

He's Trading Printing for Preaching

By CARMEN VIGLIUCCI

How does a 34-year-old newspaper printer who once had a "family" with 18 children make the transition from his trade of 11 years to the ministry of the Church of Christ?

"There's not much to it," drawled John Dimmitt, "I'm just going from working part-time for the Lord to working full-time for Him."

Dimmitt, who has been married for 11 years is leaving the Christopher Press where he has worked for two years to enroll in the Preston Road School of Preaching at Dallas, Texas, which he will attend for two years studying the Bible, Greek and Hebrew to prepare for his ministry.

The future Protestant minister has worked indirectly for the Catholic press in his composing room job with the Christopher Press which publishes the Courier-Journal.

But his acquaintance with the Catholic Church through news copy he has handled has had no influence on his vocation decision, he says.

Dimmitt and his wife Raye-dean are both from Greenfield, Mo., and for a time were house parents at a church-sponsored home in Lubbock, Texas, for orphans and youngsters from broken families. That's where they had the 18 children, including their own, Joey, now 8, and Eva, now 6.

"Man, it was fun," says Dimmitt of the hectic life of a family of 20, including 12 boys and 6 girls, aged from 5 to 18.



Photo by Pincer-Leaven

JOHN DIMMITT
Printer to Preacher

"They called me 'Big Bad John,'" Dimmitt says (he's 6 foot 3). "We slept three kids to a room and used to eat at three big tables. We tried to make it as regular a family life as possible with the working and Raye-dean tending to the family."

"It wasn't so hard, the older girls did the cooking

and a maid employed by the home helped with housework. Each kid also had outside sponsors who supplied clothes."

The Dimmitts had to leave Lubbock when Eva developed allergies to the West Texas sand and dust.

Asked why he has decided to become a minister,

Dimmitt, who hears words, possibly for his future as a preacher, says simply, "There is a need."

"I just think that the answer to the world situation lies not in changing communities but in changing individuals. Get Christ into their hearts and they're going to follow Him. Everything else will work out as it's supposed to."

Dimmitt, who wasn't baptized until he was 23, is a member of the Church of Christ in Henrietta which consists of about 50 families. Minister David Young's congregation is meeting at the Henrietta YMCA until the new church building is completed on Calkins Road.

"My wife is enthused about it all even though she'll have to work while I'm going to school. The kids are real thrilled about it, too."

Dimmitt, who hopes to serve a congregation somewhere in the North after school, explains that the Church of Christ doesn't have the distinction between clergy and laity as such.

"This won't change my status as a member of the church with the elders responsible for the administration and finances."

For Navy veteran Dimmitt, it's been a long and twisting road from a day 11 years ago when as a "happy nothing" he sat down and started to read the Bible.

"It became evident to my wife and me what we had to do (become Christians) so we did it."

The next step is now evident to Dimmitt and he's taking it with an eye to someday "preaching the opinions of God."

Fr. Norris Named To Anti-Abortion Unit

Father John P. Norris, pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church, has been selected by Bishop Fulton J. Sheen to serve as diocesan coordinator for the "Right to Life Committee" of the New York State Catholic Committee.

The Conference is forming the committee in the eight dioceses of the state to combat moves toward the liberalization of the state's abortion laws.

Aim of the committee is to bring to the attention of citizens and legislators the Catholic philosophy on issues related to the "right to life" in all its phases.

Father Norris will shortly select others to assist him in support of the statewide committee aims.

LEARN TO SWIM

Grammar school swimmers who are not yet ready for the Red Cross beginners' test may catch up at winter classes in their neighborhoods.

Registrations will be taken tomorrow, on a "first come, first served" basis, at East High, Edison, Charlotte, Marshall, Monroe, West High and Frederick Douglas Junior High School. Instruction will begin Jan. 18 at the same schools.

Calling All Folk Musicians

Area folk musicians are invited to take part in a festival, "Greenfield Odyssey II," Feb. 15 at Aquinas Institute.

Those interested in performing should call Pat Connolly at 458-3904 or Terry Semanuk, 467-0989.

Family Rosary

The Family Rosary for Peace program is broadcast each evening at 7 p.m. by Rochester radio station WSAV, WMOB-FM in Auburn, television cable companies Channel 5 in Hornell, Channel 8 in Elmira and 59.75 m.c. in Corning. Those who will lead in recitation of the Rosary this week are:

Friday, Jan. 10 — A representative of Our Mother of Sorrows Junior Legion.


Saturday, Jan. 11 — Mass will be celebrated.

Sunday, Jan. 12 — Ralph Murphy of St. Joseph's, Pittsford, accompanied by K. C. Council 178.

