This is the second of nine articles on the reform of the eucharistic liturgy,

By FR. VINCENT J. GIESE

(NC News Service) "What are they doing to the Mass? Time was when it was always the same, no matter where it might be cele-brated in the world." How often has this remark been made since the end of Vatican Council II?

Uniformity, especially in externals, had been that hallmark of the eucharistic liturgy since the Council of Trent 400 years ago, when the council fathers, for disciplinary reasons, froze the Mass in a well-defined structure and encased it in the dead language of Latin.

Today, amid the liturgical changes which have taken place since the end of Vatican II, unity rather than uniformity is the dominant characteristic of the Mass.

The Mass today has recaptured some of the adaptability and flexibility which it enjoyed in the Church's first 1,600

Fisher Prof Ordained

fessor in the department of Phalsburg, France. He was dis-

mathematics at St. John Fisher charged as an airman second

Orthodox Deacon

n St. Michael's

Church, Geneva.

College, has been ordained a class.

deacon in the Eastern Orthodox

time in St. George's Church,

Utica, on weekends and the other times is at St. John the

Yonkers, under the direction of

Father George is the son of Mrs. Jack Calvert of 301 Rugby Rd., Syracuse, and the late George A. Brunish. His wife, the

Viadimir's Orthodox Seminary rosarium.

Baptist Church, Rochester.

years before the Council of

Perhaps the best way to de-scribe the new Order of the Mass already introduced in Italy is to say that it allows for the development of theme for each Mass through the selection of optional hymns, scriptural readings, prefaces and eucharistic prayers, commentary and music.

By intelligent preparation and through the use of multiple options, a thematic unity will now be possible within each Mass geared to the particular needs of the worshipping groups and to the needs of the times.

The traditional Roman Missal, which is now being replaced by the new Order of the Mass, canonized uniformity to such an extent that the Mass could not easily be adopted to specialized groups.

Whether the worshippers were young or old, suburban or inner city, blue-collar or executive, the Mass was always the same.

In using the new Order of

Father George took his bachclor's in electrical engineering

He was an instructor in math-

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Archbishop in 1961 from Clarkson College,
Phillip of the Potsdam, and his master's in
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Father Dea-ematics at Clarkson College and

con George is was an assistant professor of

serving part-mathematics at Mohawk Valley Community Corlege.

ester, N.Y. 14604.

the Mass, the criterion for choosing among the various options in preparing a specific Mass will be how this Mass will help this particular group of people enter into communication with God and with one nother,

People after all, do belong to specific cultures and ethnic groups. Each group has its own personality. Liturgy, thus, ought to be immersed in the culture, symbols, ritual and mentality of the people.

Beyond this concern for the life situation, the eucharistic liturgy ought to help people encounter God — encounter the mystery of Christ in their midst. People must be able to see themselves through the Mass as they are, They must be brought to a social concern for others, in such a way that they are a sign of hope for themselves and for others,

Thematic unity is not something new. We already have had a taste of it in nuptial Masses, funeral Masses, the Christmas Mass, the Holy ly, this year's new Thanksgiv-

The new Thanksgiving Mass is an example of how thematic unity, can be established through use of options. The theme of thanksgiving to God for His blessings on our land, as "a place of promise and hope," as well as an appreciation for our responsibility to

our fellow man, are expressed through prayers, suggested hymns, and a choice of readings from the Old and New lar moment? The suggestion that gifts of

clothes and food for the poor be brought to the altar in the Offertory procession also gave expression to our thanks to God for His many bless-

The new Order of the Mass extends the possibilities for thematic unity to each and every Mass.

a particular Mass. • What is the objective message of the texts of the Mass, for example in the

Here are a few check points we might look at in planning

ground, occupational or vocational background of the group?

 What is the present state of mind of the group gathered together, in light of what is happening in the world here and now or in terms of their personal experiences, or the reason why they are gathered together at this particu-

 What is the physical or psychic receptivity of the group at this moment, perhaps because of the time of day, the season, the weather, or recent experiences?

 What are the needs of the group in terms of their present relationship either to God or to others?

