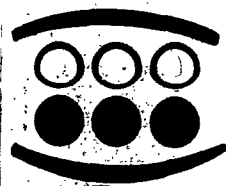


Our Parish COUNCIL

by Bernard Lyons



The committee on the liturgy in one midwest parish wrote a job description for themselves. I have summarized their major points.

The liturgy committee should be alert to insure that the parish keeps abreast of the changes in the Mass.

The committee undertakes the scheduling and posting of schedules, and the training program for commentators and lectors.

On sermons, the committee hoped for quality rather than quantity. They indicated that the subject matter should include advice and counsel on such things as personal prayer, confession, youth guidance, morals, the Catholic outlook on current issues, and topics suited to the time and place and of a timbre to rivet the attention of the congregation.

The committee noted that the sermons are basically the province of the pastor, but that the laity might suggest topics and areas of concern.

"The introduction of new music is necessary and desirable, but care should be taken that this music be more than merely novel," the liturgy committee noted. "Music appropriate to one parish may not be to another."

Council Holds Open Meeting In Webster

Webster — The first open Parish Council meeting in the history of St. Rita's was held on Saturday night, Jan. 13. The purpose of this meeting was to present the entire parish with a comprehensive review of the council's work and that of its committees on education, finance, human development, and liturgy.

Father Francis Kleehammer, pastor, and Mary Palamar, Parish Council chairman, expressed their deep appreciation to members of the parish who had served on the council in previous years. Father Kleehammer presented scrolls in recognition of this service to: George Herbst, Chuck Crowley, Dick Costello, Larry Callahan, Father Thomas Burri, Midge Yaeckel, Pat McRae, Tom Hainer, Don Hathaway, Molly Boehlert, Joe Burnett and Walker Donovan.

A special liturgical service was held before the meeting at which St. Rita's School Choir sang under the direction of Sister Noel.

PBS Special About Stars

Modern science will launch viewers into the mysteries of outer space and explore the billion year life history of the universe on the PBS special "Birth and Death of a Star" Jan. 29 at 9 p.m. on Channel 21.

Making wide use of special effects photography, Dr. John A. Wheeler, a Princeton University professor of physics and a contributor to early research into nuclear physics, and five of his colleagues will explain the latest knowledge of the stars.

After the premier of "Birth and Death of a Star" the half-hour film will be made available for showing to schools and various civic and service organizations.

Besides the life cycles of stars, the program will explore fluoride on the surface of the sun, stellar radiations which resemble radiation from intelligent civilization, and the phenomenon of black holes.

Courier-Journal

However, literature on the changes in Mass music should be obtained, and people on this committee should be knowledgeable enough to distinguish the good from the bad."

The committee set themselves the task of organizing an adult choir and recruiting adult organists.

The committee also assumed the regular duties of keeping the Intention Book up-to-date and ahead for the convenience of the users.

They also indicated that they would work through other organizations of the parish to promote attendance at Devotions, and build the attendance at First Friday Masses with the aid of an instructive letter to parishioners.

Sacristan duties were outlined, including the laundering and cleaning of the altar linens and priests' vestments, and the purchasing of candles, flowers, linens, etc.

For educational purposes and for the aid of the parishioners at worship, the committee agreed to keep the pamphlet rack up-to-date, filled with pamphlets for all ages, and maintain a file of seasonal pamphlets. The committee also purchases the Mass books and keeps them in order between Masses.

The liturgy committee also agreed to provide the welcome committee with a letter for newcomers, to be included in the kit of materials given new parishioners.

The letter lists the times of Masses and confessions, and invites them to "join us not only at the required Sunday Mass, but at our daily Masses, and to share your talents with us for our mutual benefit, by joining whatever organization best suits you, and to send your children to our school."