Monday, Jan. 13 — Charles Bayer of St. Joseph's, and the Holy Name Society.

Tuesday, Jan. 14 — Fred Imo of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

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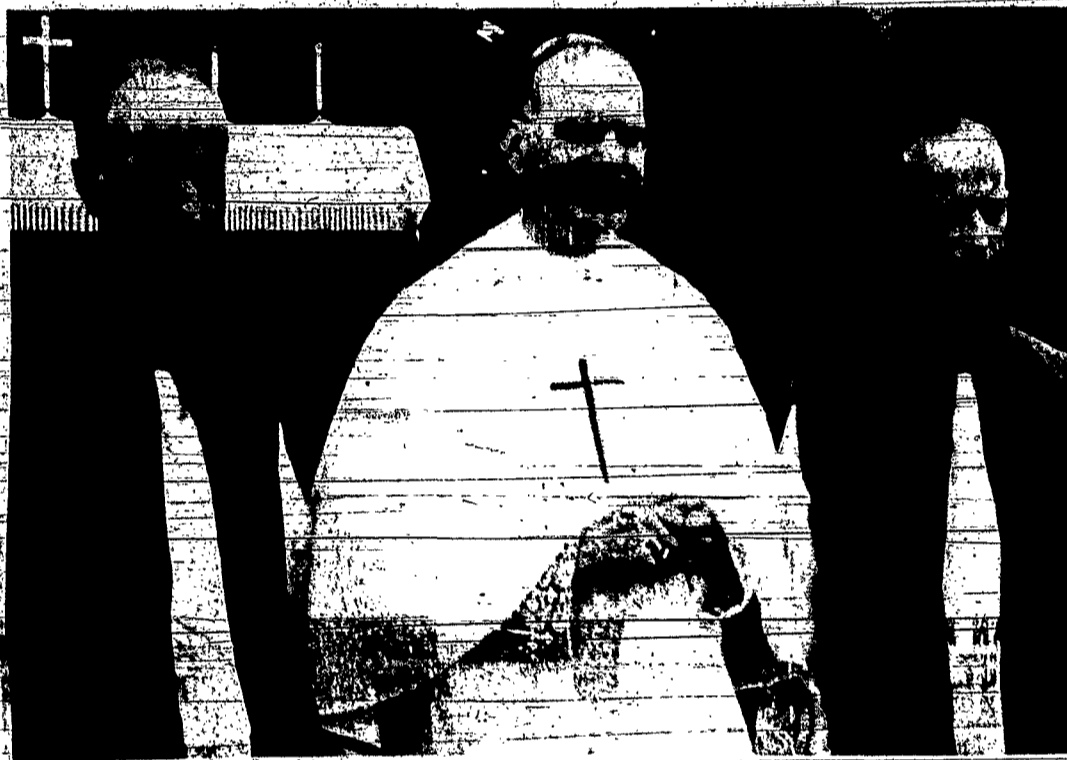
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DAILY 9 A.M. - 5:30 P.M. • THURS. EVES. 'TIL 9



Twin Assistance

Archbishop Terence J. Cooke on his visit to the armed forces in Vietnam met twin Rochester Monsignors Gerald J. Gefell, USARV staff chaplain who was escort officer for the archbishop, and Joseph G. Gefell, 11th Field Forces chaplain.

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Sister Marie... Steuben County

St. Jan... New C

Hornell — The obituary part of the west wing was visited by more than 500 braved icy weather to "open house" of the

Patients will be according to Sister Jan, supervisor, who finishing touches completed and the "scrubbed" before the patient mother may

Accommodations are alive with pered tones in a colors carried out a shingles, drapes and Rooms are equipped nurse call, telephone shower and nurse se

There are four Two, each with bass eight babies, will be

A mariachi banding dedication E. Cousins, sheriffal agency,

WEEKLY C

ACROSS 3.
1. Exclamation of regret; archaic 4.
6. Deputy 5.
31. Grieving 6.
12. More infrequent 7.
13. Johnny cake 8.
14. Waist 8.
15. Breaks 8.
17. Chess piece; abbr. 9.
18. Diverse 10.
21. Stroke 14.
24. Affirmative vote 16.
25. Wine receptacles 20.
27. Adjust 1.
28. Seaside 1.
30. Female horse 11.
31. Thus 11.
32. Call to attract attention 15.
33. Supervise 15.
36. So. Pacific island group; abbr. 21.
37. Figure 21.
41. Wait upon 27.
44. Natural cavern 27.
45. Rental contract 27.
46. Stringed instruments 27.
47. Showy flower 41.
49. Cloth 45.
DOWN
1. Vipers 41.
2. Washing machine 41.