters of St. Joseph packed Sacred Heart Cathedral a short twelve months ago to assist at the departure ceremony of their first missionary group to Latin America, they naturally felt the parting

Tear-filled eyes watched as Sisters Rose Alma, Michael Marya, Adelaide, Annice and Regis filed to the altar to humbly kneel and accept the invitation of their Divine Mas ter to carry His light to the neglected harvest fields of central Brazil.

Admiring hearts beat fast as one by one the Sisters accepted their mission cross from Bishop Kearney and faced the unknown challenges offered by a strange land with its teeming millions of parched souls.

From the daily grind of convent life the view of the Bra-zilian mission is beautiful. The image is that of a group of cheery young Sisters who twelve months ago packed their bags and hurried unselfishly to join in the religious struggle of Latin America, But, as so often happens, the image is glossier than the reality. The glories are few and the going tough. Honors and rewards are not the goal of this expedition.

Frei Domingus, O.F.M., vicar general for the Diocese of Jatai, and Sister Rose Alma, superior of the Brazil mission.

tween a noble idea, no matter kingdom is not of this world." | Brazilian operation has been a

When the Sisters of St. Jo seph accepted the invitation of that idea in practice. It has been a tough twelve months since that historic de-Dom Benedito Coscia, O.F.M. tical, realistic, down-to-earth parture ceremony on August 13, after saying good-bye to family 400 children (7-16 age group). life of promise for thousands to work in his diocese of Jatai, terms. Were it the idea of just 64. But partly because it has and friends, the Sisters were Sister Adelaide travels to near of Brazilians. It has been a they were by no means swept worldly expedition and con-been tough, the reality is more immersed in an intensive Portu-by Canal Sao Simao every year of progress — a year fill-As Mother Agnes Cecilia said continue. But, Our Divine Mas popular image. By any reason-"There's a great difference be ter has assured us that His able standard, the St. Joseph hours a day sive days a week,

they suffered until they became really proficient. eaded towar-ds the relatively unknown interior of Brazil and

group of seven Irish Oblate Missionaries who had arrived the previous year to become the Corps volunteer in Eastern Nifirst resident priests in the geria range from modest luxury A public reception awaited N.Y., who is teaching English

plenty of enecouragement and assurance. For facing the Sis-

ahead in the months that fol-lowed. The weeks passed quick-hot water to take a shower.

fine over-all sauccess.

Less than Ewenty-four hours

the Sisters in the local theatre and French in a rural school where hundreds of smiling Bra- in the African bush country. zilians gathered to catch a glimpse of these strange ladies

warm wellcome and offer life ters was the wigorous challenge ury - he has his own small of the mission, which they achouse, a 4-room cinderblock af-cepted with the same faith and fair, complete with a combinaoptimism as the first mestion houseboy - cook - laun-

ly. So, too, did their first Christmas in the boiling heat Northrup likes his work,

with the lack of power, super-care of the recently founded markets and modern appli Ginasio (secondary) with Faances. The trials and hazards ther Jeremias Donovan, O.M.I. presented by red, dusty roads,

the imagination.

of Sisters in Brazil.

churned to quagmires with tor-rential rains, must be left to front, diminutive Sister Annice from St. Joseph's Hospital is dynamic in her efforts to com-By February the Sisters were bat sickness, hunger and povready to enter the public erty. Already she is responsible schools. Weeks of home visita- for two clinics in Mateira and tion with the Legion of Mary Canal Sao Simao. Tirelessly she had helped them win the hearts devotes herself four days per and confidence of the people week to clinic work. The re-It is interesting to note that there are no parochial schools in the parish. The Fathers had and needy. On Sundays she orbecome Directors of the govern-ganizes and supervises the disment schools at primary and tribution of food and clothes secondary levels, thus afford donated by Catholic Relief ing them the opportunity of re-Services. igious organization and influ-

ence without involving them in The transformation in the life the tremendous financial bur- of Mateira is nothing short of den of building their own phenomenal since the arrival schools. In no other way could of the Sisters. Even the most they have so surely and swiftly bigoted die-hard could hardly reached the hearts of the fail to recognize the wonderful change for the better. The This is what the Sisters of signs are everywhere, commer-St. Joseph have "inherited." In cially, socially and religiously. the short space of a few months

"A healthier place to live

they have direct contact with all the children of the area — in since your arrival" is how doing the greatest amount of an old pioneer puts it. "Your arrival" is hopen a civil good in the least possible time space. Their work is a marked lizing influence — a taming of contrast to the traditional role down and building their homes. There is promise of a brighter For centuries Sisters and future for their children. The convent education have been educational program under synonymous with the "privil- your direction is leading to eged few" - a system which the disciplining of an undishas lamentably failed to pro-ciplined people. And the 'law duce good lay leaders in the of the wild is giving place to Church. This latest break-away a recognition of rights and duty is significant because it in- - of man's place in society."

volves fewer nersonnel, work-This is fair testimony to the ing with greater potential and reaching the mass of the st. Joseph. Their parting in August, 1964 from their family Sisters Michael Marya and and community may have been Regis direct two primary like a "little death" but the schools at Mateira — each with dying has flourished into a new

up in the idealism of it all quest, it might be foolish to meaningful than the unflawed guese language course at morning and directs another ed with sacrifice and hard work. C.E.N.F.I. — Petropolis, For six primary school with 400 chil- The reward will be reaped only dren. Sister Rose Alma takes in the glory of Heaven. By December 18 they were Peace Corps Volunteer

their new home at Mateira, where they joined forces with Reports From Nigeria

-Living conditions for a Peace to austerity, according to David A. Northrup, of Mt. Morris,

In letters home to his parin their long robes and veils.

