

'We Have a Good Time... We Like People, We Like God'

Among "new" choirs in the area, that at Immaculate Conception Church has attracted widespread attention. Its story is told here by one of its members.

By RICHARD ALBRECHT

The family that sings, eats and prays together has got something good going for it.

The Immaculate Conception choir just sort of got together, without making a big thing out of it.

Father Robert Kreckel wanted a guitar Mass for the school's 1967 graduation, and asked parishioner Tim Sullivan (a music teacher at Nazareth College) and guitar-playin' deacon Dave Kunz (now Father Kunz, assistant pastor at Horseheads) if they could put something together.

They rounded up a few boys in the neighborhood who played guitars, and they sang a few folk Mass tunes.

Subsequently Father Kreckel encouraged use of the same hymns at the 10 o'clock Mass. Tim Sullivan continued to direct a couple of folk tunes each week, while Judy Boyd played traditional music on the organ.

Announcements from the pulpit brought up several more peo-

ple who wanted to sing. The idea was expressed that this was the people's choir and that anyone should feel free to participate.

Judy, a vibrant soprano, stepped in as director and lead singer. Soon Phyllis Contestable, an artistic guitarist and vocalist, joined. Something musical and moving had started to take place.

Today the instrumental section at Immaculate is a happy mixture of guitarists Phyllis, Judy, Loewenguth, Paula Satterly, and Tim on bass; percussionists Bill New (back from Viet Nam) on drums, Terry Marcus' fast hands on bongos, and the author, who bangs and rattles on tambourines, woodblocks, finger cymbals, etc.

Occasionally, a congregation member such as Charlotte Gruber, who plays violin, sits in. (The choir is presently looking for a small woodwind-brass-reed or soul group, for occasional instrumental selections.)

Besides the regular Mass, the choir's other liturgical singing efforts have included ordinations, weddings, visits to other parishes, ecumenical services, graduations, old peoples' home Masses and the joyful white funeral Mass of an elderly woman. The choir practices to be-

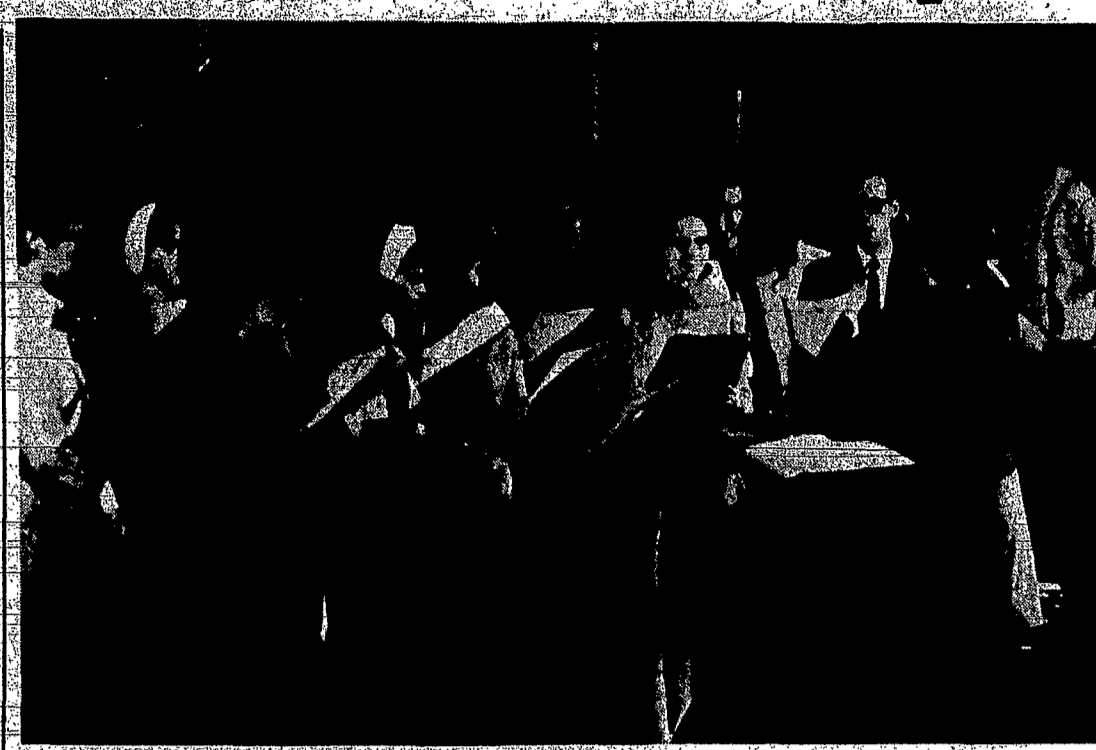
come better, to be a worshipping choir, both musically sound and a people's choir. It seeks to use music which is appropriate to the liturgical season and expressive of the new kind of Christianity.

