

Apathy, Need of Teachers, Funds, Face CCD Renewal Program

By JOAN MANCUSO

An "athletic trend" particularly among adolescents confronts the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine as it continues its program of renewal fostered by Vatican Council II.

At a recent CCD workshop in Washington, D.C., Sulpician Father Joseph Collins, director of the National Center of the CCD, stated that the other major problems besetting the CCD were "ill-trained teachers, indifference of parents and parish priests, little or no financial aid." Recommendations were made to combat the problems prevalent especially among adults and adolescents. As a result, the CCD workshop urged a more adult-centered approach in catechetical instruction.

When Monsignor Albert Schneck, diocesan director of the CCD, was interviewed, he confessed, "A national problem is the indifference of the adolescents. By activating the CCD structurally and efficiently, we are trying to solve the problem. We are using all our resources to find the answer."

This apathy has been partly caused by the "traditional" method of teaching religion by which children memorized (without understanding what they learned) formula summaries of doctrines which were written in the theologian's scholastic language. Also, CCD teachers failed to introduce novel teaching techniques.

Then, Vatican II's "Decree Concerning the Pastoral Office of Bishops" declared that catechetical instruction must be given to children, adolescents, and adults in appropriate methods "... suited to the matter that is being taught, and to the character, ability, age and circumstances of the life of the students."

Thereafter, such methods as illustrated texts and flannelboard displays for elementary children, group dynamics in student discussions and audio-visual aids for high school youth, and discussion clubs for adults were used extensively.

Monsignor Schneck pointed out that pre-schoolers can receive six years of religion at home under the Parent-Educator program of the CCD. Every three months—from the birth of a child to his early childhood—the parents receive pamphlets from CCD pertaining to religion in the home.

At the adolescent stage, catechetical instructors use two CCD program-texts called "To Live as Christ" and "The Mystery of Christ," both by Brothers J. Frederick, F.S.C. and H. Albert, F.S.C.

In addition, for the first time starting this September, high school juniors and seniors from the parishes of St. Lawrence, St. Charles Borromeo, and St. John's in Greece will meet in small seminar groups with a lay couple for religion instruction at night in a home.

Adults can participate in parish adult discussion clubs in which Church dogma and current religion topics are examined. In the future, adults will be able to benefit from advance religion classes in scripture and liturgy.

Also beginning in September, there will be a downtown "Little Theater" and classroom on the sixth floor of the Columbus Building for audio-visual demonstrations and adult CCD lecture-seminars, Monsignor Schneck disclosed.

Vatican II's "Decree on Christian Education" called the catechetical vocation, one which "demands special qualities of mind and heart, very careful preparation, and continuing readiness to renew and adapt. Nevertheless, throughout the country some catechists have failed to embrace the new "kerygmatic" or biblical-liturgical approach, with its emphasis on Christ-centered salvation history and on love instead of knowledge alone.

According to Monsignor Schneck, locally, the largest and best organized CCD program

is the teacher-training program whereby catechists are required to take a 60 hour course on the doctrines of the Church and teaching methods. This year two refresher courses will also be offered in Monroe County and Ithaca.

There are at least 26 CCD centers throughout the Rochester Diocese; furthermore, there are several orders of catechetical sisters who teach religion just to public school children; Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart in Fairport and Ithaca; Trinitarian Sisters in Lyons and Rochester; Divine Child Franciscan Sisters in Rochester; Atoneinent Sisters in Elmira; Filippini Sisters in Watkins Glen.

"For the last two years, Sister Theresa Mary of the Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart has taught the CCD methods course at St. Bernard's Seminary," added Monsignor Schneck. About 150 seminarians have been teaching high school release-time classes for the past 25 years.

On August 1, Monsignor Schneck announced, the diocesan office will open a supply

room where the public can view the latest catechetical texts and materials and purchase or borrow charts, filmstrips, records, etc. This innovation has been inaugurated in order to carry out Vatican II's recommendation on updating CCD pedagogic methods.

