

# Up-to-Date Look at Quakers

By Carmen Viglucci

It is a rectangular room, approximately 20 by 40 feet; the floors are plain wood and there is a fireplace centered in one of the lengthwise walls.

Starting on either side of the fireplace there is a semicircle of four rows of wooden chairs. There are large, latticed windows on either end of the room as well as on each side of the fireplace.

Around the walls there are low, glass-windowed bookshelves. There are about 40 people in the room, sitting in their silent semicircle. There is little coughing and less shuffling of feet.

They sit and wait, kindling their "Inner Light" or "that of God in each man." The people are Quakers (or Friends, as they prefer) and the time is the present.

In appearance, the Friends at last Sunday's meeting were about the same as Catholics at Mass.

The opening period of silence lasted for about a half-hour before the first "testimony." A woman, without rising, told about an inner city family who refused the offer of a house in a better neighborhood because they couldn't face up to living in a different neighborhood.

"I feel that that family perhaps decided wisely. They may not have been able to cope with the obvious hardships the new life would bring. But I hope the time will come when we all will be able to make changes for the better that require courage and strength."

(Earlier in the morning at East Rochester's St. Jerome's Church, the gist of the sermon was that Catholics not only should learn to accept change but should work at keeping up with it.)

There was other testimony; one man wondered aloud how he could show his caring for people more; a young girl said she is "too cynical and sarcastic" and wished she could pass on more hope to the world.

In the whole hour, there was no group, vocal prayer nor singing.

After about an hour, the clerk (the only official role at the meeting) turned and shook hands with her neighbor signaling the end of the meeting. The other Friends did likewise and the clerk proceeded to read some announcements.

The Rochester Religious Society of Friends is "a monthly meeting" meaning that it has a business meeting once a month, though it meets weekly for worship.

Although Quakers no longer wear "bonnets" or "plain clothes" of past they may still be married in traditional ceremony



### What about the Bible?

Friends do read the Bible and have always believed that the truth is found in the Bible, rather than holding that what has been written is true because it is in the Bible.

Do Quakers believe Jesus was divine?

This is difficult to answer categorically for all Friends. Friends refer to the "Light of Christ", the "Inner Light" as the external creative power of God, expressed supremely and uniquely in the supreme gift of God to man — Jesus Christ.

During the coffee hour, a young couple asked how they could be married in a Quaker ceremony.

At such a marriage the couple merely stand at a regular worship meeting and exchange vows, without a cleric. The suggested vow goes:

"In the presence of God and these our friends, I take thee to be my wife promising with Divine assistance to be unto thee a loving and faithful husband so long as we both shall live."

These days couples are given permission to compose their own vows if they wish.

When the couple is seated again, the marriage certificate is read aloud in a dignified manner by another person previously chosen. The meeting then continues in silent waiting upon God.

In many states, because there is no minister involved, Quaker marriages are illegal. They are allowed in New York provided at least one of the partners is a professed Quaker.

## Fisher Adds Information Program To Staff

Two new staff additions were announced this week at St. John Fisher College.

William K. Lyman, 189 Brooklawn Dr., Brighton, has been named director of placement. He attended Alfred and Syracuse Universities and has been serving as secretary of the Monroe County Industrial Development Corp.

Mrs. Patricia A. Quagrello, 3116 Elmwood Ave., Brighton, has been appointed assistant to the director of public information. Her husband, Joseph, originally from Clyde, is employed as a math teacher by the Rush-Henrietta School District.

## Information Program Planned by Parish

Parishioners of St. Peter & Paul Church, Rochester, will get an unusual opportunity on Sunday, Oct. 12, to hear about and to join various parish organizations.

Following each of the seven Sunday Masses, they will be asked whether they have an interest in a specific group or activity. If so, they will then be asked for an appointment later that day for someone to visit them at home and explain the program.

Delivering the homily at the Sunday Masses will be Father Conrad Schomke, S.J., a Jesuit who has been serving in missions in Japan for 16 years. Father Conrad is the son of Mrs. Marie Schomke, 227 Coolidge Rd., and celebrated his first Mass in his home parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Handling details for Sunday's campaign are Father William Pendergast, S.S.C., assistant pastor; Mrs. Clarence Frederick and Miss Frances Brennan. Parishioners have been invited to a Holy Hour from 7 to 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, for prayers for success of the Sunday endeavor.

## Triduum Slated October 14-16

A triduum to the Sacred Heart in preparation for the feast of St. Margaret Mary will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 14-15-16, in St. Peter & Paul Church, Rochester.

Father William Davis, S.S.C., pastor, said that Mass will be held at 7:30 p.m. each evening that the homily will be on the Sacred Heart, and that special prayers will be said at close of the Mass. It is hoped, he added, that the triduum will stimulate interest in devotion to the Sacred Heart, particularly for the practices of enthronement in the home and night adoration.

## Dinner-Dance

Annual dinner dance for friends of Holy Angels Home for Girls is scheduled at 6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 19, at the Hospitality House, 2226 Penfield Road, Penfield.

Sponsoring the occasion is the Holy Angels Guild. Miss Louise Randazzo, president, said reservations may be made with Violet Tessmer (586-1455) or Marie Nadine (342-2816).

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## Academ Not at Catholic

Washington—Dr. C. Walton, the first to serve as presiden Catholic University, c lca, sees no real-issu demic freedom" in th for a new dean of th

The trustees deci appoint Carmellic Roland Murphy, the c his faculty colleague some students. Their according to Preside ton, is that they are s ing for the best avai ministrator.

"Father Murphy's teach, write and pul in tact and involi pointed out in an i with NC News Serv

Dr. Walton, 54, dean of general studi lumbia University, of few administral passed by student re aries during the ' troubles last year. H cessors in the presi the pontifical unive have been bishops o

He was interviewe after a one-day-stuc cott of the theolog The academic freed arose when Father said the trustees w appoint him dean-bi had openly disagri the Pope about birtl

The new presiden unfruffed by the st "It was a shock f president to come make a decision to the majority view faculty and students

"I've had long with both faculty dents and an convi is a growing willi accept the idea that

## Gunlocke Gift To Georgetown: \$1/4 Million

Mr. and Mrs. Howard W. Gunlocke of Wayland have given Georgetown University \$250,000, the university announced this week.

The money is to provide a rare book room and special collections department in the new library that is scheduled for completion next January.

Mr. Gunlocke, 58, is president of the Gunlocke Company, Inc. of Wayland, manufacturers of wooden furniture. He was graduated from Georgetown in 1934 and received an honorary degree from Alfred University in 1967. He served with the Army during World War II, becoming commandant of the American Military Government School in France and Germany. He is chairman of the executive committee and a trustee of



H. W. GUNLOCKE

Alfred and is a director in several business firms.

### FRENCH MASS TONIGHT

All French-speaking Rochesterians are invited to St. Bernard's Seminary tonight, Oct. 10, to take part in a French folk Mass at 7:30. Coffee will be served afterward.

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