



**Service Award**

A 25-Year Government Service Pin is awarded to Father Stanislaus H. Bialaszewski, Catholic chaplain at the Bath VA Center, by Dr. Winston Hainsworth, chief of staff. M. M. Lang, acting assistant director looks on approvingly.



THE OPEN WINDOW  
Fr. Louis Hohman

**Q.** In a recent column, you said, "If a couple had agonized over the question of birth control, were familiar with the documents, had sought advice and still came to the conclusion that they had no choice but contraception, would you convict them of sin on the basis on the encyclical and the bishops' statements?" Are you then saying that a sin is not a sin when following the rules is an inconvenience?

**A.** What if a couple with an incurably ill child had agonized over the question of killing the child for the sake of the rest of the children, was familiar with the teachings of the Church, has sought advice and still came to the conclusion that they had no choice but to kill the child for the good of the family and the financial purse? Would you convict them of sinning on the basis of the teachings of the Church? Or has some pope in the past, speaking infallibly, said killing is a sin?

**A.** In answer to the first part of your question, it has nothing to do with inconvenience. I never have and never will preach a "morality" based on what is convenient and what is not. What you referred to has to do with an honest judgment. What do you do when confronted with a friend who has made an honest but possibly incorrect judgment? Do you condemn him, or "convict him of sin?"

In the example about the couple and their incurably ill child, you say these people know the teaching of the Church about killing an innocent child. My friend, you cannot equate the

The annual smorgasbord that Mother Cabrini Circle gives to raise scholarship money will be held Sunday, May 6, 12:30-5:30 p.m., at Montgomery Neighborhood Center, Cady and Olean streets. Tickets are \$2.50 for adults, \$1.25 for children.

The circle, an interracial group of Catholic Women organized in 1946, offers black students tuition scholarships at Catholic high schools.

**INSTALLATION DINNER**

The members of St. Anne's Rosary Society will hold their annual installation dinner at the Party House, Thursday, May 8 at 6:30 p.m. Father William Poorten SJ, of McQuaid Jesuit High School, will be the guest speaker.

**OLPH Men Set Celebration**

St. John's Benevolent Society, in its 61st year at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, will give a dinner party May 5 as a "salute to presidents."

At 5 p.m., preceding the dinner at Rochester Turners, a Mass will be celebrated in memory of deceased members, and all parishioners are invited to take part. John Mueller is chairman for all arrangements.

Current president of the society is William Peró, who was elected first in 1964.

Other presidents, listed chronologically from 1912, on: Wendel Reisenberger, Louis Fien, Dave Huck, Theodore Claude, Richard Memmel, Theodore Schlaefer, Norman Mayer, Julius Klien, Carl Holly, Arnold Eckert, Francis Claus, Peter McAvoy, Stan Pabrinkas, William Batz.

**NCEA Meeting Runs April 23-26**

Washington, D.C. [RNS] — "Religious Education: Building Values and Meaning," will be the theme of the 70th annual National Catholic Educational Association's convention in New Orleans, April 23 to 26, which is expected to attract more than 10,000 Catholic educators.

All six NCEA departments will explore the convention theme, but special emphasis will be given to the NCEA's Department of Religious Education, the NCEA headquarters said here.

In addition to regular divisional and departmental sessions, there will be meetings of NCEA commissions, a special projects program on public and Catholic school cooperation, and special elementary and secondary resource centers.

The convention keynote address will be given by Father Raymond Brown, S.S., Auburn professor of Biblical Studies at Union Theological Seminary, New York, and recently named visiting professor to the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome. He will speak April 23 on "The Current Crisis in Theology As It Affects the Teaching of Catholic Doctrine."

**African Bishop Visits**

St. Lucy's parish had an episcopal visitation last week.

The purpose of his visit, explained Bishop Dominic K. Andoh, DCL, was to raise funds for use in his diocese of Accra, Ghana.

His stay in Rochester was sponsored by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

Bishop Andoh is the first native bishop to be ordained in Ghana. The funds he collects will aid mobile clinics which bring medical treatment to villagers, and will pay the salaries of catechists who teach religion in the government schools.

There are more than a million Catholics among Ghana's population of 9 million. Eighty Divine Word missionaries assist the local clergy in pastoral work.



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