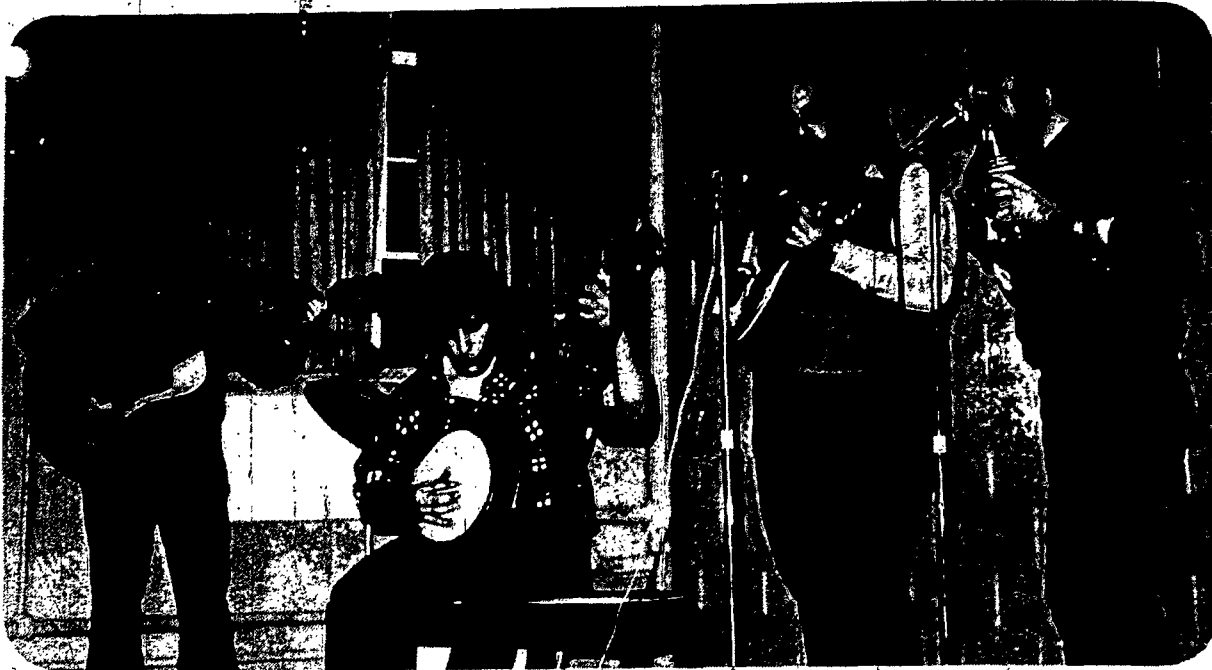
Council Committee Conducts Survey

Geneva — The parish life committee of St. Stephen's Parish Council will conduct a survey of parish members' opinions vital to planning future programs through a questionnaire to be distributed at all Masses the weekend of Jan. 27-28.

The committee hopes that opinions and ideas from a broad cross-section of the parish will influence the future planning of projects in the areas of liturgy, education, finance, youth, maintenance, social action and community life.

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Folk Fest

'Big Toe and the Foot Stompers' perform jug band music at the Folk Festival for parish singing groups on the evening of Sunday, Jan. 14 at St. Helen's school hall. Members of group are Tom Parker and Dave, Dennis and Tony Caiazza. The festival, put on by St. Helen's Youth Corp, drew singers from 20 parishes.

Gananda Planners Select Task Force

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

A religious planning task force was named last week and given the job of devising models for religious organization in Gananda.

The task force will be chaired by the Rev. Richard N. Johnson of East Penfield Baptist Church, which is not far from the 10,500 acre Wayne County site that will be Gananda, home for a projected population of 85,000.

After studying the concept of planned communities, and the various cooperative religious programs in existing new towns, for about seven months, a sub-committee of Genesee Ecumenical Ministries decided a task force was needed to work closely and regularly with the New Wayne Management Inc., Gananda's developer.

Members include the Rev. John Beeg, pastor of Bethel Full Gospel Church, and Rabbi Harvey Goldman of Temple Sinai. Dr. Margaret Sawin was nominated to represent the First Baptist Church.

Besides doing the detailed planning, the task force will act as liaison between the developers and the larger Gananda Religious Planning Council, which is made up of representatives of

DEADLINE

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GEM's nine member denominations.

The task force plans to meet weekly. Its immediate concerns, according to Mr. Johnson, are

"to develop feasible models for the religious organizations in Gananda, and to develop a process by which Gananda Religious Planning Council becomes an indigenous part of the new town."

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