



Cenacle Fund-raiser Set

The annual card party for the benefit of the Sisters of the Cenacle is scheduled for 8 p.m. Monday, April 26, at the Cenacle Retreat House, 693 East Ave. Warming up to the game are, left to right, Sister Sadie Nesser, Mrs. William Kramer, the general chairman, and Sister Rosemary Blotman.

Kids Get Active In Elmira Liturgy

By DICK BAUMBACH
Elmira Correspondent

Elmira — Pupils at Our Lady of Lourdes here have become fully involved in Lenten Masses, by participating and by injecting their own ideas.

Monday through Friday at 11:15 a.m. pupils from each class are responsible for supplying features to the Mass.

Everything from scenarios to folk singing has been performed by the pupils.

Father Roy Kiggins usually officiates at the special Mass and has had some unexpected moments.

"Quite often I don't even know what they plan to do. I just wait and find out at the same time as those attending Mass do," Father Kiggins said.

The assistant pastor says the youngsters' involvement in the Mass "is a learning experience for them and also a learning experience for me."

He recalled the time when the eighth grade class decided to hold a Latin Mass on St. Patrick's Day.

"It had been about five years since we had a full Latin Mass at Lourdes and I had to brush up on some of the things," Father Kiggins said.

The Latin Mass was complete with the priest facing away from those attending the service. The Eucharistic Prayer of the Mass was done in Latin with the eighth graders giving Latin responses.

After another Mass, pupils in a different grade held a sharing luncheon with those who attended the service.

"The people attending the Mass were invited to share with the youngsters in the church hall. There was a 25 cent fee and the money went to help the poor," Father Kiggins said.

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Elmira Notes

Parishes from the Elmira area wishing notices in the Courier-Journal should contact Dick Baumbach at 367 Underwood Ave., Elmira 732-4008.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES
Rosary Altar Society will hold its annual Rummage Sale April 29. Items, such as, glassware, books, furniture, records, toys, clothing may be left in Lourdes' Church Hall located in Elmira.

The Annual Parish Dance at **ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH** in Owego will be held April 24 at Ahwaga Hall. Tickets for the affair are \$3 per couple.

Members of Nocturnal Adoration Societies from Elmira parishes will hold a special breakfast April 18 at the Mark Twain Hotel in Elmira at 9:15 a.m. Mass will be conducted before the breakfast at **ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH** of Elmira. Tickets to the breakfast are \$2.25 per person.

Episcopalians Try New Rites

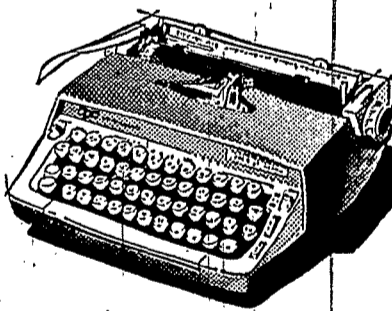
Rochester Episcopalians will soon try out an entirely new revision of the Prayer Book, recently approved by the Episcopal General Convention.

The new rites will be celebrated for a period of six months, at the urging of Bishop Robert J. Spears.

The revision of the Prayer Book comes only four years after the General Convention issued a "pretty radical change" in the better than 300-year-old liturgy according to The Rev. Gerald Moser, assistant minister at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Rochester.

Father Moser explained that the new revision of the Prayer Book offers five optional rites for Eucharistic Celebration and simply outlines the procedures for the "lesser" rites. He described the book as "free-wheeling."

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"Another example of the pupils' involvement was the time the eighth grade girls baked hosts for their particular Mass. They baked so many hosts, we had enough for several other Masses," the priest said.

At a recent Mass seventh graders furnished the lector, altar boys and members for the Eucharistic Processional.

When it came time for the Sign of Peace, several seventh graders walked through the church's aisle shaking hands with other persons attending the Mass.

Asked how the older parishioners feel about the pupils' participation in the special Mass Father Kiggins said, "They seem to take it very nicely."

"I have received no complaints from anyone, just a lot of nice remarks about the way the students get involved," he said.

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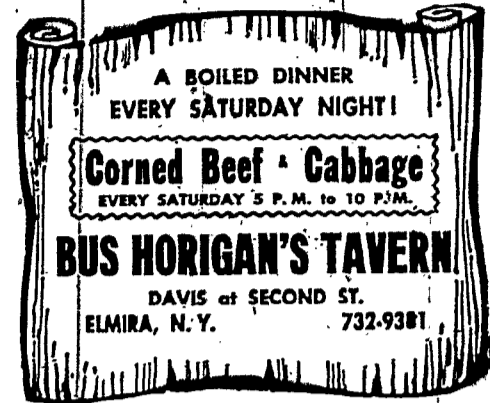
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Do You Recognize Him?

The early Christians experienced the Risen Lord in several ways as expressed in the Resurrection episode in Scripture. Except when the Apostles were gathered together (in "community"), the people to whom Jesus appeared did not recognize Him at first.

Mary thought He was the gardener; the disciples on the road to Emmaus thought He was just another traveller; and the apostles fishing on the lake thought He was probably just another fisherman.

But to each of these Jesus revealed Himself by a word or by the breaking of bread. To each of these He gave a mission. He told Mary to go tell the others; He told the disciples that repentance should be preached; and He told Peter to feed His sheep. After Christ was recognized He disappeared, leaving them to find Him still present in each other!

Today is no different. The Lord comes to us, and yet we often don't recognize Him! He is present still among us; He speaks to us in His Word; and He is present in the Breaking of the Bread. Like Mary, the travellers, and the apostles, He leaves with us a mission to go to the others and tell them the Good News that He is risen — He is God — we are saved!

We could all give endless examples of our personal experiences of God, be it an experience of love, prayer, community, birth and death, or happiness and sorrow. God is present and acting in our lives so much we often don't realize it. But when we DO experience God in our life, do we go out exclaiming our Good News to others?

We are all called to "propagate our faith," and we do in many ways. Our actions alone witness to others our inner motivations (that which "moves" us to act or react.) When others experience love, trust, patience, and goodness from you, do they not experience something of God, if your life is motivated by Christ's life within you?

Easter and Christmas remind us of this. Unfortunately the Easter "spirit," like the Christmas spirit, dwindles away (after the lilies die, the new clothes are worn, and the Easter baskets are empty) and we go about our business not grasping the joy each day holds with each experience of people relating with people.

Likewise the spirit of sacrifice and giving may be pushed aside as if our obligation had been fulfilled till next Lent. We easily forget that God is present among us in the suffering-poor of the missions; that Christ's Mission is not a supplement to our Christian life, but a real extension of it; that the missionaries depend on their fellow-Christians for support all year; and that our giving to the missions is not just a charitable act, but a real witness of our faith from which other living human beings will experience the living God!

We would like to express here our gratitude for your generous sacrifices for the missions during Lent. At the same time we do not hesitate to beg for your continued LOVE for the world's poor and their missionaries. In the true spirit of Easter then, please share your faith and Good News with others by sending a gift for the missions. Please clip out this column, attach your sacrifice, and mail it today

Send your special sacrifice today!

SALVATION AND SERVICE are the work of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. Please cut out this column and send it with your offering to Reverend Monsignor Edward T. O'Meara, National Director, Dept. C., 366, Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10001, or directly to your local Diocesan Director, Rev. Joseph F. Reinhart, 50 Chestnut Street, Rochester, N. Y. 14604

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