

Confrontation

The 'New' Methods

By JOAN ZUMMO

The horrified cry of "But it doesn't even mention God" is likely to be heard from more than one parent in the diocese this year.

With the replacement of the "God is..." and "You must do this and not that" type of religious education, with courses that attempt to make children more aware of and responsive to their human condition and to the implications of a world becoming Christianized, there is sure to come an indignant reaction from those whose concept of a Christian education is much more specifically and narrowly defined.

A few words of explanation, a little discussion, and some chiding at this point will hopefully encourage parents to not only take heart, but to take part in this most important phase of their children's development.

Parents, by all means become acquainted with the courses your child is using in his religious instruction classes. If parent meetings are provided in your parish, accept your responsibility to attend them. Most of the courses used in the diocese include parent guides either in separate books or included in the child's text. Use these guides to implement the child's classroom lessons.

Some of the biggest and most obvious changes in emphasis and approach come at the two ends of the school years, at the pre-school-kindergarten level and at the high school level. The recommended pre-school-kindergarten course, the Come to the Father series, bears little resemblance to the Bible story method most commonly used in the past. Its aim and emphasis is to help the children discover and explore the wonder of life—from the simple sense experiences that are an important part of the method to the beginnings of experiencing personal relationships with others. Obviously, it is not necessary to say God in every other sentence in order for this to be the basis of a

relationship between a person and his Creator.

At the other end of the line are the "turned on" or "tuned out" people or whatever teenagers are supposed to be these days. One thing that they are for certain is questioning.

It is not being morally weak or religiously indifferent to admit to young people that we do not have a complete set of neat little answers. Courses like the Choose Life series, which is the favored course for high schoolers, do not have pat answers, but they do have many questions. More specifically, they try to help young people define and understand some of the most basic philosophical and theological questions that each of us asks himself at some time, in some way.

In this method the student does not learn rules and regulations but rather learns how to make the kind of evaluations and judgments—that lead to morally responsible choices. Here again, it is not necessary to define God in each lesson to be teaching the Christian ethic.

This less parochial approach to religious education raises some interesting possibilities for ecumenical and cooperative efforts in religious education. A number of steps in this direction are taking place and many have been published in the Courier-Journal and elsewhere recently.

Next week this column will consider some of these ventures.

