



Sister Francis demonstrates egg decorating to students at Ss. Peter and Paul School. Also shown are Easter breads made by Sister's mother, Mrs. Mary Wolchanski of Centralia, Pennsylvania.

Ukrainian Traditions Stressed at School

Auburn — The season of Easter presented another opportunity for the students of Ss. Peter and Paul School to increase their knowledge of another phase of the Ukrainian culture which is strongly promoted at the school.

At this time the students exhibited their artistic and creative ability in coloring Ukrainian Easter eggs. Decorating these eggs, known as pysankas in the Ukrainian language, has been a tradition for over 10 centuries. In 988, when the Ukraine accepted Christianity, the decoration of eggs took on a deep religious meaning which commemorated the Resurrection of Jesus. At Easter, friends still exchange pysankas to commemorate Christ's teaching of peace and love.

Sister Marie Francis, the principal of Ss. Peter and Paul instructed all the students from grades five through eight in drawing the basic designs and patterns onto the egg. This tradition of egg decorating is even enjoyed by the younger students from grades one through four, under the direction of Sister Olga Marie and Sister Genevieve, in a more simplified style.

In the Ukrainian method a candle is lit and melted wax is applied to a raw egg by a writing instrument, the kistka. After the designs have been completed, the egg is dipped into yellow dye. Succession of colors is very important, always beginning with the lightest color and working toward the darkest, each time applying more wax as the desired color is needed. The last color is usually black. All the wax is then removed and the whole design appears. The designs are combinations of many traditional motifs. They can be classed as geometric, plant or animal. Sister Francis considers decorating these eggs a rich cultural heritage.

Another Ukrainian specialty is the "Easter Paska" (bread) which is elaborately decorated with dough ornaments.

The bread along with other Easter food is solemnly blessed

by-the Ukrainian Catholic priest and eaten by the family upon returning from the Easter Sunday Services.

As a climax to yearly Ukrainian projects, the girls of the eighth grade are hand embroidering Ukrainian designs for their graduation dresses.

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Speaker Scheduled For Catechetics Day

By MARY ANN GINNERTY

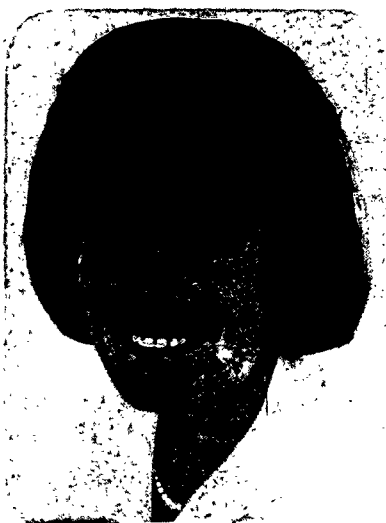
Auburn — Dr. Christiane Brusselmans, author, lecturer and religious education specialist, will be featured speaker at Catechetical Day, May 13, sponsored by Christian Education Department, Auburn Region (CEDAR).

Dr. Brusselmans is nationally known for her work with parent groups and teachers involved in sacramental preparation.

Born in Belgium, she divides her year as assistant professor in the Theology Department of Louvain University, fall semester, with the spring semester in the Religious Education Department at Fordham University.

Dr. Brusselmans has a Masters in theology from the University of Louvain, Belgium, and a masters in pastoral catechetics from the Institut Catholique, Paris and received her Ph.D. in Religious Education from Catholic University of America.

In addition to articles in religious magazines, she has authored four books, including "I Go to Mass with God's Family," a book for the child's preparation for the Mass, and "Preschoolers — Their Parents and Religion", concerning religious questions preschoolers ask adults.



DR. BRUSSELMANS

Catechetical Day, May 13, will be held at St. Aloysius School here from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be a \$5 registration fee which includes the luncheon and afternoon workshops. It is open to the public.

Miss Barbara Schmucker, religious education coordinator for CEDAR noted Dr. Brusselmans should be particularly interesting for parents as her speciality involves sacramental preparation of children.

Registrations are now being accepted by the CEDAR office.

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