



Seated: William, Marie and their mother, Mrs. Reinaldo Reyes. Standing (l-r): Juan Hernandez, Father Octavio Esquevil, Mrs. Hernandez, Father John T. Reif and Reinaldo Reyes.

It'll Be Feliz Navidad At St. Michael's Hall

St. Michael's Hall will be the scene of a traditional Spanish Christmas celebration, complete with "pignata," for the members of the Christian Family Movement, Dec. 26.

The CFM, which is part of the Office of Family Life, exists in several parishes of the diocese and has recently become a way of bringing together young families of Puerto Rican origin.

Spanish speaking members of Corpus Christi, St. Bridget, St. Francis Xavier, St. Patrick's Peter and Paul, Holy Redeemer, Holy Rosary and St. Michael's began to organize a CFM last March.

Father John T. Reif of St. Michael's and Father Octavio Esquevil of St. Bridget's have

been very involved in organizing the CFM, and in planning the Christmas celebration.

Father Octavio Esquevil, who came to Rochester about a year ago from his homeland, Mexico, contributed personally to the celebration by writing a poem.

The group plans to devote the celebration to the more than 400 children of the members. Following traditional nativity accounts, the children will take part in long standing Spanish customs.

Among these is the "pignata", a gaily decorated container filled with toys and candy. The children are blind-folded and try to break it. Once it is broken everything falls and the children make a grand dash for the contents.

Education Panel

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At their Dec. 13 meeting, the commission elected an executive committee whose responsibility it will be to set up an agenda and provide resources for the group.

The executive committee members are: chairman, Sister Rosemary St. Peter, of St. Ambrose; vice chairman, Sister Marie Lynch, of St. Paul; first member at large, Richard Kurz, 50 Hillhurst Lane; second member at large, Donald Rimlinger, Holcomb; and ex-officio member who will serve as a liaison between the commission and the vicar for education, Sister M. James Lynch, assistant vicar.

The other members are: Mrs. John Pflieger, 121 Cimarron Drive; Arthur and Ellen Maurer, Penfield; Dr. Richard D. Zakia, 1 Lomb Memorial Drive; Norman Driscoll, 165 Trevor Court.

The two representatives from the Priests' Council are: Father Joseph D. Donovan, pastor of St. Mark's parish; and Msgr. William M. Roche, pastor of St. Catherine of Siena parish in Ithaca.

The members appointed by Bishop Joseph Hogan are John F. Wood 100 Allen Creek Road; Dr. Andrew Guidarelli, Newark; Brother Edward M. Tracey, principal of Bishop Kear-



SISTER BONAVENTURE

ey High School; Mrs. Nancy Rubery, Palmyra; Benjamin Harris, who represents the inner-city; and two college students who are not named yet.

Priests' Council Votes on Inner City

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said. "It is an inability to have power in the political workings of society that affect you daily. We are talking of areas where there are no strengths, no organization or ability to express effectively."

Father Charles Mulligan, director of the Office of Human Development and member of the Priests' Council, stated that there must be a definition of who will be in the CICP. "We must constitute it with a tactical list, but by no means an exclusive list," he said.

The initial list included the six parishes that receive subsidies from the Pastoral Office — St. Francis Xavier, Mt. Carmel, St. Michael's, Immaculate Conception, St. Bridget's and Holy Redeemer. To these were added St. Lucy's and St. Patrick's.

The CICP will consist of Church personnel and lay representatives from these parishes, with representatives from the Spanish community, the Black Caucus and the Office of Human Development.

The status of inner city schools was next on the agenda. A resolution urged that the inner city schools be given top priority among the parochial schools of Monroe County with regard to financial support and personnel.

Father Mulligan stated that he viewed this situation as the "surfacing of the future of diocesan education. It is something we will really have to come to grips with, and now."

He asked for some accountability from the Priests' Council, explaining that "As church leaders we have to be in there struggling with the problems."

However, no decision was reached.

Instead, after reports and comments from Father Daniel Brent, superintendent of general education, Sister Barbara Fox, principal of Immaculate Conception, and Sister James Lynch, assistant vicar of education, Father James Schwartz moved that "the Interim Dio-

cesan Educational Commission establish a committee of three inner city pastors with schools, three outer city pastors with schools, three suburban pastors with schools, one representative from the pastoral council and one from the education department to consider and discuss the survival of the schools and which will retrench."

When Sister M. Bonaventure, president of the diocesan Sisters' Council, spoke to the priests she stated that the nuns are very concerned over what will happen to the schools, and that they are anxious to work

to bring about changes in the diocese that they feel are needed.

"But," she continued, "the opportunity, a mechanism must be there so the sisters can act to affect the Church. Sisters have made considerable effort toward renewal, in their lives, but then they go into a parish where there is no renewal and they would like to help form a vital Parish Council."

It was decided that a joint ad hoc committee will be established to explore areas of joint activity.



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Family Sunday

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sidering legislation that would establish the two-child family as the American ideal. . . Attempts are also underway to withdraw legal protection from the unborn child prior to the 20th week of pregnancy. The child's right to life is being traded away for reasons of convenience or political expediency."

The statement, quoted in part, was issued by Msgr. James T. McHugh on behalf of the diocesan family life directors his department represents.

"It is to the good of society and of the family that the rights of children be respected and protected by law. Moreover, it is a matter of justice toward the child," the statement says.

"Accordingly, we urge a careful look at our whole fabric of law to redress the inequities that deprive children of their rights, and to establish a legal system that gives every child his basic human rights and the opportunities to fulfill those rights in dignity and freedom."

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