

NEWS



'Godspeed'

Auxiliary Bishop Dennis Hickey gives the sermon at the departure ceremony held July 13 by the Sisters of St. Joseph at their Motherhouse Chapel for two

nuns going to the Brazilian missions. At right above are shown Sisters Mary Ann Mayer and Mary Ann Raymond with their parents in the pew behind.

New Adoption Mandate Hope Blooming for Connie

By CECELIA VIGGO

Connie is a six-month-old infant born without complete arms and legs; she is also an orphan.

In the past, her chances for adoption were doubtful.

Today, her odds, and those of other "hard to place" children—emotionally disturbed, mixed race, handicapped and older youngsters—are a little better, thanks to a new state law, which requires all public and private adoption agencies to pool their adoptive resources on a State Adoption Exchange.

Adoption agencies are now required to refer to the Exchange any child free for adoption, and not placed in an adoptive home within six months. Approved adoptive parents not receiving a child within six months are also listed on the exchange.

Each agency receives pertinent data about parents and children: the age, sex and special needs of the child, and the kind of parents the agency is looking for; the age, religion of the adoptive parents, and the kind of child they wish.

"If one agency thinks it may be able to match the needs of another, the two groups exchange more detailed summaries," explained Catherine Wobus, case work director of the Catholic Family Center.

Traveling to meet the child and agency conferences with prospective parents also precede an inter-county adoption.

"The Catholic Family Center has placed one mixed race boy from Steuben County with a Rochester couple, and we are trying to find Rochester parents for a mixed race infant in Chemung County, a 5-year-old from Onondaga County and a 10-year-old from Schenectady," Miss Wobus reported.

She feels that the new law will facilitate the placement of more children with special problems.

"The State Adoption Exchange has existed for a long time," Miss Wobus said. "But agencies weren't required to refer children and parents.

"By mandating exchange referrals, adoption agencies, especially those dealing with many children, will have to go through their files more carefully, taking note of any child not placed within six months."

This will insure that the names of children free for adoption and difficult to place will not get lost in the files.

Ironically, the "hard to place" child is also helped by present abortion legislation. "Since there are fewer normal healthy white infants available, adoptive parents tend to be more flexible in their preferences," Miss Wobus commented. "With fewer children to place, adoption agencies have both the time and the energy to seek homes for children such as Connie," she added.

At Catholic Family Center

A One-Man Narcotics Unit

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

"Primarily we set out to be a resource to drug users, to offer them concrete assistance," explained Larry McNally, the one-man narcotic unit of the Catholic Family Center.

He initiated this program about three years ago after working in the inner city as a social worker. He met two heroin addicts and they appreciated his concern and help, and referred friends to him.

The Community Chest funds the narcotic unit as a separate item and is not able to expand the program because of limited funds.

McNally works with other programs as they develop in the community providing emergent crises type of help. He be-

'Merchants Should Contribute To Programs for Addicts'

lieves in working more with the addict's family, preparing them for when the addict returns from the hospital or jail. "We work in a supportive role," he said, "by finding employment when the addict is back home.

"It is very frustrating," he continued, "because this sort of program is not being done enough and the problem is big." A lot of people and agencies are interested in the problem of the drug abuser, he admitted, "But there are two general problems: writing up a

program to please those who give the money for it; and there are many programs that could help but there are too many chiefs and not enough braves."

McNally stressed the need of more coordination between community agencies and of a definite program of supportive help, "because the drug is not the real problem, it's the mind mess-up, whatever drove them to drugs in the first place, that

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Father McCarthy Dies, St. Andrew's Pastor

Father Charles J. McCarthy, pastor of St. Andrew's Church, was buried yesterday in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery following Mass of the Resurrection celebrated at St. Andrew's by Bishop Joseph L. Hogan and Father McCarthy's classmates.

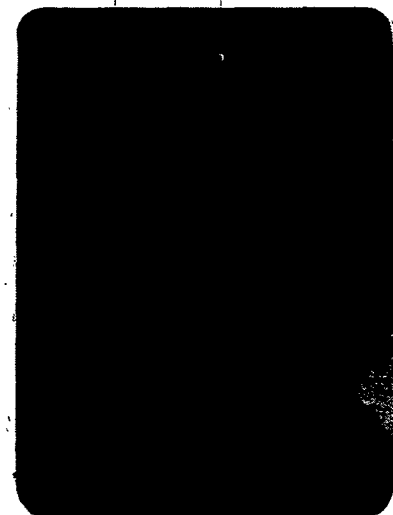
Msgr. J. Emmet Murphy, a classmate and pastor of Holy Apostles Church, preached the funeral homily.

Father McCarthy, 57, died on

Saturday, July 16, at Rochester General Hospital after a brief illness. He had been stricken with a blood clot in the brain on Monday.

St. Andrew's Church was thronged with grieving parishioners and friends and priests and religious from the entire diocese. Thousands paid a final tribute to the deceased on Sunday and Monday when his body lay in state in the church.

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FATHER MCCARTHY

New Principal Looks Ahead

By PEGGY PEASE
Hornell Correspondent

Bath — John Cucinotta, the new principal of St. Mary's in Bath, is the first layman ever to hold such a post in the diocese.

Cucinotta, 39, is married and the father of two children, Michael, 8 and Kelly, 5. They are residents of Mt. Morris.

Cucinotta stresses that he "would like to bring to his job another point of view, that of bringing the school back to its original K through 6 setup instead of the present K through

3. In other words, a full elementary school."

He said, "The people of Bath have a marvelous faculty and dedicated people and I know all will make a conscientious effort to restore the school. I hope the people will take advantage of it. There is a place in society for the dual system and the spiritual and moral training is something that can't be equated in how valuable it is."

Cucinotta is an alert and vigorous person with quite a record of achievement behind him and a positive future in store. He has been a teacher since

1959, having taught at Livonia Central School, Attica Central School and Mt. Morris Central.

Last year, he was coordinator of the Civil Defense Education programs for the State Education Department in Albany. This year he earned his Masters Degree in Science from the State University of Geneseo and also this year will be a candidate for certificate of advanced degree.

Cucinotta is an avid outdoorsman, his main interest hunting with swimming running a close second. He also likes tobogganing and ice skating. He is married to the former Carol Harter.

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