



Shake Friend

Now He's 'Father'



Fr. Robinson

An Edmundite priest, Father James P. Robinson, SSE, came to the Rochester Diocese last week to say Mass for the teacher who originally taught him the Latin responses when he was a child in Selma, Ala. Father Robinson has since become the assistant mission director for the Edmundite Southern Missions, covering not only

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan confirmed a class of 127 at Sacred Heart Church, Owasco, on Friday evening, May 7 in the first confirmation exercises in four years. The seventh and eighth graders are from the Sacred Heart School, and the CCD students of Sacred Heart Parish and St. Ann's Parish in Owasco.

Selma, but all of Alabama, South Carolina and three missions in Venezuela.

One of the original Sisters of St. Joseph who founded the Selma mission which converted him to Catholicism, said Father Robinson, is Sister Francis-Marie, who does tutoring at Corpus Christi.

As a boy in Selma, said Father Robinson, he served Mass for ten years before his baptism; on last Wednesday he went to St. Joseph's Hospital in Elmira to say Mass for the nun who taught him the service, Sister Frances David.

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester maintain both a mission school and the Good Samaritan Hospital in Selma. "I never went to the school," said Father Robinson, "because I was always one year ahead of each new grade they added on." But now he is attempting to find both registered nurses and funds for the hospital, which has an annual deficit over \$100,000. Good Samaritan has 69 beds for acute medical cases, and a 26-bed nursing home.

The diocesan collection for missions is Sunday, May 23.

Yarrow Sings at CYO

Peter Yarrow, formerly of the musical group "Peter, Paul and Mary," gave a benefit concert for the Harrisburg 12 Defense Fund at the CYO auditorium last Wednesday.

Appearing with Yarrow was Egbal Ahmad, charged in the alleged conspiracy to kidnap presidential advisor Henry Kissinger.

Scholarships Given To Eleven Students

Elmira — Eleven students residing in the Southern Tier of New York and the Northern Tier of Pennsylvania were recently named recipients of scholarships to Notre Dame High School here.

Four-year scholarships were awarded to Brian J. Kirkpatrick of Elmira and Eileen Marie Lundy of Sayre, Pa.

Eight students earned two-year scholarships to the Catholic high school. They are: Cindy A. Droleski of Elmira, Thomas A. Lupica of Elmira Heights, Steven H. Simon of Corning, Denise D. Sloan of Elmira, Matthew M. Smith of Elmira Heights and Michael J. Watts of Horseheads.

The winner of a two-year National Honor Society scholar-

ship to the high school is Theodore C. Nickerson of Elmira.

The scholarships are financed by various school funds and are awarded on the basis of outstanding performance on the placement examination given in March and on the recommendations of the students' grammar school principals.

Youth Choir Sets Concert, Dance

The Rochester Saenger Youth Choir will give a concert June 12 to raise money for its Summer tour in Germany.

Youth Choir Sets Concert, Dance

The 50-voice choir will sing at the Labor Lyceum, 480 St. Paul, from 8:15 until 10 p.m., and dancing and refreshments will follow.



Play Bought

Ithaca—Publication rights for "The Century Plant," a one-act play by Frank J. Conboy, have been purchased by the Eldridge Publishing Co. of Franklin, Ohio. The author is a former Geneva correspondent for the Courier-Journal and more recently covered Ithaca news. The play, a prize-winning entry in an Ithaca Community Players' playwriting contest some years ago, is a fantasy about an ancient, forgotten kingdom and a century plant that failed to bloom on coronation day and tells how an act of charity brought the plant into bloom, forecasting a happy reign.



FR. PAUL J. CUDDY

On The Right Side

Q. Would you comment on the Courier Journal?

A. That's like asking: "Would you comment on how Bishop Hogan is administering the diocese?" or "What do you think of Father Atwell's parish vote of confidence?" Unless the comment is 100% laudatory it is precarious.

Q. It's off the subject, but what do you think of the Avon parish vote of confidence?

A. It's really not off the subject. Father A. has a neat sense of the dramatic. We occasionally exchange mutual or divergent views by mail. A month before he held the election he wrote: "I am sounding the parishioners as to their wishes, and am presenting three options: stay, go or don't care. And why? The why is most important and accords with the spirit of Vatican II." I replied a teasing: "Your Avon election is worthy of Russia. One candidate; and only Da or Nyet. The devout and loyal Catholics will vote for you because you are a priest. The revolutionaries will vote for you because of your ideas. So you should come out 99%. Congratulations!"

Q. Do you think such an election wise?

A. For Fr. A. it certainly was safe. He is kind, intelligent and has a delicious sense of humor. He is tolerant, sometimes to excess. And he teaches the rosary. Traditionalists love him for his fidelity to the Church. Radicals love him for his sympathy toward experimentalism.

Q. To get back, what do you think of the changes in the CJ?

A. They bode well. For example, to have Bishop Hogan write the lead article on p. 3, with the editorial at the bottom and a feature in between gives an attractive and readable page. The wide use of pictures is good. America's press editor, Msgr. Adamo wrote: "Every so often an editor will tell himself: 'Ah, this is a great issue.' On such occasions the devil will poke him: 'But will anyone read it, dear editor?'" This is the crux of a diocesan paper: to make it readable.

Q. But do you think the CJ is readable?

A. Yes. Why? The diocese forms a religious family. If men want specialized knowledge, e.g. in theology or literature, they get the learned journals, Theological Studies Saturday Review, etc. But The People want news about people; about events close to their lives. For example, all who know Father Atwell will be interested in this column because of him. The CJ gives news of people and events close to their hearts.

Q. But I've heard people say: "The CJ comes but I never read it."

A. Cheer up. I hear even priests say that, too; and in a few minutes they will quote something they read in the last issue. No one reads everything, but normally alive people are interested in some things. Did you know the widest read persons in the US are Ann Landers and Abby Van Buren? Msgr. Adamo wrote: "Readership is the secret worry that nags the heart of every editor. No artist wants to perform to an empty house. No writer wants to report to an absent audience." He also said that a survey for the Hartford Transcript indicated "80% read the Letters to the Editor, the most popular section." I think Bishop Casey's folksy weekly message in the Paterson diocesan Beacon is superlative, and I hope Bishop Hogan's will have the same appeal.

Q. What do you think of the "full coverage" program?

A. Whereby every family in the parish gets the Courier? If a bishop has confidence in the intelligence and loyalty of his people I can't imagine anything else. The slogan: "A drop of ink makes thousands think", has validity. This is genuine communication within the diocese.

Q. But it costs a lot of money.

A. Yes. And the fact is some people are congenital free loaders and they have to be carried by responsible Catholics. But the faithful Catholic sees the diocese as a big family, and he will share the costs when approached candidly. Given the leadership of the Bishop, the priests and the active laymen I think the Courier is in for happy days.

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