

CCD ... a Three-Fold Apostolate

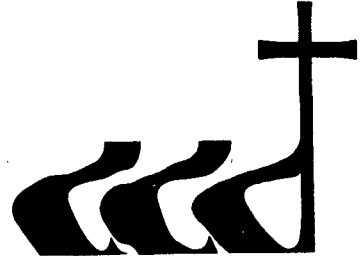
By JOAN ZUMMO
If an organization can be defined by its function then the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine can be defined, in a broad sense, as the Church teaching.

First inaugurated in 1905 by Pope Pius X as the official lay parish society responsible for religious education, and further defined in accordance with directives to laymen by Vatican II, the CCD today has a three-fold apostolate — the school, the home, and the community.

This concept of CCD as a multi-faceted organization is foreign to many people. In most parishes religious education is synonymous with "catechism classes" for public school children. Although this is one of the three main areas of concern, CCD should be, and can be, a vastly more complete and encompassing program of religious education than simply religion classes for children.

Consider for a moment, however, this most familiar apostolate of CCD — the school. In the Diocese of Rochester more than half the Catholic children of elementary school age are attending public schools. At the junior high and high school levels the percentage is higher. Formal religious instruction for these children is provided by the various CCD organizations throughout the Diocese. Although these programs vary a great deal from parish to parish the mainstays

Confrontation



of most of them are dedicated laymen who volunteer many hours to prepare and teach classes in released time, evening, or Saturday morning classes.

Obviously, the task of helping young people to develop Christian attitudes and values cannot be accomplished solely by a weekly hour of instruction. The primary educators of children are their parents.

Therefore, it is necessary that parents accept and meet this responsibility not only by providing a Christian atmosphere in the home, but also by continuing their own Christian growth by being familiar with, and when possible, being active in, religious training in their parish.

In the past, parents have often been cut off from these programs simply because provision was not made for them. It is imperative, therefore, that channels be made available to parents, especially at the parish level, through which they may participate in the educational aspect. These channels might

include courses and lectures for parents, literature, and direct contact between teachers and parents.

The community is another concern for Christian education. Adults must not only continue to learn about the faith, but must relate and implement it into all phases of their lives — civic, business, social. Ultimately this area, the community, is the most important, for it is the fruition of the other two.

This three-pronged approach to Christian education demands rethinking of some attitudes toward the subject. It also requires new methods and organization. This new orientation is exemplified by the Diocesan Lay Advisory Board. Composed of eight laymen from various parishes in

and around Rochester, the function of the Board is essentially twofold: to act as adviser at local and Diocesan levels in regard to meeting religious education needs; to act as a resource center of personnel and materials, to provide assistance to local programs and to aid in training people for these programs.

In order to carry out these aims, the second in particular, the Lay Advisory Board has set up teams of individuals to help parishes organize their religious education programs. These teams will work with parish organizations to help establish an efficient religious education program to meet parish needs. Information regarding these assistance teams can be obtained by calling the CCD office.



Mr. and Mrs. Alfred A. Joseph, 167 Kisslingbury St., Rochester, are welcomed to recent "Parents' Weekend" at the Naval Academy, Annapolis, by their 17-year-old son, Alfred M., 1968 Aquinas Institute graduate. Josephs have seven other children.

When it gets so jammed around the bar that you can hardly move—this is probably the bottleneck. (It's called The Sure One.)



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Youth Club Asks Public To Dinner

The kids will get Sunday dinner ready, and do the clean up, too, at St. Helen's.

This Sunday, Nov. 10 from 1:30 to 5:30, the parish Youth Club, with an assist from the cafeteria staff, will serve a spaghetti dinner to raise money for parish activities. More than 60 of the club's 110 members are involved in the work.

Ithaca Parish Growing

Ithaca — St. Catherine of Siena parishioners met 45 new members last week at a morning coffee hour in the parish center.

'Elijah' Sunday Night

Baritone William Warfield will sing the title role in Mendelssohn's "Elijah," with the 300-voice Rochester Oratorio Society, at 8:15 p.m. Sunday in the Eastman Theater.

BREAKFAST BRIGHTENER

Brighten breakfast appetites on a drizzly and cold morning with a compote of warm, gay fruits and fragrant hot toast. Heat canned fruit cocktail in its syrup. Spoon into serving dishes and serve with spicy cinnamon toast.

DRESS IT UP

Bake and baste canned cling peaches with equal parts lemon juice and honey. Arrange on platter of turkey or ham as a meat accompaniment, or sprinkle with toasted coconut and serve as a fruit dessert.

UNITY AGAINST POVERTY

... Poverty knows no religious frontiers. So your gifts to the Catholic Bishops' Thanksgiving Clothing Collection are distributed overseas in cooperation with Protestant, Jewish, Moslem and Buddhist groups to the world's poor — regardless of creed.

A HOME OF THEIR OWN

THE HOLY FATHER'S MISSION AID TO THE ORIENTAL CHURCH

We shudder when we see them on TV, the families in India who have never lived indoors. They live in the streets, painfully, sleep huddled together on matting on the sidewalks. The pennies they earn buy scraps of food and rags. . . . In Calcutta alone they number 100,000. They are not drunkards or tramps, these families. All they need is a chance. . . . "For only \$200 (for materials), we can give a family a home," writes Archbishop Joseph Parecatil from Ennakulam. "We'll provide the supervision, our men will do the work free-of-charge, and the family will own it outright once they prove they can take care of it themselves. We'll start the work immediately. Can you imagine the happiness a 'home of their own' will bring?" . . . Here's your chance to thank God for your family, your home, your warm bed. Archbishop Parecatil will write you personally to say thanks.

\$200 GETS A FAMILY OFF INDIA'S STREETS

MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

November is the month set aside by the Church for the remembrance of the Souls in Purgatory. Do you have a loved one deceased whom you wish remembered? Our missionary priests will be pleased to offer promptly the Masses you request. Send us your intentions now.

MONTH FOR GIVING THANKS

Your Thanksgiving turkey will seem tastier and be more meaningful if you share your blessings with the hungry families huddled in refugee camps of the Near East. For only \$10—less than the cost of most Thanksgiving dinners—you can feed a Palestine refugee family for an entire month. To show their thanks to you, we'll send you an Olive Wood Rosary from the Holy Land.

ONE LAST THOUGHT

After death your savings don't belong to you. Plan now to make the world a better place. Mention the CATHOLIC NEAR EAST WELFARE ASSOCIATION (our legal title) in your will. Stringless bequests are used by the Holy Father where needed most.

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