

Dansville FISH Needs Volunteers

Dansville — Greater demand, smaller supply of volunteers was the story of FISH (Friends In Service Here) in Dansville during 1972.

The FISH-steering committee has reported the volunteers took care of 310 requests for assistance last year, 133 more than the previous year and 153 more than were received during the first year of operation four years ago. Mrs. Betty Waterbury said at times calls could not be handled because volunteers were not available and her committee, in planning for the future, has issued a plea for more helpers this year.

During the past 12 months, 296 calls for transportation were handled by only 48 volunteers. One man and his wife, she said, made 45 trips; two others made 20 trips each. "We are operating with a minimum amount of people. If FISH is to continue a successful operation, we must have new volunteers to help relieve the burden on the people we now have," Mrs. Waterbury said.

Assistance given during the year included child care requested by the Social Services Department and referrals to the American Cancer Society and Project REACH.

The organization expressed thanks to the Rotary Club for providing the FISH telephone, to church groups for cash contributions and to Dr. and Mrs. James Whitford for use of their home for committee meetings.

In Hornell, meanwhile, the FISH steering committee announced termination of services

for lack of volunteers. The committee pointed out that the Elderberry Express, supplying free transportation for senior citizens in the Hornell area, had taken up one of the principal FISH functions. Volunteers were urged to join the Meals-on-Wheels program centered at St. James Mercy Hospital.

41 Join Honor Society

Hornell — The Hornell Chapter of the National Honor Society recently inducted 27 senior students and 14 junior students at ceremonies at the senior high school auditorium. There were 19 St. Ann's parishioners and graduates of St. Ann's School represented.

They are Bonnie Damrath, Sheila Hanrahan, Gina Mazzella, Richard Mattie, Ann Murphy, Margaret Mahoney, Mark Schneider, John Schick, Mary Terry, William Burke, Maureen Cannon, Anne DiVencenzo, Mary Donovan, Sammy Suriani, Michael Cipolla, president of the group, Nancy Berry, Margaret Dempsey, Karen Kowilich and Lynn Goodale.

Present members of the group conducted the ceremony for the new members and Principal Michael Durso, a St. Ann's parishioner, administered the pledge following the symbolic lighting of the candles. A tea, arranged by Virginia Hussong and Mary Ann Gallagher, teachers and also parishioners of St. Ann's, concluded the ceremonies.

Hornell Area Notes

Hornell — Mrs. Ronald W. (Margaret) Arnault, a parishioner of St. Ann's, has been elected president of Church Women United of Hornell Area. She succeeds Mrs. Ward V. Fritz.

Mrs. Arnault announced that Mrs. Douglas R. Smith has accepted the chairmanship of Church World Service Committee. This group provides service and assistance to migrants, the Hornell Neighborhood Center, tutoring illiterate adults of the area, and giving blankets and clothing to Church World Service. The group also commemorates each year the national celebrations of World Day of Prayer in March, May Fellowship Day and World Community Day in November.

Hornell — The Adult Religious Education Committee of St. Ann's plans mini-courses in theology. These will begin on Feb. 23 with the topic, "The Catholic Church: What Is Its Function?" On March 16, and 23 the subject will be the Epistles of St. Paul, with Father John Hayes. On March 30, it is tentatively planned to show a film, "The New Morality." April 6, Father Lewis Brown on "Penance."

Hornell — On Monday evenings, St. Ignatius presents Family Enrichment tapes from the Family Enrichment Bureau of Escanaba, Mich. A discussion period follows each audition of tape-cassette. All interested are invited to attend these meetings in the parish center.

Bath — The Men's Annual Retreat for men of St. Mary's Parish here will be held on March 30 to April 1. Call Gilbert Ferris at 776-2302 to make arrangements to attend.

Hornell — Several people have shown an interest in forming a

Youth Group at St. Ignatius to include students from grades 8 through 12. Young people interested in joining, please contact the rectory.

Dansville — Sister Esther will

help parents in preparing their children for First Communion and First Penance at St. Mary's. The date is Feb. 25 at 2:30 p.m. for First Communion discussion and 3:30 p.m. for details concerning First Penance.



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Kathryn S. Brady, R. N., Director

Our Parish COUNCIL by Bernard Lyons

At their last national meeting, the U.S. bishops issued a collective pastoral on Catholic education, "To Teach As Jesus Did."

Despite the fact that no mention was made of parish councils, the pastoral letter should be studied by every parish council leader. To help get out some of the meaning of the pastoral for parish councils I have listed some quotations from the pastoral and then followed it with a question or two of my own.

"Thus one crucial measure of the success or failure of the educational ministry is how well it enables men to hear the message of hope contained in the Gospel, to base their love and service of God upon this message, to achieve a personal relationship with Christ, and to share the Gospel's realistic view of the human condition which recognizes the fact of evil and personal sin while affirming hope."

Would you say that your parish is a hope-filled community? Why or why not?

"Education is one of the most important ways by which the Church fulfills its commitment to the dignity of the person and the building of community. Community is central to educational ministry both as a necessary condition and an ardently desired goal. The educational efforts of the Church must therefore be directed to forming persons-in-community; for the education of the individual Christian is important not only to his solitary destiny but also to the destinies

of the many communities in which he lives."

Do you recognize the parish council as a "formative tool"? Do you see the council supporting the work of Christian education by building and strengthening the parish community?

"Rapid, radical changes in contemporary society demand well planned, continuing efforts to assimilate new data, new insights, new modes of thinking and acting. This is necessary for adults to function efficiently, but, more important, to achieve full realization of their potential as persons whose destiny includes but also transcends this life. Thus they will also enjoy ever deepening fellowship within the many communities to which each of them belongs. Consequently the continuing education of adults is situated not at the periphery of the Church's educational missions, but at its center."

Does your parish have a continuing Christian education program for adults? Does it express the three interrelated purposes of Christian education: the teaching of doctrine, the building and experiencing of community, and service to others?

"All those involved in Catholic youth work should recognize the value of what is called peer group ministry."

Are young people welcomed as co-workers on your parish council and in your parish education programs?

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