

## Confrontation For New Approaches

By JOAN ZUMMO

The Second Annual Lay Catechist's Institute to be held April 26 at Mercy High School has something for everyone involved in religious education. If you have not yet registered call the CCD Office today — registration deadline is this weekend.

One of the most important features of such a meeting, although it is not listed on the agenda, is the opportunity to exchange ideas with dozens, even hundreds, of persons who share your concerns. In the workshops especially, but also in the hallways between sessions, at lunch, at the exhibits, talk to people, talk to the publishers' representatives, question the dealers and local merchants who have exhibits.

Be sure to allow plenty of time to look over the exhibits. They are well worth the effort of getting there a little early on, staying a little late.

An excellent way to prepare for the Institute, as well as a very good way to top it off, is to do some reading in your field, or one related to it. In addition to the excellent list carried in the Courier-Journal last week there is a very good paperback available. Titled "Where There's Life, It is the First Book in a series called 'Treasures in Religious Education' published by Geo. A. Pflaum.

After a statement on the necessity of a solid theological foundation for catechetics by Brother Gabriel Moran, there are articles which, when considered all together give a very good picture of what catechetics should mean in today's world.

The first article, by Gerard A. Potterbaum, is an excellent presentation of one teacher's successful attempt to make religious education an education in living for young children. Using a specially designed, but very simple room, as well as outdoor and other settings, the teacher creates a situation where mood, method and audio-visual aids combine to create a life situation that becomes a learning experience. If you have any doubts about the effectiveness of the newer methods and approaches, this article is a must for you.

Of equally outstanding quality, and fine sources of ideas for imaginative approaches are

the other articles in this book. Sr. Francis Mary Myers, S.L. tells how to communicate to grade school children a sense of revelation and a sense of God speaking to us through His creation.

This general idea is adapted to teaching teenagers to find God speaking and acting in today's world, in an article by Rev. James E. Kraus.

The book ends with a comment on religious education of adults. The author gives reasons for the apathy of many adults toward religious education — for themselves and good reasons why this attitude is not acceptable for Today's Christian.

This booklet also includes discussion questions with each article, and so is easily adaptable to an adult education or group discussion presentation. The attitudes and methods expounded in it are a good guideline to use in evaluating your present year's work of planning for the coming year.

### Niagara Alumni Plan Dinner

The Very Rev. Kenneth E. Slattery, CM., president of Niagara University, will be principal speaker at the annual President's Dinner slated by the Rochester Alumni Chapter at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 24, in the Party House, Beahon Road.



Talks also Father Slattery will be given by Vincent D. Flaherty, of Norwalk, Conn., president of the Niagara National Alumni Association; Frank P. Layden, basketball coach, and Edward T. Flynn, director of publicity at the University.

Gerald L. Dorsey, Rochester attorney, will be toastmaster. Dinner chairman John R. Lechner, local chapter president, will be assisted by Thomas J. Gibbons and Charles P. Feerick.

## 'Spring Follies' Feature Songs, Skits at Mercy

Songs, dances and skits featuring themes from the year 1900 to the present will highlight the two-night performances of "Spring Follies of 1969" scheduled at 8:15 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 25-26, at Mercy High School Auditorium.

Sponsoring and producing the show are the Rosary Society and Men's Club of St. John the Evangelist's Church, Humboldt Street. Proceeds will finance new doors at the church.

More than 50 persons are in the show, which was written and is directed by Mrs. Joan Patterson and Joseph Holland. It also features brief performances by some of the parish priests and nuns.

Aiding in production are Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Nary, John Savage, Mrs. Sarah Conte, Mrs. Monica Miller and Mrs. Barbara McDonald.

Performers include George Scheck, Mrs. Mary Leta, Fred Murphy, Ann Nary, Joe Holland Jr., Joseph Appleby, Mrs. Lois Grant, Mrs. Patricia Kostiak and Mrs. Virginia Flynn.

### Parish Council To Hold Election

Ithaca — The parish council of Immaculate Conception will meet at 7:30 Sunday night, April 20, to elect officers.

Peter DeWysocki heads the nominating committee's slate as presidential candidate. Other nominations may be made from the floor.

There will be panel discussions and a film, "The Parable."

**PARISH FOLLIES** — How they danced the "Charleston" will be among the features of "Spring Follies" to be presented by parishioners of St. John the Evangelist's Church at Mercy High School Auditorium on Friday and Saturday nights, April 25-26. From left are Lucille Capobianco, Fred Murphy, Tom Allison, Barbara McDonald and Joe Holland.

### Parishes Schedule Public Discussions

Parishioners of St. Francis Xavier, Corpus Christi and St. Philip Neri invite the public to a series of four discussions on abortion, divorce and remarriage. All meetings will be at 8 p.m. Wednesdays in the St. Philip school hall, 1772 Clifford.

