

The Aim... Better World

Auburn—The Better World Retreat which comes to the Auburn area Thursday, March 9 and continues through Wednesday March 15, offers unique opportunity for developing the "Communitarian spirit" and commitment called for by Vatican II according to Father Edward Shamon, pastor of St. Aloysius Parish.

St. Aloysius Parish facilities at 162 Van Anden St. will be the headquarters for this "first" in the region. Bishop Joseph L. Hogan will participate at some juncture of this retreat.

"The Better World Retreat" is not a parish mission in the traditional sense of the word, but rather is an attempt to be-

gin the process of formation of Christian community on the parish level. It is open to parish priests, sisters and the laity.

The method used to achieve the goal is primarily through the sharing of insights and ideas. Techniques include general audience, open discussion, smaller group sessions, group prayer, scripture examination, and community Mass.

While participation is by invitation only, and according to individual parish committees established for this purpose, Father Shamon encourages interested parishioners from throughout the area to contact their pastor in case openings are available. The program will be limited to 100.

Sessions are scheduled Thursday March 9 and Friday March 10 from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sun-

day from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m., and Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.



"Quiet time" in kindergarten... Teacher is Mrs. Pat Karpinski

Sacred Heart School... Esprit de Corps 'In'

(Second in a Series)
By MARY ANN GINNERTY

Auburn — Sacred Heart School, staffed by three sisters from the Order of St. Joseph and six lay teachers, encompasses kindergarten through 8th grades with a current enrollment of 230 pupils.

Sacred Heart is one of three schools, including Holy Family and St. Alphonsus, exploring possibility of consolidation. With continued rising costs of conducting a school, and the likelihood of losing state support, consolidation is being considered as a way to continue the best Catholic education possible through such alternative arrangements.

Committees have been established to investigate ramifications of the proposed consolidation, including finances, costs, recourses, curriculum and transportation.

Sacred Heart is a relatively new parish, approximately 15 years old, and priorities set the establishment of a school first. Sunday Masses are conducted in the auditorium. Father Raymond Wahl is pastor, assisted by Father Philip Billotte. Sacred Heart opened with grades 1 through 6 in 1957 and grades 7 and 8 were added later.

In reviewing the current school program, Sister Francine, 8th grade teacher and principal, commented that "never have I been anywhere where there is so much spirit among the children and their parents. This has been borne out in support of such programs as a voluntary reading-tutoring program conducted by parishioners with volunteers caring for the children of tutors, releasing them for tutor-

ial assignments. Sacred Heart reflects considerable parish involvement in the school through the use of volunteers. There has been an active home school association with profits from annual fund raising activities used to contribute equipment."

The school has been moving towards departmentalization gradually. It already is in effect in the 7th and 8th grades. Teachers are assigned according to their major interest. Reading is departmentalized at the 4th, 5th, and 6th grades.

Sister Francine says reading achievement is heavily stressed, backed by the special tutoring program. Creative emphasis through art projects and writing projects are numerous. Creative writing is emphasized in grades 4 through 8.

This past year the school has been developing team teaching concepts in phonics and arithmetic for kindergarten through grades 3. A new reading series was introduced into grades 1 and 2, and is scheduled for introduction into the third grade next year.

Auxiliary staff available through the school includes the services of a trained psychologist, remedial reading teacher, library volunteer, and a teachers aide is provided through the Auburn Board of Education.

Religious instruction program is a separate class period each week under Father Billotte with special activities throughout the year. The "Come To The Father Series" is used and there has been in service training for the teachers who help incorporate the spirit of religious instruction into everyday activities.

The faculty includes Mrs. Patricia Karpinski, kindergarten; Miss Francine Ruschak, 1st grade; Mrs. Alison Bolak, 2nd; Mrs. Rita McDonald, 3rd; Sister Joseph Francis, 4th; Mr. Martin Brann, 5th; Sister Yvonne, 6th; Mr. Willis Watkins, 7th; Sister Francine 8th.

Auburn Area Notes

Clyde - Lyons - Savannah—Inter-parish Lenten Series, March 14, 7:30 p.m. at St. John's in Clyde. Lecture, "God's Word as Judgment," by Father Leopold Protomastro, OFM, Cap.

Auburn — The quarterly meeting of the Knights of Columbus Auxiliary will be Wednesday March 15 at 6:30 p.m., at K of C rooms, preceded by a covered dish supper.

NEWS DEADLINE

A reminder that Courier-Journal news deadline is noon Thursday for the following Wednesday's newspaper.

Courier-Journal

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