



# THE SLOT MAN

Carmen Viglucci

About six years ago when I still worked for a morning daily, I, and many co-workers, often found ourselves with free time on our hands between the hours of 1 and 2 a.m. With the Christian Science Reading Room closed at that hour, we often retired to other meeting places to discuss stamp collecting, trade baseball cards, and compare notes on needlework.

At one such gathering, someone proposed a vote on who we thought was the greatest man of the 20th Century. Think about it for a minute.

The winner was Pope John XXIII. It was a bit surprising, since out of about 10 voting, only two were Catholic, and one of us, I am sure, nominated Winston Churchill. If I recall correctly, there were individual votes for Franklin D. Roosevelt, Gandhi, John F. Kennedy, two for Churchill and the rest for Pope John.

This shouldn't have constituted much of a surprise because of the greatness of the man and also because newsmen, probably like most people, have an innate respect for a man who truly deserves the description "good."

I was working for another newspaper when Pope Pius XII

died and as always there was speculation as to his successor. Cardinal Gregory Agagianian was the local favorite at that time and I remember the disappointment when the smoke cleared and Giuseppe Roncalli was the new pope. He looked old and unpromising. What an erroneous inference! For as we all know now, he was one of the youngest pontiffs the Church has ever known and we are still glorying in his promise.

His historical accomplishments are well-known — the summoning of Vatican II, his great encyclical, Peace on Earth, addressed not only to Catholics, but "to all men of goodwill," the thawing of relations not only between religious bodies but between East and West.

In a human sense he did even more. He was able to laugh and his sense of humor became legend. To wit: Q. "Your holiness, how many people work in the Vatican?" A. "About half."

His surprise visit to a Rome prison where he addressed the prisoners as "sons and brothers" is a lesson in compassion.

His other visits — to workers, orphanages, hospitals, and reform schools — showed where his concern lay. Not many world leaders care as much.

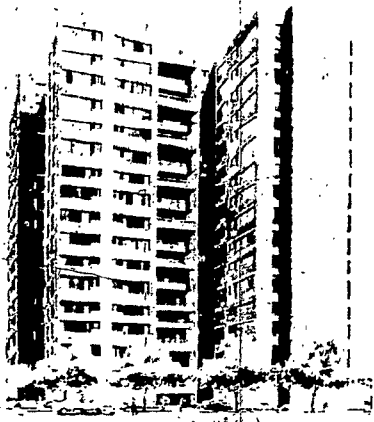
I have one friend who has no great love for the Catholic Church, who often is moved to the point of tears when talking about "John." That is kind of symbolic of the reverence felt for him. He was, it seems, a member of every man's family.

### PIUS X SUPPER

Van Etten — St. Pius X parish will have a family supper Monday evening, June 11 in the hall. Mrs. Fred Maki is chairman.

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## DICRA Ends Operations

The Draft Information Center of the Rochester area (DICRA) was closed last week (May 31).

In April 1971 the diocesan

### Parish Council Election Held

Newark Valley — Results of the Parish Council election were announced at the annual meeting of St. John's Parish, held May 23. Elected for three year terms were Ms. Doris Baylor, Albert Gillow, and Wesley Kwiatkowski.

John Clair, Kenneth Gray, and Vernon Singleton were elected for two year terms. Elected for one year terms were Andrew Romano, Ms. Patricia Slawta, and Ms. Emilie Stuhlmiller.

Kenneth Gray was elected chairman of the council, with Albert Gillow as vice-chairman, and Emilie Stuhlmiller as secretary-treasurer.

Parish Council members who are serving as temporary organizers of the various committees of the council are: Ms. Patricia Slawta, education; Albert Gillow, liturgy; Vernon Singleton, community relations; Ms. Doris Baylor, human development; Wesley Kwiatkowski, finance; Andrew Romano, social; and John Clair, program and resources.

Priests' Council voted that the diocese should join with other religious and community groups in support of DICRA, a draft counseling service. Father William Lum has served as diocesan liaison.

Several reasons were given by DICRA for the closing.

First, the originally intended work has diminished significantly since draft inductions were suspended in January 1973. Most of the work in recent weeks has dealt with the 70 or more men indicted for violations of

Selective Service law by the local United States District Court.

Second, the present executive director of DICRA, the Rev. Kenneth Colton, is leaving Rochester to accept a call to become the associate pastor of First United Methodist Church, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Third, the scope of activity of DICRA has gone beyond the original intention of the organization. The board of directors felt that it would be wiser to dissolve the present corporation and to let the expanded concerns be handled by a new organization.

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