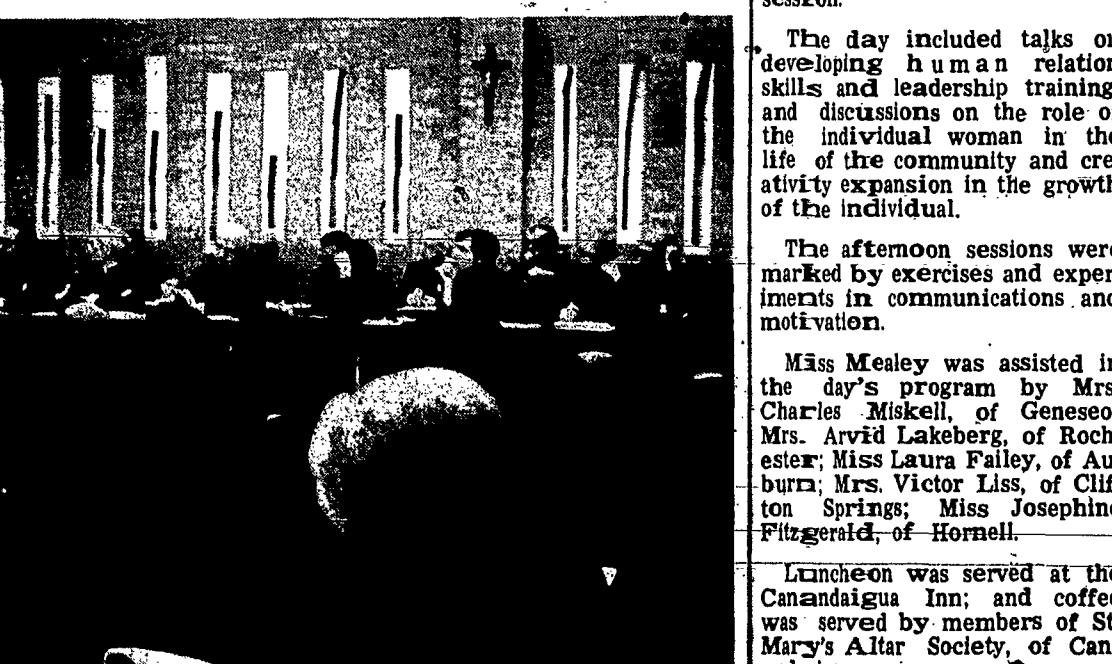


Lay Carmelites Work for Missions

Objects produced by members of the Lay Carmelites of Our Lady of Victory Community for promotion of missions and liturgy were displayed last Sunday for nearly 200 persons at St. Joseph's School Hall, Rochester. Committee members pictured from left include Mrs. Sophia O'Halloran, Miss Mary Holland, Mrs. Josephine Stadler and Mrs. Ewa West.

CCW Hears Margaret Mealy

Canandaigua—Miss Margaret Mealy, executive director of the National Council of Catholic Women, moderated a one-day personal development institute, here, Oct. 4, in St. Mary's School. The institute was titled "Fashion Me a Person," and was attended by 50 women from the diocese.



The opening Mass was celebrated by Father William Nolan, pastor of St. Mary's, and Mrs. Charles Smith, of Elmira, gave the prayer of the opening session. The day included talks on developing a human relation skills and leadership training, and discussions on the role of the individual woman in the life of the community and creativity expansion in the growth of the individual. The afternoon sessions were marked by exercises and experiments in communications and motivation. Miss Mealy was assisted in the day's program by Mrs. Charles Miskel, of Geneseo; Mrs. Arvid Lakeberg, of Rochester; Miss Laura Failey, of Canandaigua; Mrs. Victor Liss, of Clifton Springs; Miss Josephine Fitzgerald, of Hornell. Luncheon was served at the Canandaigua Inn; and coffee was served by members of St. Mary's Altar Society, of Canandaigua. The institute was sponsored by the Council of Catholic Women. Miss Fitzgerald, council president, was general chairman. Mrs. Frank Lyke, of Manchester, council vice-president, was chairman of arrangements; and Mrs. C. F. Lunkenheimer, of Fairhaven, was chairman of reservations.

Priests, Laity Voice Concerns in Eastern Vicariate

Pictured is scene at open meeting of diocesan Priests' Council held Tuesday night, Sept. 30, in Auburn, as seven priests and four laymen asked diocesan officials for more interest and involvement in problems of five-county Eastern Vicariate. Present were Bishop Fulton J. Sheen and Auxiliary Bishops Dennis W. Hickey and John E. McCafferty (seated left center at head table) and 13 of 16 Council members. Principal requests at 2 1/2-hour session were for more personnel and funds.

Dr. Noonan

Dr. Charles E. Noonan, a former chief of staff at St. Mary's Hospital, died there Oct. 1, 1969, after a series of heart attacks that began last June. He was 61.

Mrs. Mulcahy

Mrs. Marion M. Mulcahy of 95 Harborside Road, mother of the diocese, died Sept. 30, 1969. The funeral was last Friday at St. James Church.

Fr. Reiter

Redemptorist Father Joseph F. Reiter, 74, a native of Rochester, died Oct. 1, 1969, in St. Clement's Infirmary, Saratoga Springs, after a long illness.

Miss Crowley

A former missionary in Brazil and the Virgin Islands, Father Reiter had been attached to a Baltimore parish in recent years. He attended St. Joseph's parish school here, and was ordained in 1922.

Miss Flynn

He leaves two sisters who are members of the Visitation community, Sister Mary Joseph of Toledo and Sister Mary Alphonsa of Wilmington, Del. Also surviving is a brother, Clarence E. Reiter of Rochester.

Funeral Directors

PAUL W. HARRIS FUNERAL HOME

ATLANTIC BUILDING SUPPLIES



Viewing scale model of present and proposed building complex on Nazareth College campus are members of committee for Alumnae Association fund drive Oct. 10-20. From left are Mrs. Richard Cross, Miss Dorothy Dispenza, Miss Jeanne Teddy and Mrs. Donald Boyer.

Nazareth Alumnae Drive Starts

Annual fund drive of the Nazareth Alumnae Association opens today (Oct. 10) at Nazareth College. The drive will continue through Oct. 20, according to Mrs. Donald A. Boyer of Palmerston Road, Brighton, general chairman.