Some of the new music, which exceeds the concepts of folk and guitar Masses, can be found in the Hymnal for Young Christians of F.E.L. Church Publications, as well as heard on as many as 50 records put out in the last three years. Names to look for are Joseph Weiss, Paul Quinlan, S.J.; Father Clarence Rivers, Robert Blue and Ray Repp.

In addition, a great part of the music heard at Immaculate has been gleaned by Judy from travels, church music conventions, and attendance at churches where things of this sort are being innovated.

At the regular 10 o'clock Mass, attended by visitors from many city parishes, there are highly spirited and joyous entrance and recessional hymns, and liturgical Communion, meditation and offertory songs. The "Lord Have Mercy" (Kyrie), "Holy, Holy, Holy," (Sanctus), "Our Father," "Great Amen," and "Lamb of God" (Agnus Dei) are sung as well.

Those who are writing this



PRACTICE MAKES MUSIC — Members of the Immaculate Conception Church Choir, Rochester, pictured during a recent rehearsal.

kind of music today have given us a way to celebrate our "celebrations by actively and joyfully participating in the Word of God." For this reason, too, such sources as Israeli, Spanish, Negro folk, jazz, rock, calypso, and

stirring traditional music are adapted for liturgical use.

Jazz, incidentally, was born of Negro church music and was first played in connection with their funeral services. It seems perfectly natural to use this

American music form in worship, which has only begun to manifest itself, we are in fact only beginning to actually celebrate together. As Phyllis says:

"We have a good time at Im-

maculate because we like people; we like music; we like God. He made these groovy things, so why not have a good time with them? We're glad we're Christian people and we want everyone to know it and share in the Good News that the Spirit of Christ has touched us."

Catholics don't seem to have had very extensive congregational participation for several centuries before our own. In contrast, Protestant sects as Lutherans, Calvinists, and Methodists have been singing together in church since the 16th century.

Protestants appear to have always had the common basic notion of community liturgy and have established a tradition of their own. Their music was written for congregational use and often was taken from secular sources popular at the time. Now, as we ecumenically reintegrate, we owe much for the spirit of community to the Protestants who have preserved it for us.

Although what the choir and congregation at Immaculate are doing isn't new musically or very sophisticated or professional, it is artistic and religious. That is, it is an organization of forms which can move people's minds and spirits to worship.

Moreover, it is very singable and has a broader appeal than

anything yet offered. Then too, we simply can't sit around silently and await a highly polished and universally approved liturgical music to appear. Styles don't appear; they are developed.

A new liturgical music hasn't yet had time to take solid form or direction. We can only try to determine what will occur from the hints of the trends.

It is, of course, necessary to express our Christian concern of the times with equally contemporary responses drawn from the music, language and images of the times.

We are working with what we have. This is not to say that we are "chucking" traditional music. On the contrary, we see it as a rich source of musical expression and use it often in our services. What may be new, Tim emphasizes, is its de-churchified aspect: it is more secular and grassroots. The reason is because the Church is "moving into the streets."

