

# The Catholic Schools Revisited Fr. Cantillon Reassigned

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN  
Last in a Series

The theme of this year's American Education Week was "Help Schools Bridge the Gap," referring to the gap between young people and adults; between races and points of view; between rich and poor and between promises and performance.

Rochester inner-city Catholic schools have been emphasizing the same theme actively for the past few years.

The philosophy of two inner-city schools, St. Lucy's-Immaculate Conception and St. Michael's is: To develop a sense of worth and accomplishment in each child in a Christian atmosphere created by motivation, stimulation, love, respect and encouragement.

To make this philosophy a reality, the schools have made use of the same technical equipment as the suburban schools discussed last week: tapes, films, resource centers for independent study time. But they have adapted progressive education to fit their unique situations.

In the spring of 1970 the faculties of Immaculate Conception, 445 Plymouth Ave. S. and St. Lucy's, 247 Troup St. began to talk of redesigning the education program of the two schools.

Sister Barbara Fox, principal of the combined schools, explained the merger of the schools that resulted from that meeting. "The idea of combining was motivated by financial problems, but mainly it was done to achieve a more workable plan for grades. Instead of duplicating programs within such a close geographic area, it was decided to combine resources and personnel for a more efficient and effective use."

Consolidation also enabled better use of the buildings. St. Lucy's is small and carpeted and appropriate for open classrooms, so it became the Early Childhood Center, for four, five and six-year olds.

Immaculate Conception is larger and more readily departmentalized, so the intermediate and junior high school grades are there.

This re-designing, Sister Barbara said, required a real adjustment on the part of teachers, but not at all in vain. "One new thing that did emerge from the practical working out of kindergarten and primary teaching was the recognition of the need to have a four-year-old group," she reported.

The teachers recognized the great potential for learning, but in many cases the children weren't ready for traditional kindergarten or first grade programs.

"What is unique about our four-year-old program," Sister

Barbara explained, "is that it is tied right in with the school program. We do not speak of it as a pre-kindergarten but as the four- and five-year-old program. They are together in classrooms and learn from one another."

Two teachers work with the four- and five-year olds. Each has two classes of 15 pupils, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. There are 61 children in the primary unit this year; nine are three years old.

Sister Maureen Halack and Michelle Mistretta, the two teachers, explained their system as a composite of Montessori method and open classroom. The main idea is to be flexible, to adapt it so it works. There is multi-grouping, with a lot of perceptual work, to develop muscle coordination, experience charts and language development, all working to develop the ego of each individual.

Sister Maureen said: "We have really got a lot going on there, that is why I hope we don't close."

She also reported that most of the 113 pupils at St. Lucy's are not Catholic, "but the parents want their kids to have some type of religious education."

Sister John Bosco Boss, the principal of St. Michael's School, 343 Clifford Ave., put it this way: "Catholic schools must serve the community. We accept non-Catholics; we're getting away from Catholic schools being just for Catholics."

"There is no trouble with religious education. The non-Catholics sit in on those classes too."

The innovative programs going on at St. Michael's are provided for by the federally funded Title I program. To be eligible for these funds the school must be integrated and in an area that is deprived economically and culturally.

The federally funded project supplies three reading teachers plus materials. The emphasis of the new reading program is on individualized reading, each child at his own level. Multi-texts and audio-visual sessions are the key to this program of teaching according to each child's own needs.

In addition, each teacher of first through eighth grade has a reading program every day in the classroom; and at least one day a week every class has a reading period in the specially equipped reading room.

Father Robert A. Mitchell, SJ, provincial of the New York Province of the Society of Jesus, recently announced the transfer of Father Joseph Cantillon, SJ, from director of libraries and professor of electives in Pastoral Theology at St. Bernard's Seminary to assistant librarian of Woodstock College, the Jesuit graduate school of theology in Manhattan.

