

Briefs From Here and There

Chaplain Honored By Air Force

Hanscom Field, Mass. — (RNS) — The Air Force has honored Father Merrill F. Greene, S.J., of Boston College with its Decoration-for-Exceptional Civilian Service in recognition of chaplaincy work at Hanscom Field here.

The citation, representing the highest Air Force honorary civilian award, read:

"Father Greene distinguished himself in the development and growth of the chapel program and chapel facilities. His most significant accomplishment has been his personal ability to instill in hundreds of military and their dependents a sincere love of God and a dedication and devotion to their country.

"His devotion and accomplishments reflect the highest credit upon himself and the U.S. Air Force."

Mississippi Bishop Asks Aid For Needy

Jackson, Miss. — (RNS) — Catholic Bishop Joseph B. Brunini of Natchez-Jackson, speaking at his installation here before an ecumenical gathering, called on "men and women of goodwill" to join the diocese in working for the needy of Mississippi.

Pointing to conditions existing in the state, he said that "our people have the lowest per capita income of any state. We have the highest infant mortality rate in the nation."

"In spite of our many struggles, we must confess that many of our people are ill-fed, ill-clothed, ill-housed, ill-educated, and ill-trained religiously."

Bandits Prey on Pilgrims

El Paso — (RNS) — A gang of robbers accused of holding up visitors to Mt. Cristo Rey, a Roman Catholic shrine on the Texas-Mexican border, is being rounded up by authorities. Two men have been arrested near the shrine on New Mexico land. Four have been arrested in Juarez, Mexico, and others are being sought. There have been 24 robberies involving tourists motoring along the mountain road to the shrine, a gigantic statue of Christ on the Cross.

Lay Members for Synod

Santiago de Compostella, Spain — (RNS) — The bishops of Spain's Galician Province will establish a provincial synod having lay members for the first time in Spanish history. It was announced here. The committee will handle current problems facing the Church in Spain, including Catholic Action methods, the social teachings of the Church, the responsibilities of Catholics in the social order and the importance of spiritual values in public life.

Bishop Allowed to Confirm

Vienna — (RNS) — Roman Catholic Bishop Aaron Marton of Alba Julia, who was released from house arrest by the Romanian Communist government late last year, has received permission to visit his parishes to officiate at Confirmation rites, according to a report reaching here. He is the only Catholic bishop in residence in Romania's four dioceses. He was jailed on charges of "anti-state" activities from 1948 to 1965, and then confined to his residence.

