

Sunday morning greetings at St. Patrick's Church, Owego, always involve the priests of the parish meeting the congregation at the front steps after Mass. Here Father John Dettleff, center, speaks to parishioners after proceding from the altar to the front door as the priests do after each Sunday Mass. Father Leo Matuszewski, pastor, is in a conversation at the right. The accompanying article, by a syndicated writer, was prompted when he attended Mass at St. Pat's on a Sunday-morning trip through Owego.

Growing Custom with Priests: Greeting People After Mass

Catholic Press Features

The priest gave the final blessing after the Sunday 10 a.m. Mass, and then—to the surprise of several new parishioners-briskly strode up the aisle, and out the front door. When the puzzled newcomers got outside, they found him—still fully vested -chatting amiably with a man and his wife, with several other parishioners standing by to talk with the priest

This scene - which most Catholics associate with the Protestant Church—is being repeated in more and more Catholic parishes as the practice of greeting parishioners after Mass is taken up by a growing number of priests.

The practice is expected to be spurred on by the increased sense of "community" in the Catholic Church—with closer relations between priests and parishioners-and by liturgical changes which make the gesture more prac-

"Our liturgy now is much less rigid than before, when leaving the altar by the shortmented one priest who has been greeting parishioners after Mass for the past three years. "The priest was sup-posed to make his parteral thanksgiving right after Mass." With our walk down the aisle now, there is no time for personal prayer after Mass, but I feel a lot more good is de-

been greeting parishioners ever simce his ordination six years ago, thinks that the practice will grow as the Church abandons its "get 'em in, get 'em out" approach to Sunday Mass.

"The whole liturgy situation until now has been so impersonal that Masses have become dealing with a crowd instead of a community. Now we are finally seeing that there is a value in trying a personal approach to our impersonal congregations - and greeting parishioners on Sundays is one of the ways.'

Some priests have found that getting out and talking with their parishioners after Mass is one way to put faces at Mass (which one priest described as "a massive blur")

'And this works two ways," said a 29-year-old priest. "I soon learned after ordination three years ago that priests are a mystery to people. We're from Mars. Unless we see them and let them see us, we'll never makes it in the

"We enter the priesthood to be at walking sign of the Gospels, and then we remove ourselves from the people who are supposed to read us. have the chance to say hello."

The priests' contact with the parishioners after Mass ranges from a simple "Good morning, how are you?" to a

Art Gallery to Show 'Sister City' Works

sculptures from European sister from its museum and scenes of cities, and displays of portraits the city. to be added to a permanent collection, will be featured at the grand opening of the Memorial run through Oct. 12. Art Gallery, Aug. 17-20.

which follow weeks of renova- an American poet are among tion and enlargement, will be the additions to the Gallery gin at 2 p.m., Aug. 17, at a permanent collection. dedication on the Memorial

Public opening of the exhibition will be from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 20.

The main feature of the in-

augural exhibition will be the Gallery's own collection, with additions from sister cities in Rennes, France, will present

drawings and paintings from the 16th to 19th centuries. Wurzburg, Germany, has contributed watercolors, prints drawings, and sculptures by 20th Century German artists, in addition to photographs of sculptures by Tilman Riemenscheider (c. 1460-1531).

Italian sister city Caltanissetta will be represented by a



Another priest, who has

into focus as individuals.



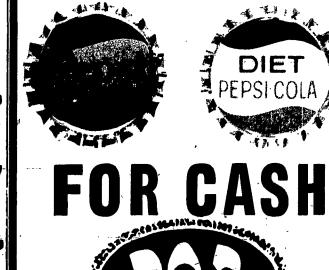
The "sister-city show" will

Portraits of an Italian gentle The opening ceremonies, man, a Parisian archbishop, and

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Ohio Native Named Athletic Director At McQuaid High

Timothy Jordan has been the Ohio Class A State Chamnamed director of athletics at pionship. McQuaid Jesuit High School, He will begin his regular Rev. Eugene A. Zimpfer, S.J., duties as physical education inmoderator of athletics, has an-structor, jayvee basketball

nounced. Jordan, a native of Mansfield, Ohio, graduated from Wooster Hand of Webster. He will act as College, Wooster, Ohio. Last physical instructor, jayvee footyear he was both teacher and ball coach and jayvee baseball coach at St. Peter's High School coach. Hand attended Dayton in Mansfield, and helped coach University, Dayton, Ohio, and

coach and varsity baseball-coach

this fall. Assisting Jordan will be Leo the varsity basketball team to Kansas State at Emporia, Kan.

Non - Violence Definition

act." according to Thomas Mer- gerous illusions of our time." ton, the Trappist monk-author.

of language.

confidential request by a trou-

bled person for an appoint-

ment, particularly someone

who would not normally go to

Also, one priest observed,

"I find that people use this

occasion to ask us the many

little questions which puzzle

them about the faith, but

which seem too-trivial to

them to make a special call to

"The meeting after Mass

does serve as an occasion for

people-to open discussion on

more complicated matters,"

he added. "I handle this by

carrying my appointment book with me and making on-

the-spot appointments for more detailed treatment of in-

volved problems. I recall be-

ing introduced to at least two

future converts on the church

steps. They called me subse-

But "small talk" can be just

as important. "A compliment

on a job promotion or on a

new baby means a lot to peo-

ple," as one of the priests put

it. Other priests have re-

marked that new people will

often introduce themselves to

a priest who is standing with

them after Mass and ask how

is Prince

Spaghetti Day... make it

official

Prince

Sauces.

with

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to register in the parish

quently for instructions."

the rectory "cold."

the rectory."

riolence is meant to convey and farm here with more than 125 to defend truth which has been participants coming from variobscured and defiled by polit-ous parts of the U.S. and ical double-talk.

Tivoli, N.Y. — (RNS)—"Non-"The half-truth, that onlyviolence is meant to communi-force is efficacious, may turn cate love not in word but in out to be one of the most dan

"Never was it more neces-In a paper sent here to the fifth annual Pax Conference on Peace and Revolution, he explained, "Non - violence, as Dandhi understood it, is a kind of language."

In a paper sent here to the sary," he concluded, "to understand the importance of genuine non-violence as a power for real change because it is aimed not so much at revolution as at conversion."

The three-day conference was "Above all," he declared, non- held at the Catholic Worker

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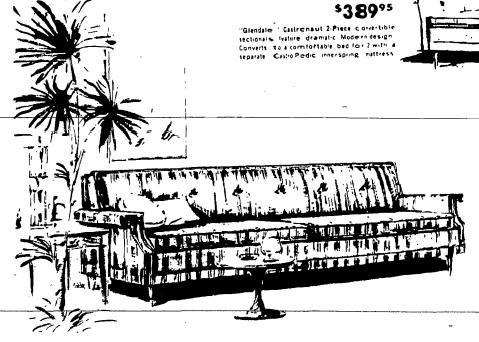
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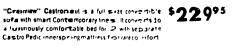


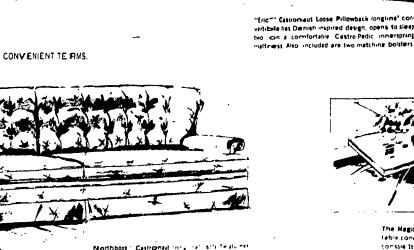


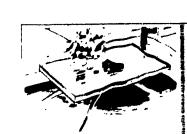
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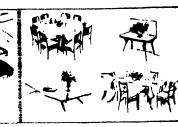


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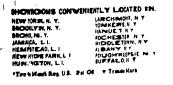








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