Frei Domin gus, O.F.M., V.G., and Father Peter Moriarty, O.M.I. were present to extend minus sides of his new home a warm welcome and offer us.

dryman. On the side of auster-Hard work, plenty of it, lay humid days through a 6 months

of the Goias wilderness. This which is teaching 32 classes a was a time of adjustment to cli-mate, to people, food and cus-operated by the government. toms. It was a time that very but supervised by a Catholic often called for ingenuity and missionary. The priest-princi-improvization in trying to cope pai, Father Owen Reid, is from Ireland, as are many of the Catholic missioners in Nigeria.

> The school is in a "bush area," (meaning anything that's off the paved roads) near the town of Ikot-Epkene.

Northrup had a chance to see more of modern Nigeria between school terms in late April, when he spent a few days at a Peace Corps Rest House at Enugu, the capital of Eastern Nigeria. The stay afforded him the treat of a hot shower:

"There is a modern hotel here," he wrote from Enugu., "which has a pool and hot showers which you can use for 70 cents a day. It was the first hot shower I'd had since I left New York!" (In January.)

Like most African nations, Nigeria is modernizing in a rush, but the tempo is a bit uneven. His May 17 letter underlined this, as he described the new Education Centre of the University of Nigeria at Nsukka. (He was there for an English teachers' conference.)

"It's like a modern American hotel with classrooms attached. It's all air-conditioned but the electricity company won't be able to supply enough juice to turn it on for two years!"

Northrup was one of a group of 115 Peace Corps volunteers who arrived in Nigeria early this year. Nigeria now has the largest Peace Corps contingent in Africa.

The Mt. Morris resident graduated from St. Patrick's school there, attended McQuaid Jesuit High in Rochester and got his B.A. and M.A. in History at Fordham University.

Festival Set At St. Michael's

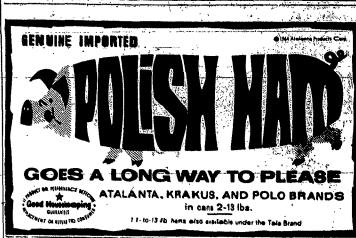
Annual Festival of St. Michael's Church, 869 Clinton Avenue North is being readied for Friday and Saturday, Sept. 10 and 11 according to Rev. James F. Baker, general chairman.

James Byrnes, chairman and n active committee are planning for games, refreshments ind special attractions.

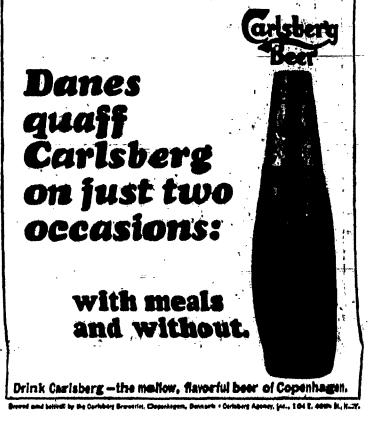
Proceeds of the festival will e used to pay for the recent school renovation and the purchase of a station wagon for the School Sisters of Notre Dame staffing St. Michael's



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EXTRA TENDER STEAK RIB EYE FLAVORFUL



CHARCOAL BROILSEM

STEAK BONELESS SHOULDER **SMOKED**



HIGHLAND PARK

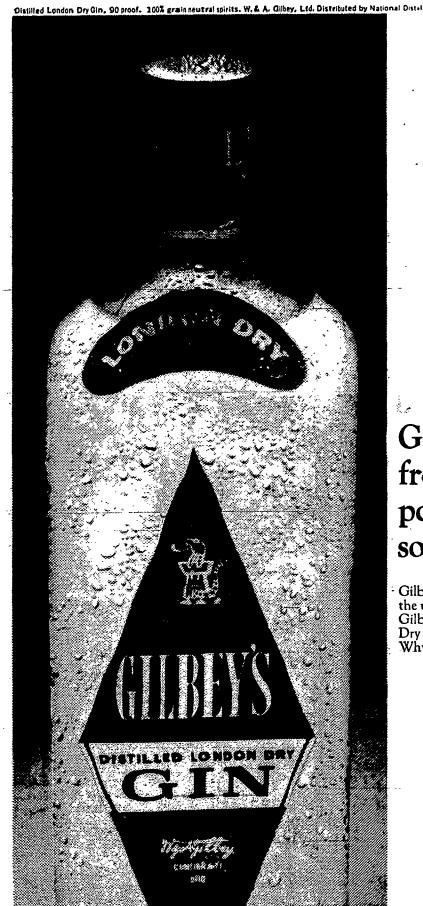
HOTS & FRANKS

COMIO

2 LB. BAG

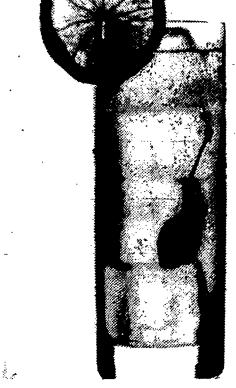
4 to 8 LB. AVG. WHOLE **PORK**





Sisters Michael Marya and Annice with some of the children near a partif

reconstructed church.



Gilbey's famous frosty bottle pours a Collins so cold it shivers

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