



Scenes like this represent an exciting feature of Theatre Day which includes acting competing among students from participating high schools. This year both parochial and public school students will compete. Pictured above in a scene from Mercy High School's Christmas '66 production of "Genesis" are Michael Iannessa (Plattsford) and his sister Cynthia Iannessa (Mercy); Cindy was runner-up in 1965 competition. (Varden Photo)

Area Theatre Day Slated At Mercy High, Jan. 28

Film Festival discussion, dramatic styles of writing and production, and public high school participation, will be included among the highlights of the Greater Rochester Area Theatre Day 1967 to be held Saturday, Jan. 28, at Our Lady of Mercy High School.

Held annually since 1956 and sponsored by the Rochester Unit of the National Catholic Theatre Conference, the day long program (9 a.m. to 6 p.m.) will offer to the over 400 pre-registered attendees, four forty-minute presentations, by member schools and colleges; a provocative film, high school acting scholarship competition, an informal buffet, exhibits, and a Liturgical Celebration, combining both ancient and modern ritual.

Each production will be evaluated by widely experienced director Miss Dorothy Chernuck, currently associated with the new Theatre East.

The scholarship competition will be judged by Eric Young of West Irondequoit High School and Bob Keefe of TV Channel WVEF.

General arrangements have been made by Unit Chairmen Wilford Scott (Blackfriars), and Drama Director Sister Mary Pius from the host school—Our Lady of Mercy.

Oliver, The Old Lady Shows



MARGARET MARTONE, president of the "Queen's Jesters" at Our Lady of Mercy High School will be Student Chairman at Theatre Day, Saturday, Jan. 28. Margaret is winner of the high school Theatre Day Acting Competition in 1966; a recent recipient of a Drama Scholarship to Ithaca College (one of 6 chosen out of 200 competitors); and runner-up in Monroe County's American-Logan-Oratorical Contest, Jan. 15.



"THE FILM'S 'THE THING'" — Film discussion and viewing will augment the Theatre Day 1967 program. Here Mercy Junior Rose DiSano looks at fellow junior Kathy Dunlap's first screen test in preparation for home-made film. Monthly since September, 150 Mercy upperclassmen carry the intellectual and financial burden of neighboring Catholic Schools' film festival. (Varden Photo)

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Pastor Robert Lester of Park Congregational Church in Elmira addresses senior religion class at Notre Dame High School. Sister Maureen and Father Michael L. Reagan look on. (Elmira Star-Gazette Photo)

Notre Dame Senior Religion Students Hear Park Congregational Pastor

"A fragmented Church cannot speak to the world," affirmed the Rev. Robert Lester, pastor of the Park Congregational Church in Elmira as he spoke last week in the senior religion classes at Notre Dame High School.

Pastor Lester, invited to address the students at Notre Dame by Sister Mary Maureen, chairman of the religion department, and the Rev. Michael L. Reagan, chaplain, stressed the common factors which unite the various Christian faiths.

He believes that the sense of union is growing, evidence by our attitude toward one another, the mergers between various Protestant denominations, the World Council of Churches, how the churches minister to the world, and our common loyalty to Christ.

"Union of beliefs is a possible ideal," he commented. "That we are part of a whole church is a gripping idea."

Points of union between Catholic and Protestant faiths were further brought out as the common heritage of Christ, the Apostles, St. Augustine and St. Thomas Aquinas. Protestant roots are in Catholicism, he

said: the reformers did not start a new church.

We share a common Bible, which for Protestants is the sole authority of faith and practice, and for Catholics represents part of the teaching authority, with the church.

In our service of the Word, and in our sacraments of Baptisms and the Eucharist, we have unity, as well as in our common concern for increased participation of the laity and in liturgical changes in both Catholic and Protestant services, Pastor Lester stated.

We also share a common concern for the world, and we all bear the name of Christian.

In response to a question "What bothers Protestants most about Catholics?" Pastor Lester replied with a threefold explanation including the Catholic exclusive claim to truth, loyalty to the infallibility of the Pope, and the formerly restrictive signing of promises in a

mixed marriage, which did not allow for freedom of conscience on the part of the non-Catholic partner. He also brought out the fact that many Protestants did not understand the Catholic veneration of Mary, interpreting it as worship.