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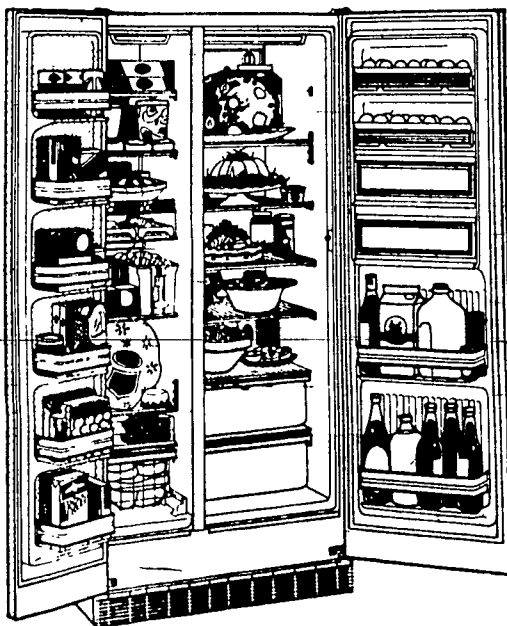
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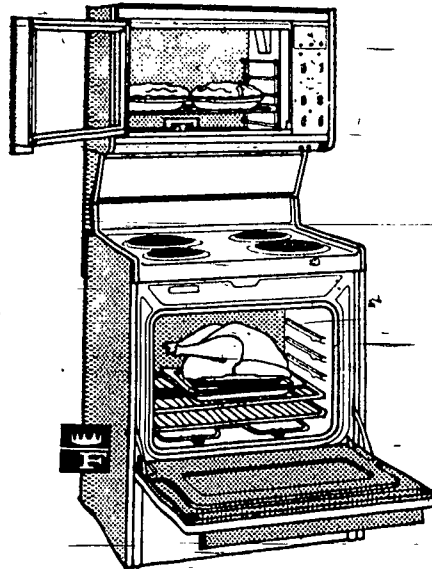
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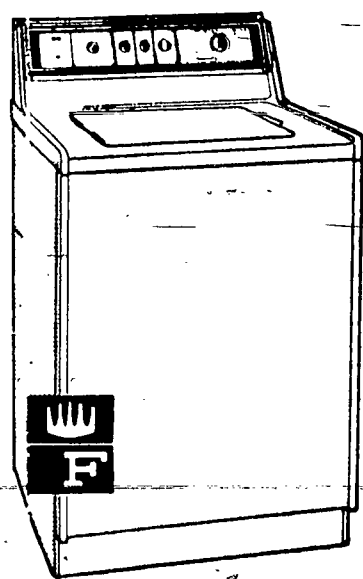
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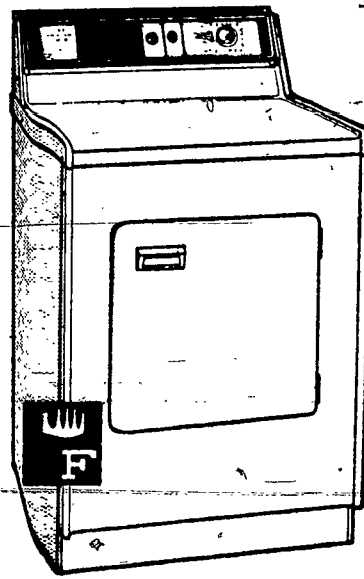
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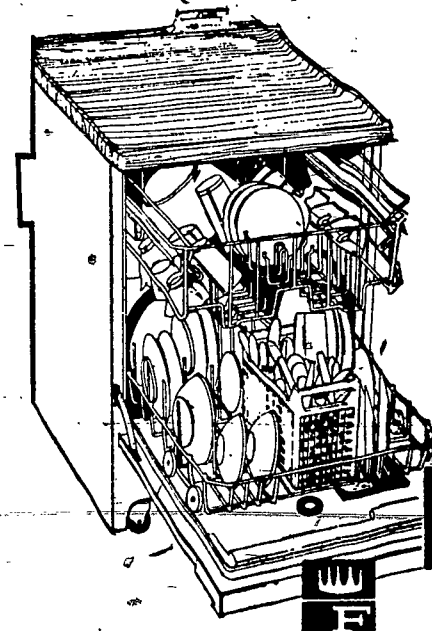
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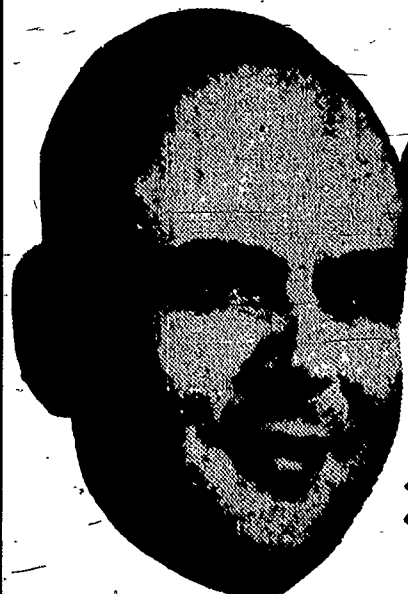
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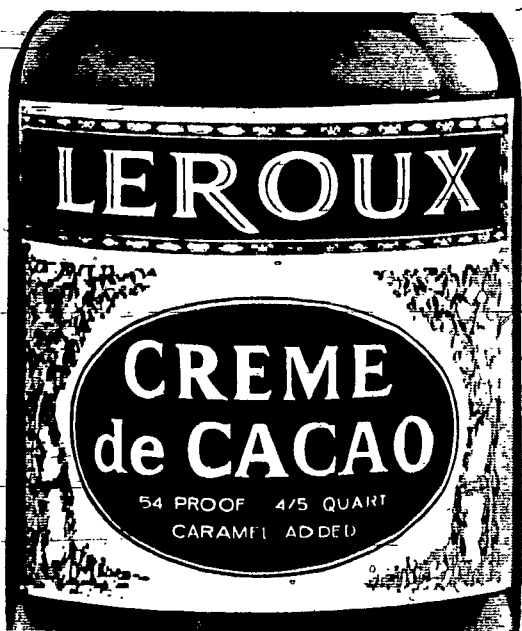
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St. Ambrose Sunday

While other parish schools are sleeping—like Sunday evenings—St. Ambrose is wide awake and active.

That's the picture during this Lent at any rate, as the Empire Blvd. school has played host to a four-decked adult formation program each Sunday night.

The lights were ablaze in four classrooms of the new structure last Sunday as more than 100 adults trooped in to take part in an updating program that got underway in St. Ambrose parish in the fall of 1966.

At that time, Monsignor Arthur Raitgan, pastor, promoted a unique month-long parish renewal program, which saw four Holy Cross priests in action through the month.

The visitors offered Mass in four different neighborhoods each night, conducted a dialogue session with the host family and neighbors who had been invited in.

96 home Masses-and-dialogues later, St. Ambrose parish had developed a thirst for more. The immediate result was a series of neighborhood discussion groups which continued through the rest of the year.

Last fall, while several of the discussion groups were still pursuing their monthly sessions, parish leaders were already looking for new avenues to explore.

Their first venture was a four week film series during the Sundays of October. These were no mere pastime films, but serious "thinkers," calculated to arouse further thoughts on the contemporary problems they explored.

The series included the now-famous "Parable," a film on non-involvement called "The Detached Americans"; a study of racial attitudes in "A Time for Burning"; and a Canadian prize winner on teenagers, "Nobody Waved Good-bye."

This series attracted from 150 to 200 parishioners for each film. After the lights went on, so did the discussion, and continued briskly, punctuated with opportune coffee and cookies.

The current project is an ambitious one, aimed to reach people who want to know more about some phase of Christian involvement in today's world.

Your Choice of Four

It includes a section on the "Religions of the World"; another on current social problems, chaired by Dr. Joseph Pollzi, sociology instructor at St. John Fisher College; a third on marriage and a fourth on new trends in Catholic thought.

Dr. Joseph Hanss, a resident in Obstetrics at Genesee Hospital, is guiding the four part series on marriage. Father David Callan, a curate at St. Ambrose, is handling the new trends section.

The

The Comitium reunion (A Church at 2: with Bishop

The Monroe Aries at St. the same date speaking.

The Junior friends are co these ceremon