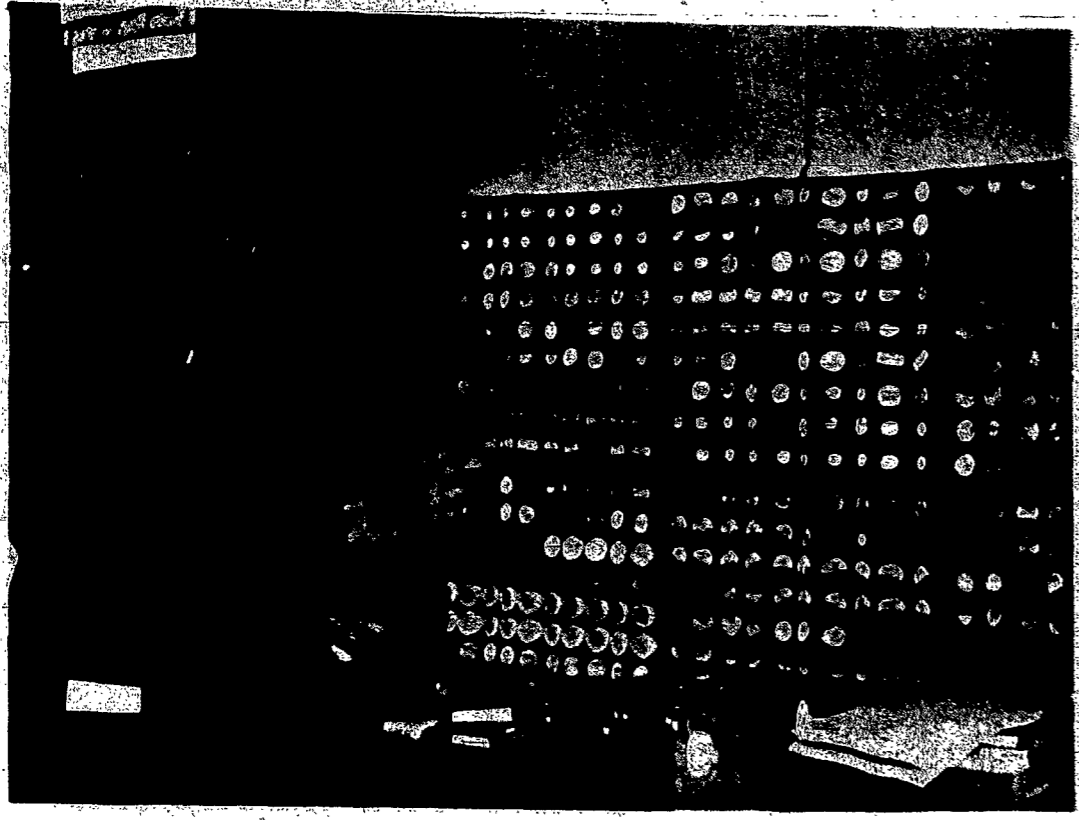


CCD Program Attains Giant Size in Diocese



FILM LIBRARY of over 600 filmstrips is available for loaning from the C.C.D. office. Father Schnacky also has a large supply of records and movies in his office.



BUSY MAN is Father Albert Schnacky, who directs the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine in the Diocese of Rochester. His secretary, Mrs. Jacqueline Hamlin, has served the C.C.D. office part-time for 10 years, has recently begun full-time duty as work volume climbed.

In his 18 years at the helm of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (C.C.D.) program in the Diocese of Rochester, Father Albert Schnacky has seen the program develop from infancy to adulthood.

"Back in 1947, we had about 15,000 public school students enrolled in catechetical programs. This fall, we will have about 62,000 enrolled, being taught by a small army of priests, sisters and some 1,000 lay catechists," he recalled for the *Catholic Courier* this week.

The C.C.D. growth has not only been in numbers but also in quality, its director hastens to point out.

"When I was first assigned to this work, C.C.D. was considered a sort of 'stop-gap' measure, intended mainly to take care of our youngsters who were not in Catholic schools. The classes were mostly taught by priests, with a few lay helpers, and the facilities were usually makeshift, and often inadequate," he recalls.

Today, "although we still have a long way to go," Father Schnacky said, "the program is getting much more attention and the results are far better—in terms of facilities, subject matter and training of volunteer catechists."

Catechist Training
When he refers to the formation of catechists, Father Schnacky speaks appreciatively of the Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart, nuns who specialize in catechetical work.

"With the coming of these dedicated and competent women to our Diocese, to Ithaca in 1950 and Fairport in 1952, our teacher-training program got a tremendous boost," he points out.

Although their numbers are small locally, the Mission Helpers have played a key role in the development of the C.C.D. program because they are "teachers of teachers." In both their centers, they run annual courses for catechists for 30 weeks, one evening a week.

(The sisters teach methods, and priests-lecturers teach the doctrinal matter.)

A measure of the respect accorded to the Mission Helpers' methods is that today, one of the sisters is invited to St. Bernard's Seminary each year, to outline the "Adaptive Way Method" for the future priests there.

The Fairport group has trained over 1,000 catechists in the past 9 years, and now operates two series, one for the east side of Rochester and Monroe County, one for the west side.

Saturday Classes

Saturday morning classes have been a new development in C.C.D. classes in recent years. Father Schnacky lists several reasons why many pastors have made this change from the traditional "released time" schedule:

First, the classes can run longer, at least one hour of solid classroom instruction. The released-time classes were short-

er because part of the time was used up in getting the students to the class location from their public school. This often reduced class periods to 30 minutes or less.

"With a longer class," the C.C.D. Director points out, "not only can a teacher cover more subject matter, but there is time for group devotions. In this way, the students can actually carry out the greater knowledge of the Liturgy they've been receiving in class."

