

Erase Flood's Debris? Try 'TLC' Shower

By MARY ANN GINNERTY

Auburn — A cure for the January doldrums may just be a "TLC" shower — an extension of the abundant Christmas spirit a little further into the new year through person-to-person contact with a particular family or elderly person in the flood area, helping in a way that reflects care.

Among the groups responding to "Project TLC" (Tender Loving Care) were the 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade CCD classes at St. Joseph's in Cayuga. They adopted a family in Painted Post and items gathered ranged from light bulbs to pliers, hangers to linens. A bake sale raised funds for the linens, and the other items were contributed by the students.

As one student put it, "After



seeing the film about the flood, we didn't feel 'sorry' for the people, but it was more that they had lost all their things, and needed help. We just wanted to brighten the days for them."

Project TLC involves small groups, classes, clubs or perhaps a gathering of the neighbors who adopt a family or elderly person and help them in a pre-determined way to recover from the flood. More than providing needed articles, it is the spirit of neighborliness that crosses the gap of discouragement

for people who are not poverty cases, but victims of an unfortunate circumstance.

The mud may be washed away but with it also went those things which make a dwelling a home. Most of the items involved cost less than \$2 but it's the lack of those small items accumulated through the years, such as clothespins, waste baskets, the favorite paring knife, a hammer, that remain daily reminders that the June flood may be over, but its effects remain.

Interested groups in the Auburn area may call 252-0222 and leave the name of the group, the number of persons participating, and the name and phone number of a contact person. They will be given the name of a family selected for them, and a list of suggested items which the family has indicated they need the most.

A slide presentation is available through the speaker's bureau headed by William Tenity. A group can be provided with a short or long list depending on its ability to respond. Father Roger Rishel, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, is responsible for church groups; Helen Delaney, parochial schools; and Barbara Schmucker, CEDAR office, for civic organizations.



St. Joseph's of Cayuga pupils work on their "Tender Loving Care" project.

Father Mura Named Ithaca Man of Year

By JOY CHALONE

Ithaca — Father David Mura, associate pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, has been selected by the Ithaca Journal as the "Man of the Year for 1972". He has been in Ithaca a mere year and a half.

His common sense approach to problems and his varied activities in behalf of his fellowmen brought him into focus as a man who deserves recognition.

Father first came to the attention of the Ithaca paper last summer in connection with clean-up operations after the flood. He set up and coordinated bus trips every day all summer long, several times going along himself. Dan Finn, coordinator of volunteers at the center near Gang's Mills where Father Mura's group worked most of the summer, says, "Those Ithacans are about the most dependable volunteers we have".

The lesser-known benefits he has given Ithacans are numerous:

(1) A program of Monday afternoon religious services at the county jail in which several area churches participated, rotating each week. "At first we handed out letters to each of the prisoners, asking them to let me know if they wanted counseling — for himself or his family," Father explains. "But once we began the Monday afternoon services, which are followed by informal discussions, we decided to leave the letters in the rec room for the men to fill out if they wished."

(2) He is director of the folk music Mass and, according to the youth of the group, plays a "mean guitar".

(3) He is originator and moderator for Focus Club, an adult weekly talk group of the parish.

As this article was being finished, this "man of the year" walked into my hospital room on his way to a retreat. The weariness showed in his face. "I'm

on my way to retreat and read all those periodicals I subscribed to all year and haven't had a chance to look at," he said.



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Ithaca Area Notes

Ludlowville — Father Robert White, former assistant at All Saints Church here just returned from Honduras.