With the talents and hard work of people like song-writers, composers, and Judy Boyd, and with the encouragement of pastors, we will behold in our time a new, meaningful, refreshing Eucharistic celebration which naturally expands our relationship with Christ and the members of His family.

COURIER-JOURNAL

NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

Friday, Jan. 3, 1969

Page 7

World Peace Day: The Bishop Reflects

Continued from Page 1

From another point of view the United States is 6% of the world's population and yet controls 46% of the world's wealth.

4. Peace would be very much hastened by allowing the Russian soul to practice Christianity. In the 19th Century the prophetic forebodings of the 20th Century were about Godlessness, but their spiritual strains always manifested a desire for bringing peace to the world.

Alesky Kohlmayakof, who saw something of the God-less fanaticism that would possess Russia, also believed that Russia would help give faith to Europe in the future. "Our spiritual and ascetic labors of plowing, sowing and weeding are not for Russia's sake alone but for the sake of the whole world. Russian life holds many treasures not only for their own people but for many others, if not for all nations."

5. Peace will never be brought about by those who use violence to secure it. As Gandhi put it: "Non-violence implies a complete self-purification. One seeks to convert his opponent by the force of character and suffering. I saw that nations, like individuals, could only be made through the agony of the Cross." Christian violence is not directed outward to the enemy but inward to the egotism of our heart.

6. There is a world of difference between the man who is so weak that he is incapable of taking revenge and the man, with all the bitterness of self-knowledge that he is strong, who avoids taking his revenge because he has enough supernatural love to acquiesce in such a humiliation of his nature.

The Christian doctrine is not too weak for our times, it is too strong for our times. Most of us are too good to succeed in the world but not good enough to overcome it.

7. Finally, and most important, peace does not come from the United Nations inward to the hearts of men. It proceeds from the hearts of men to the United Nations. It is our souls that first must be remade; then the world will have peace.

(Bishop Sheen has asked that a Votive Mass for Peace be offered in all parishes this Sunday.)

World Peace Day, Jan. 5

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant: Creator and Father of us all we ask you to help us see that we are not our brothers' keeper. Rather, we are our brothers' brother.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Cel: That we may see in the foreigner and the alien the face of your Son.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Cel: That we may see that all men of all races and colors are made in your image and likeness.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Cel: That we may see that the three billion people who share this planet with us are truly the one human family, the people of God.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Cel: That we may see we must live as brothers or destroy ourselves as aliens and enemies.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Cel: That if we dare to call you our Father, that we must treat all men as your sons.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Aquinas Trio Designated as 'Outstanding'

Three Aquinas Institute students have been named Outstanding Teenagers of America for 1969, it was announced Monday by the Outstanding Americans Foundation.

Gerald Doell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Doell of 30 Northeast Ave.; Carl Nanni, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Nanni of 632 VanVoorhis Ave.; and Arthur Pires, son of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Pires of 794 Flower City Pk. were named recipients by Morris Dees, director of the Foundation.

The Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to honoring, inspiring and encouraging young people to take full advantage of the opportunities in America, sponsors this awards program annually.

Doell and Nanni, both seniors, and Pires, a junior, were selected on the basis of ability and achievement. Doell, a scholarship student, is chairman of his school's publicity staff and is chief Christian student for athletic events.

Nanni, also a scholarship student, is president of the Aquinas Student Council. Pires is a member of the student council and is active in school programs.

The Outstanding Teenagers awards program is guided by a board of advisors representing major youth organizations and educational institutions. Heading the board is Doug Blankenship, past national president of the U.S. Jaycees.

Father Leon G. Hart, CSB, Aquinas principal, congratulated the recipients and stated that the goal of the program "is to recognize and encourage the ability and achievements of students. They are America's leaders of tomorrow."

Greece Church Plans Panel on Race Problems

"The Racial Crisis: A WHITE Problem" will be the subject of a panel discussion, followed by a question-and-answer period at 8 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5 in St. Charles School Hall, 64 Maiden Lane, Greece.