Some C.C.D. classes end with a well-participated Mass; often in Lent, a Lenten devotion is held; other classes experiment with Scripture services.

Graves' Rites Set in Lima

Lima—Blessing of the Graves at St. Rose Cemetery in Lima will take place on Sunday, Sept. 19 at 4 p.m.

Monsignor John M. Ball, V.F., will officiate at the ceremonies.

Second, big reason is that Saturday classes often mean better facilities. This is true where the parish has its own parochial school—affording well-lighted, well-equipped and roomy class rooms for the Saturday C.C.D. classes.

Third reason is that more lay teachers are available on Saturdays. Men teachers in particular are free, when they would normally be at their job on weekdays.

Saturday classes were a question mark at first. Many pastors hesitated to try them, fearing a drop in attendance. (In the released-time program, students came directly from school and absenteeism was reported to their own public school authorities.)

"Attendance has not gone down with Saturday classes," Father Schnacky reports happily. "One large suburban parish in Greece—St. Charles—reported that its catechetical attendance even went up."

The switch to Saturday trend has been a marked one in the suburbs, where most of the children travel to school by bus. Getting bus pupils to released-time classes took much of the available time.

This way (Saturday class), parents are usually free to drive their children to class, and there is enough time to help them with their homework, if necessary, before being rushed.

C.C.D. Office Expands

Even the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine office in the Columbus Civic Center indicates the growth of the program in Father Schnacky's 18-year

Teachers Conference Sept. 20, 21

More than 1,300 teachers of the area are expected to attend the Annual Teachers Conference of Rochester Diocesan Schools to be held Monday and Tuesday, Sept. 20 and 21, in the Rochester War Memorial.

Keynote address at 10 a.m. on Monday will be given by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Francis J. Hurley, Assistant Secretary General of the National Catholic Welfare Conference in Washington, D.C. Monsignor Hurley will speak on "Education and the Ecumenical Age."

Very Rev. Msgr. James C. Donohue, co-Director of the Department of Education, N.C.W.C., will speak on the "Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965." This talk is scheduled for 11 a.m. especially for the clergy.

Monday afternoon speakers will include Robert McAllister, Director of the Child Guidance Clinic, Catholic University of America, who will speak on "The Emotional Aspects of Learning" at 1 p.m.

New Lay Teachers' Orientation session will be given by Sister M. Jamesetta, co-Director of the Lighted School House Project.

"Better Seen and Heard" is the topic of James Meagher, Audio-Visual Director of Penfield Central School District No. 1 at 2:30 p.m.

Rev. David Scheider, head of the Religion Department of Notre Dame High School, Buffalo, will speak Tuesday at 10 a.m. His topic is "Not Many Tutors—But Fathers."

Gardner Wales, president of the National Education Congress, will speak at 1 p.m. His

topic is "The Role of the Teacher in the Church."

The two-day conference will end at 2:30 p.m. when Bishop James E. Keane will preside at the teachers' gathering.

More than 130 exhibitors will be present to familiarize the teachers with the latest educational materials and teaching aids, according to Father William M. Egoche, Diocesan Supervisor of Schools.

For New Church

Break Ground Sunday At Mother of Sorrows

Ground breaking for the new Mother of Sorrows Church in Greece will take place on Sunday, Sept. 19 at 3 p.m. The ceremony will be followed by a parish picnic celebrating the 77th birthday of Father Daniel B. O'Rourke and the feast of Our Mother of Sorrows.

Included in the picnic to follow will be a ball game, a hole in one contest, games for the children, and races. Refreshments will be available for young and old.

Participants include Father O'Rourke who will turn the first shovel, Father George Wood who is pastor, various town and county officials, the Knights of Saint John, trustees and auditors, Girl Scout and Boy Scout units, altar boys, and members of the clergy. The above mentioned groups will assemble at Mother of Sorrows School at 2:30 and then proceed to the proposed site. Mother of Sorrows girls choir will provide appropriate music for the program.

New Address For Fr. Straub

Here is the latest address for Father Frederick Straub, a priest of the Diocese of Rochester serving in the Department of the Army:

CH (Capt.) Frederick W. Straub, Office of the Chaplain Hq 5th Special Forces APO San Francisco, Calif. 96240.

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talk is entitled "Any Time, Any Where, Any Subject."

Also at one, an Orientation program for teachers of inner City Schools will be conducted

Blessing of Graves Rite Sept. 19 at Holy Sepulchre

Catholics of the Rochester area are invited to attend the annual blessing of the graves ceremony at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery Sunday, Sept. 19, at 4 p.m.

Bishop Kearney will preside and preach. Students of St. Bernard's and St. Andrew's Seminaries will chant the Church's prayers for the dead. Knights of St. John will escort the procession to the cemetery chapel and through the cemetery roadways.

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ROCHESTER, N.Y.
Friday, Sept. 17, 1965
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Bishop at Red Mass

Judges and lawyers need God's guidance for their minds, their lips and their hearts. Bishop James E. Keane presided over a distinguished congregation from the legal profession last Tuesday, Sept. 14. The occasion was the annual Lawyers' Red Mass, celebrated by the Bishop at St. Joseph's Church.

Recalling the blessing asked of God by the priest before he reads the Gospel at Mass, the Bishop said that those concerned with legal justice needed:

- Clear knowledge of the law, its traditions and its reasonable modifications;
- To express themselves well in conveying their thoughts to others. "Your public expressions carry great weight in the working out of the law," he reminded them.

—To seek for the difficult line between strict justice and mercy. He referred to the dilemma often encountered between "your responsibility to the community and mercy to the accused."

The Bishop decried a current tendency of some people to take the law into their own hands.

"The Old Testament, the New Testament and our own American tradition are united in their emphasis on respect for the law," he stressed.

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