

Pop-Art Parables for Beginners

By Joan Zupmo

The Prodigal Son chews on a chocolate bar while newspaper pictures of hungry people look over his shoulder. The robbed and beaten traveler taken to the inn by the Good Samaritan lies in bed with a gigantic Band-Aid covering half his head. These images are pop-art-ish perhaps, but they are useful and most effectively in the Little Peoples Paperbacks Filmstrips.

This particular series, like the Kree series mentioned last week, although intended primarily for young children, can also be used most effectively with older children and adults. The topics of the series are six parables—the Little Grain of Wheat, The Good Samaritan, The King and the Servant, The Prodigal Son, The Great Harvest, The Generous Vinegrower.

The parables are expressed in bright contemporary art. The artist uses bold splashes of color, a variety of textures and methods to express the various themes in a direct and very appealing manner.

The filmstrips come without records so they can be used in a variety of ways—such as discussing the films as it is shown. However, since the films are identical with the Little Peoples Paper-

backs booklets, they do include a text which can be read as the film is shown. The texts are excellent. The language is simple, direct, and is used in a way that is easily understood by today's child. For example, in the Prodigal Son—"He journeyed to a land far away, a land where people were poor. But the Prodigal Son did not think of them. He spent his money on himself."

This entire series of paperbacks and films, and the twelve other titles that appear only as books, are a most worthwhile addition to any CCD program.

Although not an organized program, these booklets can be used individually or as a series to supplement many of the CCD courses now in use.

Confrontation

CCD in Action



Like the Kree films, they can be understood at many different levels and in varying degrees of complexity so they can be used with many different age groups.

Another series of children's books that deserves mention is the Arch Books series by Concordia Publishing House. These booklets are available in groups of six or individually. They deal with such topics as the parables, and stories from the Old and New Testaments.

The texts and art work in these booklets are done by a number of different artists. It is not of uniform quality, and in general is not of the superior quality of the Little Peoples series. For example, the text in some of the books is done in a sing-song sort of rhyme.

However, even though it is not poetry it does have a certain pace that carries the story along. The texts are based on Bible passages and, even when presented in rhyme are complete and true to the sense of the Biblical narrative. The art is not all in full

color, but is generally bright and attractive.

Samples of these two series of booklets can be seen at the CCD Office or they may be available on your parish pamphlet rack. Information regarding renting or ordering the films or ordering the booklets can also be obtained from the Office. This information is available not only to CCD personnel, but also to interested parents. Both these series include an explanatory paragraph to parents in each booklet so they are especially suited to home use.

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What's Happening In the Diocese

The Archconfraternity of the Holy Family, of St. Joseph's Church, will receive communion at the 9 a.m. Mass this Sunday and breakfast afterward in the school cafeteria.

The Rosary-Altar Society of Our Lady of Good Counsel will honor outgoing officers at a dinner Wednesday night in the Party House, Beahon Road. Tickets can be obtained after Masses Sunday or by calling 328-9516 or 438-5355.

Father Albert Bartlett, rector of McQuaid, will address the Rosary-Altar Society of St. Joseph's, Livonia, Wednesday night, Rosary and Benediction will open the meeting at 7:45. Members are asked to bring baby gifts for the Pope's Storehouse.

Auxiliary Bishop Dennis W. Hickey will speak at the annual banquet of St. Helen's Altar and Rosary Society Wednesday, 6 p.m., at Logan's, Scottsville Road.

St. Michael's Vigil, an hour of

Pow' Show At Gallery

"Pow" Tapestries—a college of the art forms of the Sixties—figurative and abstract, expressionists, geometric, pop, op maximal color and minimal form, translated into the warmth of fabric, will be shown in the Gallery Concourse during January.

Done in monumental scale in brilliant colors, the tapestries were handwoven and knotted in a faithful interpretation of the original designs of the artists.

The 28 tapestries, ranging in size up to 16 feet wide, represent the designs of top-ranking American artists: Baskin, Lichtenstein, Motherwell, Shah, and Trova, among others equally well-known.

The show runs from Jan. 3 through Jan. 26.

"Living Landmarks", a special exhibition of the history of architecture in Rochester, will begin Jan. 24. The show is the result of an extensive research project conducted by the Rochester Landmark Society.

Music for solo and piano by Bach, Brahms, Debussy and Bartok will be the Gallery Concert program on Jan. 5, and music for baritone and string quartet by Samuel Barber and Ottmar Schoeck are scheduled for January 19. The concerts begin at 3:00 p.m., and are presented by the faculty and student performers of the Eastman School of Music.

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