



Role of Choir More Varied in New Liturgy

Washington (AP) — Clarifying the role of parish choirs and paying church musicians more realistic wages were two of the recommendations made here recently by the U.S. Bishops' Commission on the Liturgical Apostolate.

It put forth the place of the choir this way:

"In the restored liturgy, it is evident that the choir will have more varied roles than in the recent past. At times the choir, within the congregation of the faithful and as part of it, will assume the role of leadership, while at other times it will retain its own distinctive ministry.

"This means that the choir will lead the people in sung prayer, by alternating or reinforcing the sacred song of the congregation, or by enhancing it with the addition of a musical elaboration. At other times in the course of liturgical celebration the choir alone will sing works whose musical demands enlist and challenge its competence. Then the role of the congregation is to listen in a spirit of prayerful meditation.

"In the framework of the present liturgy, as a general rule, the ordinary parts of the Mass will be recognized as the responsibility of the entire worshipping community. Here the choir is joined to the remainder of the congregation, leading and assisting them in a variety of ways, supporting and enhancing the worship.

The distinctive musical contribution of the choir should be made primarily in the Proper parts of the Mass, but not to the total exclusion of the assembly. Thus both the unity of God's people and the harmonious diversity of roles in the music of the liturgy become obvious. The choir then exercises its true liturgical function.

The bishops' commission stated that parishes should "employ well-trained and competent musicians" and pay them "in a realistic and dignified manner."

The commission suggested that a full-time musician expected to lead the musical aspects of the liturgical program, play the organ and conduct the choir should be considered "as carrying the same workload and hence to be paid on the same salary scale as full-time teachers in the local public school system."

Moving In With The Poor

Saginaw, Mich. (AP) — Like a ball player, Father Leo R. Lynch has been sort of "waived" into a "new league" — and he's mighty pleased about it.

Father Lynch, 34, knows all about ball players, and swears. His brother Jerry plays the outfield for the Pittsburgh Pirates. Father Lynch won't be leaving town, but his new job will be drastically different from the one he's held for the last several years. He's been seeking this new job for some time.

For several years Father Lynch has been a language instructor and physical fitness director in the antiseptic, disciplined but comfortable atmosphere of St. Paul's seminary here.

Come June 17 and he'll move from the plush surroundings to the center of Saginaw's most poverty-stricken area, principally occupied by some 10,000 non-whites who make up a fifth of the city's population. His new title will be administrator of the Catholic Mission Center of Saginaw.

"I'll put on an old cassock and wander out into the streets. I don't know what will happen then, but I'll move, act and speak as circumstances and the Holy Spirit direct me. I want to know these people and I want them to know me."

Father Lynch stressed that he will live in the area, renting or buying a building to serve as his living quarters, a place for offering Mass, and a center for his activities.

He said conversions are not his immediate aim. He added: "When I asked Bishop (Stephen S.) Woznicki for this assignment, I told him that any expectation of a certain number of converts for a specific amount of effort and funds expended was almost certain to result in disappointment.

"But I told him that there is a definite need to reach a definite group of people who are living in a depressed minority status," he continued. "There is a need for a witness of the people of God among them — not to evangelize, but to give them a realization that they are human beings with all the dignity of that status."

"I don't know what I'm going to accomplish — or even how I am going to go about it," the priest remarked. "But we've got a problem situation and it isn't getting any better.

"In sports you don't break

Owego Women Install Slate

Owego — Father Leo J. Matusewski, pastor of St. Patrick's Church installed officers of the Rosary and Altar Society at Tomassi's Restaurant, Wednesday evening, June 15.

Mrs. Mildred Wood was toastmistress. Approximately 75 members attended.

Father Matusewski is society moderator. Installed were Mrs. James Shields, president; Mrs. John Hill, vice president; Mrs. Paul Barron, secretary, and Mrs. Charles Bachman, treasurer. Mrs. Bachman was re-elected.

Father Matusewski presented the retiring president, Mrs. John Kuschner with a Hummel figurine as a gift from the organization.

Wolf Couple Marks 50 Years

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene H. Wolf, of Ridgcrest Court Apts., 1202 Ridge Road East, will mark their fiftieth wedding anniversary on June 28.

A Mass of Thanksgiving will be offered by Monsignor Frank J. Hoefen at our Lady of Perpetual Help Church at 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 2.

A dinner will be served at the Sheraton Hotel following the Mass for the immediate family, and a reception for relatives and friends at 2 p.m.

The couple has one daughter, Mrs. Jeanette D. Skitzer of Ontario, N.Y.

They have two grandchildren.



25 Years
Bernard H. Dolien, brother of Mrs. Philip Goeltz of Rochester, received the Niagara University "Emerita" medal for his 25 years service as librarian at the University.

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An Even Dozen For City Couple

JOHN AND LORRAINE FETZNER will now be able to test the adage about "cheaper by the dozen." They recently had their 12th youngster, Bonnie Jean, born on June 16. The Fetznors, of 264 Magee Ave. in Sacred Heart Cathedral parish, now have 9 boys and 3 girls. Bonnie Jean, who weighed in at 8 pounds, 13 ounces is shown at right with her mother. All the Fetzner children have been born at St. Mary's Hospital.

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