In short, which of the available options is most proper and fitting here and now, to contribute to an overall attractive human experience, so as to make the mystery of Christ among us a more transparent and spiritually beneficial reality in the lives of our people?

Week liturgy, or more recent-Votive Mass for Peace?



Thomas J. Grosodonia, center, presided at recent Knights of Columbus Council 4691 meeting in Irondequoit. Also present were, from left, Father William J. Schifferli, Sister Mary, Sister Virginia and Brother Edward J. Tracey.

K. of C. Aids Poor, Education

theological studies through St. classroom in a mission-land lep- events in one occasion at a re- be used for educational serv- gifts among council members; cent meeting at Christ the King ices;

The council:

Father Thaddeus Wojclk, assist- Joseph Reinhart, Propagation of the Faith, 50 Chestnut St., Roch-

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douple have a daughter, Androniki, 5, and a son, Stephen, 4. Checks may be sent to Father Reinhart, Propagation of the He served in the Air Force Faith, 50 Chestnut St., Roch-Reserves from 1957-61 and on ester, N.Y. 14604.

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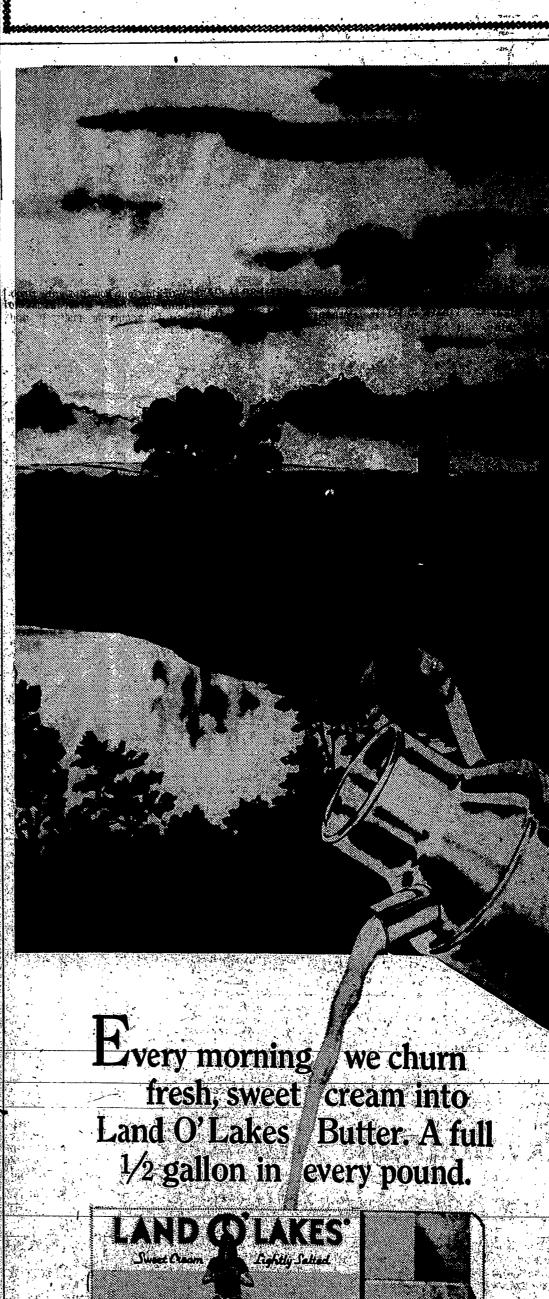
The Knights of Columbus er Edward Tracey, principal of used for the poor, The food was Council 4691 wrapped up three Bishop Kearney High School, to collected in lieu of Christmas

Checks may be sent to Father Church Hall in Irondequoit.

• donated receipts from its Sisters Mary and Virginia of St. King Church

• made Father William J. • contributed canned food to Schifferli, pastor of Christ the





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Meteor Shower Peaks Tomorrow The meteor trails will appear A Gemind meteor shower The maximum of 50 meteors to radiate outward from a point will reach its peak tomorrow per hour will be reached at 7 night, Dec 13. James V. Dec p.m. but the continuing shower Graff of Strasenburgh Plane will be more visible after mid which will be almost directly tarium forecast this week.

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By FATHER M

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