Then, referring to the 12th national and 5th international Catechetical Congress of the CCD to be held at Pittsburgh, Pa., from September 14-17, Monsignor Schneck explained that the emphasis will be on adult education programs with three main focuses: "Scripture—the Word of God in adult religious education and school of religion; Modern Catechetics, Eumensium; Liturgy in Christian Formation." The theme of the congress will be "Vatican II and Renewal Through the CCD."

Nationally and internationally known speakers, discussion sessions, exhibits, and demonstrations will highlight the convention. Monsignor Schneck, Father Daniel Holland, assistant CCD director, priests, sisters, seminarians, and lay CCD graduates will attend the convention.

vention from the Rochester Diocese.

Monsignor Schneck inserted that the first National Catechetical Congress was held in Rochester in 1935.

At the present time modern catechetics is in a transitional state. Vatican II has provided the guidelines for catechetical instruction and has supported the kerygmatic renewal; however, problems still must be surmounted. The CCD is employing its resources to find the answer particularly to the recurring problem of apathy among youth.

Sulpician Father Joseph Collins in his "CCD Methods in Modern Catechetics" best sums up the current catechetical renewal as a "return to the proclamation of the Gospel according to Christ's own teaching mission to all people. Catholics and non-Catholics, in the family and in the schools, to young and old. Catechetical methodology must reflect the psychological and sociological elements that go to make up an efficient art and science of teaching the message of salvation."



Vacation School in Freeville

The Religious Vacation School, sponsored by Holy Cross parish, Freeville, began on June 27 and ran through July 10. The school used the facilities of St. George Junior Republic. Four Sisters of St. Joseph and four lay teachers conducted the classes. The daily schedule included religious instruction and project work, lunch and swimming, followed by Mass and Holy Communion. The average daily attendance was 188. Transportation was provided by volunteer drivers from the parish. On Sunday, July 10, the school came to an official close, with thirty-one boys and girls receiving their First Holy Communion.

Ladies Name Mrs. Haszlauer

Mrs. Camilla Haszlauer was re-elected Supreme President of the Supreme Ladies Auxiliary, Knights of St. John at the National convention held in Washington, D.C., July 8 to 13.

The Rose Window at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, donated by the Supreme Auxiliary, was dedicated on Sunday, July 10, by Archbishop John Krol of Philadelphia, Supreme Spiritual Director.

Ice Cream Fete in Perkinsville

Perkinsville—Members of the Sacred Heart Church will hold an Ice Cream Social on July 23 in the Fire Hall at 4 p.m.

Entertainment will include a fish pond, variety booth and candy booth.

Vol. 77 No. 43 Friday, July 22, 1966

In State Legislature

Fair Share Bills; 1 Passes, 1 Fails

A bill designed to augment New York State's Fair Textbook Law and provide loaned textbooks to students in both public and non-public schools was signed into law by Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller early this month. Another bill providing for health and welfare services for students in all schools died in the State Senate committee rooms after the Assembly had passed it by a 119-31 margin.

The revised Speno-Ferrall Fair Textbook law was passed by both branches of the state legislature by large margins. The bill provides for an expenditure of \$15-per-pupil-year for the first three years of the program, at which point it will drop to \$10 per pupil and become part of the established educational policy of the state. It also establishes parity of treatment in providing textbook loans to children in both

public and non-public schools. Pupils from grades 7 through 12 will be able to get loaned textbooks in all of the basic educational subjects.

Paul Brayer, New York State president of the Citizens for Educational Freedom, which had urged public support of both proposals, praised the state legislature and Governor Rockefeller for "their forthright stand" in enacting the revised textbook bill.

Brayer, a Rochesterian, expressed disappointment, however, that the Speno-Hardwick health and welfare bill had never been reported out of committee in the Senate, after being passed by the Assembly by an overwhelming 119-31 vote.