Panelists will be Father P. David Finks, Vicar of Urban Ministry for the Diocese; Rev. Johnny Monroe, director of the Southeast Loop Atlantic Avenue Ministry; and Mrs. Ellen Stubbs, a Town of Greece resident.

The program is a parish project.

McQuaid Debaters Third in Tourney

A two-man team from McQuaid Jesuit High School finished third in the over-all standings of the Boston College Debate Tourney last week-end in Boston.

Alan Schreck, a senior, of 350 Clover St., Brighton, and Richard Coake, a junior, of 207 Ellicott St., were one of 83 teams from across the nation who debated the national high school topic "Resolved: The United States Should Establish a System of Compulsory Service for All Citizens."

In addition the third-place trophy, Schreck finished ninth among the 168 individual presentations.

Activities to Resume At Settlement House

Regular activities scheduling will resume Monday at Genesee Settlement House, 10 Duke St., following a temporary halt this week for repairs from damages caused by a two-alarm fire early Christmas morning.

Investigators said the blaze, which severely damaged the rear of the main building, may have been touched off by a burglar. A basement window had been forced open, and footprints were found by it.

The fire started in a second-floor office, spreading to the first floor and to the attic and roof of the 2½-story frame building. Other sections suffered smoke, heat and water damage.

The blaze was discovered shortly after midnight, and firemen fought it

in temperatures which dipped below the 10-degree mark.

The agency, which services the poor and underprivileged in the Bay Street-Central Park neighborhood, is operated by Rochester Catholic Charities.

Miss Mary Hannick, director, told police there had been two break-ins in the house during the previous two weeks.

While causing considerable damage, the fire did not weaken the building structure, and was kept from spreading to the front building at Duke and Niagara Streets containing the gymnasium and a large meeting room.

The house marked its 50th anniversary in October. Miss Hannick is assisted by 14 fulltime and 10 parttime workers.

Pre-Cana Schedule, 1969

Rochester	
Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26	3 p.m. St. Helen—310 Hinchey Rd. 7:30 p.m. St. Theodore—170 Spencerport Rd.
Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23	3 p.m. Holy Trinity—1456 Ridge Rd. Webster 7:30 p.m. St. Andrew—923 Portland Ave.
Auburn	
Jan. 12, 19, 26, Feb. 2	3 p.m. St. Aloysius—162 Van Anden St.
Feb. 9, 16, 23, Mar. 2	7 p.m. Holy Family—North St.
Geneva	
Feb. 9, 16, 23, Mar. 2	3 p.m. St. Stephen—Elmwood Ave.
Elmira	
Feb. 23, Mar. 2, 9, 16	8 p.m. Our Lady of Lourdes—W. Church St.
Ithaca	
Jan. 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19	8 p.m. Place to be arranged. Contact Rev. David Gramke, Immaculate Conception Rectory.

New Report Due Jan. 7 On Fund Drive

With 75 per cent of their \$100,000 goal attained, the nearly 200 volunteer committeemen for the St. Martin dePorres Center Development Fund campaign will make another report Tuesday, Jan. 7.

Thomas H. Brenna and Alfred G. Boylan, committee chairmen, said the drive workers will report from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at temporary campaign headquarters, 562 Main St. E.

Aim of the drive is purchase or construction of a larger building to replace the Center's present small quarters at 537 Clinton Ave. N., and obtaining operating funds for 1969-70.

The Center, which services the poor in the Clinton-Joseph Avenue neighborhood, receives no monies from any governmental or private agencies, depending for its continuance on contributions and on volunteer assistance.

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1966 CADILLAC Sedan deVille with factory air cond., full power, traded on '69 Cadillac. Owners name on request.	1967 PONTIAC 4 door, traded on '69 Cadillac, full power, ideal family car.
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1967 CADILLAC Cpe. DeVille, full power, leather interior many extras.	1967 GRAND PRIX Convertible, all power, low mileage, traded on '69 Cadillac.
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