

# 'Trip with Jesus'... a Quiet Revolution

**By CECILIA VIGGO**  
Christ made the cover of Time magazine recently. His presence there gives some indication of the mass media interest lately in the "Jesus" revolution among young people.

While in Berkeley, former hippies and addicts might be involved in an emotional and spectacular confrontation with Jesus, a young priest in Victor has been carrying on his own quiet "revolution" for the past 3½ years.

Father David Simon, formerly assistant pastor at St. Patrick's, Victor, and now head of the theology department at De Sales High School, Geneva, conducts his own upbeat innovative Days of Recollection for teens. He calls them "Trips with Jesus" and aims that

young persons come away "spiritually 'high' and 'happy'" from the experience.

"I want to give them a sense of community," explains Father Simon. "Many of these teens have never been aware of the fact that they are the Church."

Unique to the Simon approach are the use of high school students as group leaders, and employment of films, tapes and records to excite and deepen group participation. Also unique is the site of many of the "trips": the "Boiler Room", the church basement renovated by St. Patrick's teens and equipped with both strobe light and stereo systems.

Father Simon has given these Days of Recollection to about 1,000 eighth graders in the di-

ocese. Recently, 60 eighth graders from Blessed Sacrament parish made the "trip."

Their reactions were unequivocally enthusiastic.

"It was a whole new experience," commented Mark Abbott. His companions agreed. They explained that the Day of Recollection included listening to tapes and films, discussions, outdoor recreation and celebration of the Eucharist. There was the "war against war."

"But the movies and tapes didn't concern politics or any particular war," said Liz Locke. "We discussed the war inside ourselves."

Discussions of the films, "The Supper" and "The Soldier" took place in groups of ten,

each led by a high school student leader, trained by Father Simon.

"I liked the idea of student leaders," offered Bill Cashion. "I always feel uneasy around priests, afraid of getting out of line."

The teens were especially impressed by the Mass. "Father had us sit in a circle, and asked us to bind our wrists to the person next to us," explained Jane Aleksandrowicz.

"The liturgy of the word was our own discussion of our feelings about the day," Mike Griffin added.

The young people felt that the "trip" had deepened their awareness of their relationship and commitment to others. They also sensed that the human person Christ had emerged during the day.

April Poles seemed to speak for all of them when she reflected: "I came away feeling that I knew Christ better in my own way."



'I Take Thee . . . .'

Couples from across the diocese who celebrate their silver and golden anniversaries this year, hold hands as they renew their marriage vow in Sacred Heart Cathedral Sunday. Celebrants were Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, Father Anthony Calimeri and Father Robert Collins of the Office of Family Life.

## Father Hempel on Job Until September

Father Charles F. Mulligan, newly appointed to be director of the diocesan Office of Human Development, will not take over until September when he has finished graduate studies at Cornell University, his predecessor, Father John Hempel said this week.

Father Hempel, transferred to be rector of Becket Hall next Fall, will turn over the responsibilities of the urban and rural apostolates he has administered for four years.

In 1967 he was named director of the secular missions of the diocese—an apostolate for the poor in five rural counties of the center-diocese. In June of 1969 he succeeded Father P. David Finks and combined the work of the urban ministry toward the underprivileged in Rochester's inner city with his former responsibilities for the poor in the rural areas.

Father Mulligan's new duties will include direction of the Human Development office at 841 Genesee St., Rochester, and the diocesan human welfare projects in Yates, Seneca, Wayne, Gates, Schuyler, Tioga and Tompkins counties.

His Rochester staff will consist of five Sisters, a seminarian

and three lay people. Three priests and one Sister work in the rural projects.

Father Mulligan, educated at St. Bernard's Seminary and the Gregorian University in Rome, was ordained in Rome in St. Peter's Basilica in December, 1964. He has served as assistant pastor at Sacred Heart, Auburn and Holy Cross, Rochester.

## Deaths

### Mrs. Sullivan, Mother of Nun

Mrs. Richard J. (Catherine) Sullivan, 89, mother of Sister Mary Timothy SSJ, (Catherine Sullivan) died June 16 in Bridgeport, Conn. Mass of the Resurrection was celebrated in her parish church, St. Patrick's, Bridgeport.

Born in County Sligo, Ireland, Mrs. Sullivan resided in Connecticut for more than 70 years.

Survivors include another daughter, Mrs. John Stafford of Bridgeport.

## Parish Councils Growing

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with the Priests' Council, and Father John O'Connor, dealing with clergy conferences.

Subcommittees already functioning are working on guidelines for parish councils, educational programs about the values of councils, service to existing councils and regionalism.

Msgr. Mulcahy revealed that the survey to determine the present status of the council movement in the parishes showed that 11 councils had "absolute decision-making power", 27 exercised "decision-making subject to the pastor's veto" and 26 were self-styled as "advisory."

Pastors reporting on their council's "performance rating" were almost unanimously satisfied, he said, but in the same

parishes the interest of the laity was equally divided between "enthusiastic" and "mediocre".

Major deficiencies revealed so far were the need for "clarification of roles and goals" and "broader training of the laity for responsibility."

Some councils were guilty of "over-dependency on Father" and an equal number suffered because the parish priest felt "insecure and threatened" by the existence of the council, the report showed.

### LATIN MASS SCHEDULED

Genoa—A Latin rite Mass has been scheduled for July 3, 8 o'clock at St. Hilary's in Genoa, in memory of Henry Stack, who purchased the music and text for the Mass several years ago. Mass was requested by St. Hilary's choir.

## RACL Slates Marriage Course

The Rochester Association of Catholic Laymen will sponsor a course in Marriage Preparation at St. John Fisher College, Haffey Hall, on July 12, 15, 19, and 22, at 8 p.m.

The course will consist of a talk each evening by a speaker from an area college or a professional in the field of marriage counseling, followed by a discussion led by recently married couples.

Subject areas to be covered are Communication, Changing Roles in Marriage, Meeting Christ in Marriage, and Human Sexuality.

The course is directed towards college students home on summer vacation, but is open to all. Fee for the entire four-part course is \$1 per person and reservations may be made through Mrs. J. R. Hensler 654-8960, Mrs. R. J. McLaughlin 271-3352, or Mrs. J. E. Koller 473-4534.

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