

From Sports to Housewives**Columnists Fill
The Summer Bill**

Columnists ring the bell this week with a variety of topics to brighten your summertime reading.

For instance, sports columnist John Doser offers some more inside information on the approval of Catholic school participation in Section 5 athletics. Doser, who has kept Courier readers on top of the situation as it grew toward realization, talks about the roles of Carl Palumbo, Section 5 president; Father Daniel Brent, superintendent of diocesan schools; Father Eugene Zimpfer of McQuaid and others. **PAGE 15.**

Sarah Child has proposed day care centers which would assist home-mothers as well as working mothers. Her idea has drawn reader support and Sarah today expands on the idea, wondering aloud if the women's lib movement might also be interested in the plight of the mother who chooses a career at home. **PAGE 19.**



Sisters Susan Schantz and Frances Sweeney took their final vows as Sisters of St. Joseph at St. Monica's church on June 10. Above, they are shown taking a sip of the communion wine at the Mass. Many others in the order made their final professions this year; look to the Centerfold for more pictures.

And Bishop Joseph L. Hogan continues his series on youth and the Church. In the third part of the series, Bishop Hogan declares that youngsters constitute a "searching and curious generation greatly in need of adults who care for them and with whom they can share their values." You'll find the Bishop's approach to the problem is out of the ordinary and thought-provoking for adults as well as youth. **PAGE 3.**

**Coming Down**

Photo. by Susah McKilthey

Cynthia Ann Best has a ringside seat to watch the leveling of a Brown Street house. For more on how one church got involved in the community action that led to the demolition, and another picture, turn to Page 9.

Communion Before Confession**Vatican Calls for End
To Pastoral Experiment**

Washington — The Vatican has called for an end throughout the world of the "experimental" pastoral practice in which children receive their first Communion before making their first confession.

The action of the Holy See took the form of a joint general Declaration issued by the Sacred Congregation for the Sacraments and the Sacred Congregation for the Clergy. It was signed by the respective Prefects of those congregations, Antonio Cardinal Samore and John Cardinal Wright.

News of the Vatican action was transmitted to the bishops of this country in a letter from Bishop James S. Rausch, General Secretary of the U. S. National Conference of Catholic Bishops (NCCB).

The General Catechetical Directory issued by the Holy See in 1971 reaffirmed the traditional practice of putting Confession ahead of first Communion. But the same document allowed some continuation of the experimental practice of reversing the order of these Sacraments in

parts of the world in which this had been permitted for various pastoral reasons. (It has been estimated that approximately half the Catholic dioceses in the United States have been making use of the experimental practice.)

The present joint Declaration states:

"After carefully considering the matter and mindful of the wishes of the Bishops, the Sacred Congregations for the Discipline of the Sacraments and for the Clergy, by this document, with the approval of the Supreme Pontiff Paul VI, declare that an end must be put to these experiments . . ."

Bishop Rausch, in his letter informing the American bishops of the Vatican action, recalled that at last November's general meeting of the NCCB, the U. S. bishops had voted to petition the Holy See for a two-year extension of the experiment to administer first Communion to children before first Confession.

He further stated that after word of the Vatican action was

received here, the matter was discussed in a recent meeting of the NCCB Administrative Committee, and that John Cardinal Krol of Philadelphia, president of the NCCB, had subsequently explored with the Vatican the possibility of an extension which would permit a transition with appropriate catechesis and pastoral preparation.

Bishop Rausch said that, as a result of Cardinal Krol's inquiry, the Conference had been advised that any experiment now in progress is to be phased out beginning with the end of the scholastic year 1972-73 with appropriate catechesis and proper pastoral preparation of the children, and that no further experiment of this type can be initiated.

Bishop Rausch also noted that in a separate, earlier communication to Cardinal Krol, Cardinal Wright took note of the U. S. bishops' petition of last November, commended them for their approach, but affirmed the position of the Holy See on this matter.