Family Rosary

The Family Rosary for Peace program is broadcast each evening at 7 p.m. by Rochester radio station WSAJ, WRBO-FM in Auburn, television cable companies Channel 5 in Hornell, Channel 8 in Elmira and 88.7 mc. in Corning. Those who will lead in recitation of the Rosary this week are:

- Friday, Oct. 10 — Michael Charleton of St. Christopher's.
Saturday, Oct. 11 — Mass will be celebrated.
Sunday, Oct. 12 — Dr. Michael H. Durante of St. Louis Church, accompanied by K. of C. Council 178.
Monday, Oct. 13 — Father Walter Cavanaugh, CSSR, of St. Joseph's, Franklin St., accompanied by the Holy Name Society.
Thursday, Oct. 16 — Thomas Salvatore of St. Cecilia's.

St. Mary's Women To Entertain Health Workers

The Women's Board of St. Mary's Hospital will host the Fall meeting of the Rochester Regional Hospital Auxiliaries of the Hospital Association of New York State on Wednesday, Oct. 22.

Deaths

Mrs. Dennis Costich, chairman for recent classes, said a phonathon will be held for classes 1964 through 1969.

WANT ADS

WANT ADS section with various categories: BUSINESS SERVICES, BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES, HELP WANTED-FEMALE, PERSONALS, WANTED, HOUSE FOR SALE, WANTED TO RENT, BUILDING MATERIALS.

\$1.00 WANT AD FEATURE For Subscribers to the Courier Journal. The Only Requirements Are: 1. You Must be a Subscriber to the Courier Journal. 2. Want Ad Must Be 10 Words or Less (Each Additional Words 8c). 3. Payment Must Accompany Order.

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Vertical sidebar with various advertisements and notices: NOW Who's Ru By Father Richard, Reflection on the pre-... reflection for the pr... historic event; this week... an international Synod... ops opens an "extraor... week conference which... the most significant de... condition of the Church... than anything heard st... of the Vatican Council... "What clarity of faith... stability, unity and pea... under Pope Pius," is n... exaggerated—memory—o... Catholics; it is a fact o... Ten years ago the lai... and morals and liturgy... did not fight with the... were not restless about... unsure of the drift of th... The Church had man... there was a tiny, sque... of voices which said... Renew," but we did live... of strength, we thought... And then Pope John... ing to buck traditions... out for the approval o... world, threw open the... the Vatican to let the... of a changing world blo... out of the Church. Hop... the Church more resp... world, he called for a... first international gathe... ops in 90 years, to stud... trusted mind-set of the... write down a new unde... how the Family of God... tion in the modern wor... The Bishops met for... nearly eight months spre... Falls. They published 1... ments but when they cl... liberations Dec. 8, 19... agreed warmly: "The... ended; the Council has j... Through Pope John a... all we were touche... short time by a vast tr... in the total Church, —... understanding of doctrin... ship and sacramental lif... In a spirit of ecumen... the "VOCAL" this fall... new Protestant friends I... ever, is open to questio... at least appears to be... Catholics if the scraps... I overhear are any... Tidbits such as "Sister... home a note last night... Danny's turn to serve a... this week but he's so ha... of bed" don't particular... Methodist Momism to m... Actually religious den... the last thing anyone se... ed with... Come those first crisi... the housewives in our... I forget to open their fr... to turning up the thermostat... venture out only to giv... breath of fresh air or t... the lawn to borrow a c... and I go stir crazy... It is, I think I can safe... moral ailment among m... school children... The Monday mornin... combined with an excel... service, have proved an... RACL... Msgr. Dor By Paul W. B... For the last two w... column, members of th... Association of Catho... (RACL) have discuss... question of priorities in... cation... The subject is partic... priate in the Rocheste... this time in view of Bi... call for democratic cor... the problem of Catholi... tween parishioners and... fore school closing d... made (Courier-Journal)... It is encouraging to n... crucial decisions will b... sultation with the peopl... these institutions finan... children are the benefi... education they provide... a fire parish religious... influenced by the exist... schools... RACL, recognizing th... thoughtful, calm and C... sideration of the questio... Msgr. James Donohue, d... Department of Educatio... lic Conference, to Roche... at Mercy High School A... 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 14... this articulate Catho... priest are novel and thi... ing. They have been v... cized during recent year... (4/13/68) and more rec... (10/21/69)... In the Look article, M... is quoted as saying: "I... sound bite, but we're a... The bishops of the Ch... decide what the teachin... the Church should be in... decades, and then year... resources it has to mee...