Fisher Alumni Top Thousand

Membership in the St. John Fisher College Alumni Association passed the one thousand mark as 141 members of the Class of '66 were inducted into the Association recently.

Guest speaker at the gathering was Fr. Russell Pendergast, C.S.B., former faculty member and treasurer at St. John Fisher.

New officers elected at the meeting are: President, Kevin Considine '62; vice-president, Robert Schickler '56; secretary, John Hofmann '58, and treasurer, David Kinsky '62.

Fr. Eschrich To Be Honored

All parish organizations of St. Salome's Church are planning a reception in honor of Father Edward Eschrich on his retirement as pastor on Sunday, Aug. 7 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the school hall.

Friends and former parishioners are invited.

GENERAL INSURANCE . . .

- FIRE
- AUTOMOBILE
- LIABILITY
- HEALTH AND ACCIDENT

JAMES E. FARRELL

36 STATE ST. 454-2662

Good Company Deserves Good Food

Delightful Surroundings
Friendly Atmosphere
FINE MENU
SENSIBLE PRICES

ADD UP TO GLEN EDITH

CLOSED MONDAY OS 1-6200

O'CONNOR CHEVROLET Inc.

"Rochester's Newest Chevrolet Dealer"

TOM O'CONNOR, Owner-Pres., Says:

WE ARE CELEBRATING OUR OPENING WITH SOME OF THE MOST SPECTACULAR DEALS EVER OFFERED IN ROCHESTER. COME IN AND SEE US. WE'LL MAKE YOU GLAD YOU DID.

EXAMPLE

1966 CHEV. BISCAYNE
AS LOW AS **\$34.00 PER MONTH**
WITH '63 TRADE-IN

769 MAIN ST. W. 328-7220

ONE BLOCK EAST OF ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL

VISIT SOUTHERN TIER

- CORNING GLASS CENTER
Grandest free attraction in east (Corning, N.Y.)
- MONASTERY OF ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS
A monastery of Discalced Carmelites, where men are dedicated to a life of prayer and apostolic service to the modern world, located on Waverly Hill, overlooking the beautiful Chemung Valley, off Route 17, west of Waverly, N.Y. Opposite O'Brien's.
The Carmelites welcome all visitors from 6:00 A.M. to 9:30 P.M. Mass Daily 6:30 A.M.; Sundays and Holidays 8:40 A.M. Days of Prayer for Groups of 35 or less (lay or religious).
- Then Have Dinner at O'Brien's and Stay Overnight
"AMERICA'S MOST SCENIC DINING ROOM"
Here you will find delicious food for the body and an inspiring Spiritual Lift for the soul, stimulated by the most outstanding Scenic Panorama in all America.
On Route 17, 1 mile west of Waverly, New York, O'Brien's Motel in the sky has private balconies and beautifully furnished rooms. A place to relax and get away from the daily grind.

Open Tues. & Thurs. Till 9—Closed Sat. during July & Aug. **RGE**

Stop Dampness Damage in your Basement

Get a Westinghouse Dehumidifier

Protect your basement and everything in it with a Westinghouse Dehumidifier. During the humid months, moisture damage runs high. It causes paint to peel, tools to rust, furniture and drapes mildew and wooden structures rot and warp.

"pulled out" of walls and furniture to keep your basement dry, comfortable and safe!

Stop in now at your nearest RGE Appliance Center. Ask for a demonstration from one of our capable sales personnel.

\$79⁹⁵ Model EDB 14

Budget Terms As Low As \$5.00 A Month

RGE ROCHESTER GAS and ELECTRIC PHONE 546-2700
AN INVESTOR-OWNED COMPANY WITH MORE THAN 21,000 SHAREHOLDERS 89 EAST AVE.

Not even Canada has it so good!

8 Year Old Whisky Blended with Grain Neutral Spirits

\$4.99 Full Quart

BLended WHISKY OF PROOF-85 NEUTRAL SPIRITS-CONTINENTAL DISTILLING CO., PHILA.