Father Patrick Logan of St. Bernard's Seminary will open the program April 23 with a talk on divorce in the Catholic Church.

"What About Remarriage?" will be the next topic, April 30, with Father John G. Skvorak of St. Francis as speaker.

On May 14, Eugene Cusker, a lawyer, will talk about abortion laws.

A discussion of abortion, pro and con, will be led May 23 by two physicians, Thomas Swone and Mary Anna Frederick.

Tickets, at \$2.50 a couple for the series, may be obtained through Mrs. Robert Brescia, 288-4499, or Mrs. James DiBella, 342-6789.

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### Hospital Names Security Director

Elmira — Appointment of Thomas G. Whitford, former chief of police, as director of security for St. Joseph's Hospital was announced last week by Sister Margaret Adelaide, hospital administrator.

Whitford, who retired as police chief last October, will be in charge of internal traffic in the hospital complex, security operations for the new Medical Arts Building now under construction, and the expansion of parking facilities. He also will advise on disaster plans.



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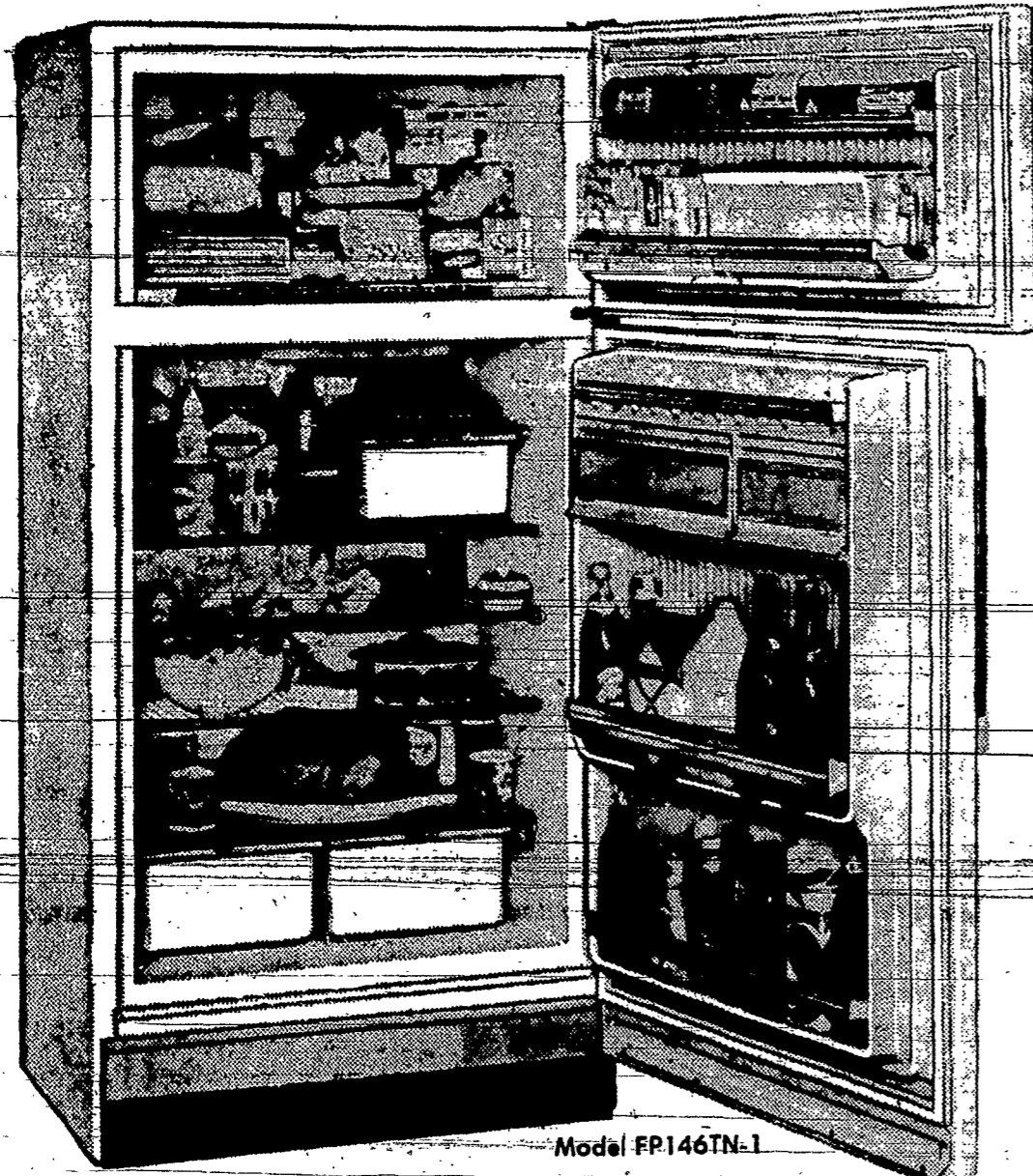
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