Father Cantillon came to St. Bernard's in August, 1969. Under his directorship the seminary library increased its book holdings by 25%. The condition of the library was a major factor in the recent absolute accreditation of St. Bernard's by the American Association of Theological Schools.

Father Cantillon was ordained in 1937 at the old Woodstock campus on the banks of the Patapsco River in Maryland.

## ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Mantelli of Upton Place recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Following a golden anniversary Mass at Holy Cross Church they were entertained at a party given by the family. Mr. Mantelli is retired from Eastman Kodak Co.

land. He earned his library degree at Columbia University and also holds graduate degrees from Boston College, Woodstock and the University of San Francisco.

After Dec. 5, he will reside at Woodstock College, 352 Elyerdale Dr., New York, N.Y., 10025.

## Got Some News?

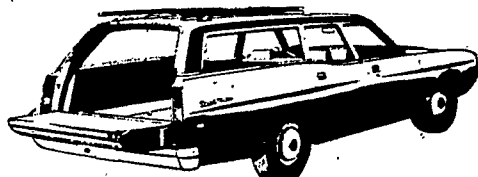
The Courier-Journal wants to print news of your organization, club or association. Please remember that the deadline is Thursday noon for the following week's paper.

**FINGER LAKES**  
Laundries and Cleaners  
**COMPLETE HOME SERVICE**  
Diaper Service  
Telephone 789-3300  
511 Washington St.  
Geneva, N.Y.

★ **FIVE POINTS**  
**LIQUOR STORE Inc.**  
Phone  
AL 3-6051  
55 Franklin St.  
Auburn, New York

## 1971 FORD BARGAINS

AT  
*Judge's*



Brand New 1971  
**FORD**  
CUSTOM-500 RANCH WAG.  
**\$3349**

10' pass. model in pastel blue. 400 CID V8 engine. Cruisomatic trans. Power steering and brakes. Radio. Rear-view remote mirror. Heavy-duty suspension. Full factory new-car warranty!



1971  
**MAYERICK**  
FOUR-DOOR SEDAN  
**\$1889**

Cruisomatic trans. Radio, heater & defrosters. Bumper guards. Body side mouldings. Seat belts and harnesses. Low mileage. #4781.

JUDGE'S ROCHESTER'S LARGEST FORD DEALER - 81 LAKE AVE. - 546-2200



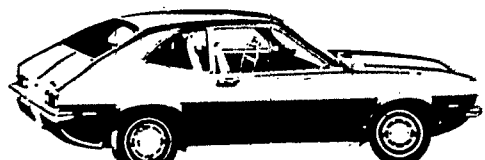
Brand New 1971  
**TORINO**  
HARDTOP TWO-DOOR  
**\$2349**

Bright blue metallic with matching interior. Full factory equipment including AM push-button radio. Full factory new car warranty.



1971  
**THUNDERBIRD**  
TWO-DR. LANDAU HARDTOP  
**\$4489**

The ultimate in luxurious driving. Factory Air-conditioning. Power Steering and Brakes. Power windows and six-way power seat. Radio. Dual rear speakers. Elec. Rear window defroster. Vinyl roof. Brougham cloth and vinyl interior. Tinted glass. Electric clock. Whitewalls and wheel covers. Company executive's personal car. Very low mileage. Extended factory warranty.



1971  
**PINTO**  
TWO-DOOR SEDAN  
**\$1689**

Radio, heater and defrosters. Rearview mirror. Seat belts and harnesses. Bright blue metallic. Low mileage. Stock No. 4853.

## School Library Receives Books

Mt. Morris — The St. Patrick's School library, now in its ninth year, has received 100 new books as a gift from the St. Patrick's School Alumni Association, according to Mrs. Amalia Pagano, the librarian. Mrs. Pagano said the library, open from 1 to 3 p.m. each school day, now has about 1350 books.

FOR PERFECT  
**DIAPER SERVICE**  
*Stork*  
BABY WASH  
**381-7340**