

Palmyra School Bucks a Trend

By DAVID DAVIN

Palmyra—St. Anne's parochial school is operating against the educational tide.

Contrary to prevailing Catholic educational trends of reducing school enrollments and facilities, St. Anne's is adding a kindergarten to the existing eight-class school. The new class will open next September, according to an announcement by Father John Healy, pastor, and Sister Teresa Gerard, SSJ, principal.

Sister Teresa Gerard conducted registration for the new class and said 16 youngsters have been enrolled. She said the new group will bring to 108 the number of pupils expected for the 1971-72 school year.

St. Anne's school was built in 1961, with the corner stone laid Sept. 8, 1961 by Bishop Lawrence Casey, then auxiliary bishop of the diocese. Classes began that same month.

The decision to increase the facilities at the school was made following a study by a parish committee, headed by D. Blake Duffy, president of St. Anne's Home and School Association. In arriving at the recommendation, the committee polled the parish to learn if there was sufficient support for a kindergarten.

Thirteen parents immediately responded in the affirmative and three more families requested enrollment of children after the announcement was made, Duffy said.

Sister Teresa Gerard said enrollment would be limited to 20 youngsters, with the first choice going to families with children presently attending the school.

In making the announcement, Father Healy said he was "pleased with the recommend-

ation of the committee and gratified that there are enough families in the parish who appreciate the merits of a full religious primary education."

"It is one of the most fitting ways I can imagine to observe the tenth anniversary of our school," he said.

The new class will be housed in the school, which first will undergo some minor renovation to accommodate the young group. The school presently operates with a combination faculty of Sisters of St. Joseph and lay teachers.

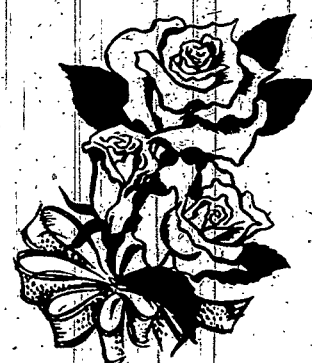
Sister Teresa Gerard said a search is underway for a qualified and experienced kindergarten teacher.

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St. Agnes Alumnae

Sister Mary Lynch and Beverly Vassalo Clark, president of the St. Agnes Alumnae Association, plan for the group's May 6 annual spring banquet and reunion, to be held at Logan's Party House starting at 6 p.m.

SARAH CHILD

All in The Family

After watching the TV production of "Jane Eyre" a month or so ago I have begun reading my English novels again.

A week or so after the spectacular starring George C. Scott (and didn't he make a lovely brooding Rochester) and Susanah York, I visited my parents and came across a pocket book edition of the Charlotte Bronte classic. It belonged to my sister, a high school senior.

Never did think to ask her if the book was required reading or if she simply had enjoyed the TV show so much that she had bought the book to assimilate the story more thoroughly.

At 17, Judy already knows what it took me many years out of high school to learn. That those marvelous classics forced students in high school are much too good to be wasted on young and disinterested students.

"Jane Eyre," "Wuthering Heights" and all of Jane Austen, for example, should be placed on a "forbidden" list, (to create a desirable image of course) and parceled out only when a student is able to show good evidence that he has matured enough to appreciate the contents therein.

I am fully aware that the above suggestion is ridiculous. Still it seems as if some measure could be taken to introduce such works to kids with greater care.

I sped through "Pride and Prejudice" again and then started on the historical romances of Georgette Heyer. From there the haphazard reading plan disintegrated even more and I settled for D.E. Stevenson, a distant relative of Robert Louis Stevenson, whose settings are Scotland rather

than England and whose works are decidedly not on a par with the above authors.

Yet when she speaks of heather and bracken and mist on the loch I become entranced anyway. Cretonne living rooms and paneled, untidy libraries where the fire is "burning briskly" are grist for my mill.

Knowing full well my worst weakness, however, I suppose it is the tea scene that clinches it. I read of a white fresh cloth upon which are placed a brown china teapot, silver milk jug and a sugar basin. Somewhere to the left, or is it to the right, are the fresh baked scones, the late strawberries and thick golden cream. (No matter that I can't stand strawberries and cream served together — the picture is luscious.)

After a description like that, there is only one author to turn to and that is Agatha Christie who besides writing as enjoyable a mystery story as exists, can bang out tea table descriptions to outdo them all.

All of which indicates that maybe I should go to the library and just sign out an English cookbook or two. It might be just what I'm looking for.

50th Reunion Party

The 1921 class of Immaculate Conception School, Rochester, will hold its 50th anniversary reunion at the Downtowner, Sunday, May 16 at 5 p.m.

Members of the class who have not yet been contacted are requested to call Mrs. Gertrude Murdock: (716) 482-7315.

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