That Protestants too have definite lines of authority in their churches was the answer to another question. "No authority leads to chaos," he replied.

Pastor Lester believes that the union of Catholics and people of other faiths in prayer and dialogue is most heartening. These areas are where we must put our hope, he feels, and "for the time being we must leave structure in the hands of God."

Pastor Lester's visit to Notre Dame was occasioned as part of the senior religion classes' study of ecumenism at this time, and coincides with the opening of the week of prayer for unity in all of the churches.

Houck Named Commander By Catholic War Veterans

Theodore J. Houck, Jr., 276 Clay Ave. was elected County Commander and Frank "Hunk" Vadas was announced as the CWV Layman of the Year at the 21st annual convention, Monroe County Chapter, Catholic War Veterans at Green Lantern Inn, Fairport, Saturday, Jan. 21.

Five resolutions were passed at the meeting presided over by County Commander John Faulkner. The Department of Commander of New York was represented by Neil Knowles of Brooklyn, second vice commander of the Department.

The veterans by resolution urged repeal of the "Blaine Amendment" in the 1967 New York State Constitutional Convention and commended the Citizens for Educational Freedom for efforts in working on behalf of parents and children attending non-public schools.

A resolution asked members to urge their Congressmen to increase benefits under the 1966 Veterans Readjustment Benefits Act for monthly schooling allowances.

Two resolutions paid tribute to Bishop Kearney and thanked him for help given the veterans group and a welcome to Bishop Sheen with a pledge of support and prayers.

St. Jerome's Post was thanked for its hospitality.

Commander Knowles announced that all members of the armed forces serving 90 days or more from a start of enlistment from 1958 are now eligible for membership in the Catholic War Veterans.

City Councilman Stephen J. May was the speaker at the banquet after the convention sessions.

Winner of the Catholic Layman of the Year Award will receive the medal at the Community Breakfast of the CWV in February. He is an inspector

IFCA Mass International Federation of Catholic Alumnae First Saturday Mass at Nazareth College chapel, Feb. 4, at 8:30 a.m. Bishop Kearney will be celebrant of the Mass. Breakfast to follow. Reservations with Miss Terry O'Brien or Mrs. Lewis Boyce.



Chaplains Greet Cardinal

Two priests of the Rochester Diocese, both chaplains in the U.S. Navy, greeted Cardinal Spellman Tuesday, Jan. 3, when he came to Yokosuka, Japan, to say Mass there. The chaplains are Father Eugene W. McCarthy, a lieutenant commander, and Father Leo D. Ward, also a lieutenant commander.

Knights View Masonic Rite

Officers, six knights and ladies of the First District Commandery, Rochester Regiment, Knights of St. John received orders, this week for the knights in full dress uniforms and the ladies in civilian dress to report to Masonic Temple, 4th floor, 875 East Main St. Friday, Jan. 27 (tonight) at 7:30 p.m.

The knights at 8 p.m. will enter Cathedral Hall, Masonic Temple to witness the public installation of officers of Cyrene Commandery, No. 39, Knights Templar.

"All are requested to make a special effort to be present. This is one of our first participations in the ecumenical movement," the general order signed by John G. Bittner, colonel stated.

Scholarships At Catholic U.

Scholarships ranging in value from \$500 to \$7000 are available annually for undergraduate students at the Catholic University of America at Washington. Information may be obtained from the Catholic Schools Office, 50 Chestnut St., Rochester, or from the principals of the diocesan schools. Added scholarships are available for graduate students.



Brother Chrys Has His New Bus

Some weeks ago Brother Chrys, a Franciscan Friar of the Atonement, at St. Joseph's Mission in Hereford, Texas, made an appeal through the Courier Journal for trading stamps with which to purchase a school bus.

The Atonement Friar wishes to thank the readers of the Courier who sent about 200 books of stamps to him. Others wishing to contribute stamps may send them to: Brother Chrys, St. Joseph's Mission, Route 2, Hereford, Texas.

The bus would be used to transport some 200 children of migrant Mexican farm laborers to and from school.

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