



OUR PARISH COUNCIL Bernard Lyons

The worship committee of the parish is meeting. They are again discussing the lack of participation in the liturgy.

After a few typical comments, the citing of Vatican II, and deploring the lack of participation, the committee moves on to more concrete matters, such as making plans for the Holy Week liturgies.

The matter of the congregation's participation gets short attention again. The worship committee isn't sure exactly what the problem is and how to approach it.

They will find some help in the experience of the liturgical commission for the Diocese of Oakland, Calif. There the liturgical commission asked an efficiency and quality control manager of a large manufacturing company, to do an evaluation of the average Sunday Mass. Special emphasis was given to lay participation.

The man broke the problem into 11 factors of participation, and then had observers go to 42 Masses in 16 parishes selected at random.

By judging the participation on the basis of these factors, certain problem areas readily become apparent. And instead of a generalized statement about how weak participation is, the strong

GARAGE SALE

A White Elephant and Garage Sale will be held at Most Precious Blood School, noon to 6 p.m. on Saturday, April 28, and from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. on Sunday, April 29.

points could be seen. Solutions for strengthening the participation could be applied more concretely.

For example, the priest's audibility from the pulpit was judged to be 85 per cent effective, while his audibility from the altar was only appraised at 20 per cent effective. The priest needed to pay more attention to his delivery, and the microphone system from the altar needed to be improved.

In another example, the lector's audibility was judged to be 60%, while his group leadership ability was pegged at 10%, and his reading only 20% effective. Obviously, there was a serious need for training of lectors and attention paid to their preparation for the Sunday readings.

The important point about this evaluation, however, is that by listing the factors of participation, the worship committee can begin to realistically plan and make the necessary changes to increase the percentage of effectiveness.

AOH to Honor Ross McMahon

Ross McMahon will be honored for 50 years of membership in Division 2 of the Ancient Order of Hibernians at a dinner-dance Saturday, April 28 at the Sacred Heart Cathedral Hall, 296 Flower, City Park.

Dinner is planned for 7:30 p.m., following a cocktail hour. Music will be the Harps Orchestra and reservations may be made by calling 235-4970, 458-5852, or 647-1870.

CDA Plans State Meeting

Stevensville Country Club at Swan Lake, N.Y., will be the scene of the Catholic Daughters of America state convention May 12-16, 1974.

The courts of the Brooklyn Diocese will host the convention under the chairmanship of Miss Eileen Eagan of Court Mystical Rose 38, assisted by Miss Ann Walsh of Court Mercier 414.

The state board, under the direction of Mrs. Frank Donahue of Brockport, the convention chairman and committee heads planned the convention.

Homage to Perry Set at Cathedral

A musical program, "Homage to C. Hubert H. Perry," will be given at 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 29, at Christ Church Episcopal Cathedral, it was recently announced by the Rev. Cyril V. Roberts, canon precentor of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester.

The program honors Hubert Perry, 1848-1918, who was the teacher of the great composer Ralph Vaughan Williams, and was regarded by Sir Edward Elgar as leader of the 20th Century renaissance in English Music. He was a friend of Johannes Brahms and a great composer and historian in his own right.

NEXT-TO-NEW

The Rosary Society of Blessed Sacrament church is holding its second annual Next-to-New Sale at the school hall, April 26, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; April 27, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; April 28, 9 a.m. to noon. All proceeds will go to a school scholarship fund for needy students.

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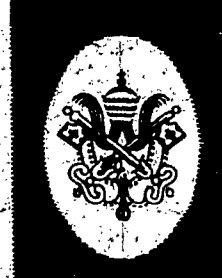
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