

A Parable:

When Horseheads Became Galilee

BY DICK BAUMBACH

Horseheads—The parables and stories in the Bible recently came to life for some 20 youngsters attending the first vacation school, conducted by members of St. Mary Our Mother Church here.

For two weeks youngsters in the third, fourth and fifth grades attended the vacation school which was a first-year experiment for the Horseheads parish.

The school hours were from 1 to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Everything from Bible study to arts and crafts were conducted during the school, with the emphasis on the teachings of Our Lord.

The key symbol was a small statue depicting Christ seated as if teaching His followers.

Each Bible lesson was started after the children followed Christ (the statue) into the hillsides and over the roads of Galilee (Horseheads).

Miss Florence Hughes, director, explained how the teachers tried to instill some of the meaning of Christ's teachings:

"To imprint the stories of the New Testament on their memories various scenes were acted out with the children taking the parts of the Biblical characters."

Miss Hughes said, "For the

School Board

Horseheads — Mrs. Harry Kahler is the new president of St. Mary Our Mother School Board for the coming school year.

Also elected are: Mrs. John Leonard, vice president, and Mrs. Roy VanBrun, secretary-treasurer.

Other members on the school board are: Father Bartholomew O'Brien, pastor; Sister M. Campion, principal of St. Mary Our Mother School; Mrs. Francis Burke, M. Joseph Danaher, Norman Fagnan, Joseph Henry, and Mrs. Mary Ann Munsell.

ALUMNI-OUTING

Elmira — The Notre Dame High School Alumni Association will host a stag outing at the school's campus here from 1 until 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 15.

The program will include food, refreshments and games. Notre Dame alumni may purchase tickets by calling either the Notre Dame Convent (607-732-6395) or Francis Smith (607-733-0810).

Sermon on the Mount and the Our Father we took the children to a grassy slope and explained the meanings of the two religious works."

Many of the activities were conducted on various parts of the church grounds. St. Mary Our Mother Cemetery was used to tell the story of Lazarus and the Resurrection of Christ.

The children filed into a school room after the story of the Ascension of Christ was acted out. They waited in the room for the Holy Spirit to come and bless each participant.

A white and gold plaque depicting the traditional symbol of the Dove was presented to the children by Father Bartholomew J. O'Brien, pastor of the Horseheads church, to show how the Holy Spirit might have visited the apostles in the upper room.

Miss Hughes described a typical day:

"Each day from 1 o'clock till 1:45 we would have Bible study. Then from 1:45 until 2:30 p.m. we would either have arts and crafts or a little bit of everything, such as, speech, French,

talent shows, or liturgical dancing.

"Beginning at 2:30 and lasting until 3 p.m. we had dancing of some type every day. From 3 to 3:30 the children played in supervised games and had refreshments for 10 minutes after the game period.

"The last 20 minutes of each day was devoted to quiet time, which was spent in the chapel trying to train the youngsters how to listen to Our Lord instead of talking to him. In short it was a tiny bit of training in the art of meditation."

The vacation school is a project of the Legion of Mary at St. Mary Our Mother.

Miss Hughes said she hopes the program is offered again next year and that a larger registration of students will be accepted.



"Come on down, Zaccheus," the crowd shouted. In this instance Zaccheus was Daniel Oliver who searched out the Lord in the oncoming crowd, and Mary Henry, Kevin Fivie and Adam Campbell urged him to come down.

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