

Teaching Sisters Are Heroines in Fire Rescue

Priests, Sisters and pupils of St. Bridget's parish in Rochester experienced a rather exciting time on Tuesday afternoon, April 28, which included a nearby two-house fire and the firing of three shots into the watching crowd by a spectator.

Three of the Sisters of St. Joseph who teach in the school—Sister Francella, the principal, and Sisters Catherine and Doreen—rushed into the two frame dwellings to rescue five children and lead them out.

A stray bullet by the gun wielder struck a bystander in the cheek. Father Francis Vogt, St. Bridget's pastor, and Father David Heinsler, assistant, took

the wounded man into the rectory to wait for an ambulance.

A 14-year-old pupil who witnessed the shooting fainted, went into shock and had to be hospitalized. Sister Francella spent about two hours with her in the hospital.

Officials reported the fire was started by a 9-year-old boy playing with matches. No one was injured. The gun victim, who was treated at the hospital, was reported in "satisfactory" condition, and his assailant was arrested.

The situation was reported back to normal Wednesday at St. Bridget's.



Dinner To Aid Negro Scholarships

Among committee planning Mother Cabrini Circle annual dinner for benefit of Negro high school scholarships in Rochester area are Alice Robinson, Dorothy Carroll and Nola DeRouen. Dinner is scheduled from 1:30 to 6 p.m. Sunday, May 17, in Montgomery Neighborhood Center. A total of 32 scholarships was provided by Circle this year at six county Catholic schools.



CCD WORKSHOP—Nearly 800 priests, Sisters and laity participated in Confraternity of Christian Doctrine in a lay catechists' institute April 25 at Our Lady of Mercy High School. Pictured from left are: Miss Carol Crosbie, Elmira; Lawrence Frank, Syracuse; Sister Esther, MHS, Ithaca; Father Roy Kiggins, Elmira; Father Daniel Holland, assistant director of diocesan CCD; Sister Virginia, RSM., Victor; Don Rimlinger, East Bloomfield; Mrs. Ruth Lawlor, Brockport; Ray Defendorfer, Horseheads. Bishop Hogan concluded the day-long program with the celebration of Mass.

CCD Speakers Stress

Church as a Community

By ALEX MAC DONALD

Lay religion teachers must help their pupils understand the community - nature of the Church and prepare them to live "a different style of Christian-life," Father Anthony Podovano told a CCD Institute at Mercy High School last week.

Professor of Dogmatic Theology at Immaculate Conception Seminary in New Jersey and reputed for progressive viewpoints in theology, the speaker told the 800 catechists representing parishes from the whole diocese that changes occurring in the Church are more than modifications of old externals.

"We are as essentially different today from the pre-Vatican Council Church as the essential change from childhood to adulthood in a human life," he said. A new sense of "personhood" has come over Christians as well as the Church.

"Because the Church sees itself as a community rather than a society, former values and patterns do not apply as they used to. Doctrine must be less precise, authority less centralized, style-of-life less uniform, divergent opinions more tolerated."

Father Padovano declared that traditions will count for less as time goes on and the Church will experiment with various options to meet the needs of this age in history.

"Conscience, authority and magisterium will remain important but conscience will come first and authority second," he said. "The primacy of the human person must be guarded."

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Urging the catechists to believe that "the forces holding the Church together are stronger than the forces trying to pull it apart," the theologian said that "the Holy Spirit is the future of the Church, not laws or persons or institutions."

Dr. and Mrs. J. C. Willke, noted lecturers on sexuality and authors of "The Wonder of Sex," spoke in team fashion about teaching children a balanced concept of human sexuality.

Stating that the best education in sexuality occurs in the first 7 years of life, they advised that parochial religion teachers could help in three ways: add details to facts already learned at home; reinforce sex values already observed as a norm at home; provide remedial guidance against home-teaching that is defective.

Dr. Willke was forceful in blaming television for bringing improper sex values into children's minds. The TV ads and plays, he said, "make physical sex the be-all of happiness, picture marriage as a pretty mediocre vocation and always depict pre-marital and extra-marital sex as a desirable good for real happiness."

Deploing the "hang-ups" which make parents bashful about displaying physical affections before their children, the husband-wife team said: "Parents must give more witness in the presence of their children to the beauty and satisfaction they find in their marriage relationships."

The "most crucial issue" in

the minds of highschoolers today, they claimed, was "Shall we try pre-marital sex?"

Stating that 70 percent of teenagers know clearly what the parents and the Church say on this activity, the Willkes held that a clear and forceful presentation of "natural reasons against this conduct" must be presented.

Priorities Topic As Priests Meet

Diocesan priorities in the Rochester area were discussed Tuesday night at a meeting of the diocesan Priests' Senate at St. Thomas More auditorium, Brighton.

Four priests, a nun and 12 laymen were scheduled to present five-minute talks on various phases of diocesan activity.

It was the third in a series of Senate meetings being held throughout the Diocese. Others have been conducted in Auburn and Elmira. Slated to speak at the Rochester area meeting were:

Fathers John Hempel, Daniel Tormey and Laurence Tracy; Sister Marietta Hanss, RSM.,

Fred W. Armbruster, Donald Burke, Joseph Cilano, Daniel DePalma, Joseph Mercier, Mrs. Robert Joynt, George Kuipers, Carl Loewenguth, Edward Lum, Frank C. Philippone Jr., Ronald Proud and Robert McLaughlin.

BLACK METHODISTS VOTED \$23 MILLION

ST. LOUIS — (RNS) — The United Methodist Church, through its General Conference meeting, voted \$23 million over two years as its response to appeals from Black Methodists for Church Renewal. The caucus had asked about \$20 million per year for minority development and higher education.



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