

regional news reports

Homell

FOLK GROUP

Bath — Any group interested and able to play at a folk Mass at St. Mary's is asked to telephone Danny Erwin at 776-3078.

CENSUS DUE

Dansville — A census will be taken at St. Mary's in September. In conjunction with the census a questionnaire will be circulated on parish interests.

INQUIRY CLASS

Dansville — An inquiry class is conducted at St. Mary's each Monday from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the rectory.

Area Correspondents

AUBURN

Mary Ann Ginnerty
294 1/2 South Street Road
Auburn, N. Y.
315-253-2176

CANANDAIGUA

Patricia Boland
378 E. Gibson St.
Canandaigua, N. Y.
315-394-6707

ELMIRA

Dick Baumbach
120 Morningside Drive
Elmira, N. Y. 14905
607-734-1982

HORNELL

Peggy Pease
96 Genesee St.
Hornell, N. Y.
607-324-3353

ITHACA

Joy Chalone
35 Whig St.
Trumansburg, N. Y.
607-387-4752

NEW OHD

Homell — The Annex next to St. Ann's Church will become the Office of Human Development. Sister Mary Krukow has recently been assigned to head the office. Sister served as a school administrator for the past 16 years and for the past 4 years has been the coordinator for Corning parochial schools. Her new work is aimed at helping the Christian community to be responsive to the rural disadvantaged.

TEACHERS NEEDED

Homell — Religious education teachers are needed at St. Ignatius this year. Volunteers are asked to contact Father Mans at the rectory.

Auburn

TEACH-IN

Auburn — A "Come to the Father" teach-in on Saturday, Sept. 8 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for pre-school through sixth grade catechists will be held by the Christian Education Department, Auburn Region (CEDAR).

The morning program will be at St. Alphonsus School. Father Foster Rogers, a curriculum consultant, will speak. After lunch, the program will open at 1:15 p.m. at Holy Family School where seven grade level coordinators will present two sessions on the first semester curriculum with emphasis audio visual materials and learning activities.

The coordinators include Sister Cora, a Montessori teacher for the pre-school program; Miss Virginia Cartenuto, grade one; Sister Alice Cooney, grade two; Miss Barbara Schmucker, grade three; Miss Marie Lynch, grade four; Sister Christine Marie, grade five; Sister Mary Ann Carroll, grade six.

Reservations may be made by contacting Mrs. Arlene Perkins,

Christian Education Department, 87 North St., Auburn. The reservation deadline is Tuesday noon, Sept. 4.

ST. ALOYSIUS PICNIC

Auburn — The St. Aloysius Parish Family Picnic will be held at the Polish Home Camp from noon until 6 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 2.

BARBECUE

Fleming — St. Isaac Jogues annual chicken barbecue will be held Sept. 9 from 12:30 to 5 p.m. at the church grounds in Fleming.

Elmira

NEW STYLE CONFESSIONAL

Horseheads — The first confessional room in the Southern Tier of the diocese was opened recently at St. Mary Our Mother Church here.

The confessional room gives individuals the option of being anonymous by kneeling behind a large macrame screen, or of going into an area where a table and chairs are present.

In the open area the priest sits across from the individuals and has face to face contact with the penitent.

Father Bartholomew J. O'Brien, pastor of St. Mary, said, "The new confessional room offers greater openness, as well as a concentration on personal attitudes rather than on specific acts and routine lists of repeated sins.

"Already there have been positive testimonies from grateful penitents proving that a surprising number of people in every age bracket chose to receive the sacrament in a face to face encounter."

Father David E. Fedor, associate pastor, said, "The

building of the confessional room was the work of the men of the parish. A large portion of the cost was met by generous benefactors of the parish."

Father Fedor said the room was designed by Robert L. Ivers. Some of the appointments to the room were constructed by local individuals.

Father O'Brien spoke about the benefits of the confessional room when he said, "It is the hope of the priests of the parish that this new setting for confession will bring about real conversions and stronger encounters with the forgiving Christ."

The traditional confessional boxes have been retained in the church and will continue to be used as in the past.

The parish priests said both the confessional room and boxes will be used at the same time in order to meet the needs of different individuals.

LITURGY COMMITTEE

Horseheads — The top officers of the liturgy committee at St. Mary Our Mother Church were recently announced.

The officers are Hilda Stebbins, chairman; Laverna Hardman, secretary and Sheila Kingsley, forum representative.

ALTAR SOCIETY

Apalachin — The Altar and Rosary Society of St. Margaret Mary Church here will hold its annual installation of officers dinner on Sept. 10 at the Gances Restaurant in Endicott.

PRE-CANA

Elmira — New dates for three pre-cana conferences in September have been announced.

The conferences, which are mandatory for all engaged

couples, will be held on Tuesdays. The dates are Sept. 11, 18, and 25.

GOLDEN APPLE

Elmira — Dr. Raymond E. Frisk was named this year's recipient of the Golden Apple Award presented by the summer externs to a member of the medical staff at St. Joseph's Hospital here.

The award goes to the physician who, in the opinion of the externs, has aided the most on a voluntary basis to the medical program for the students.

Canandaigua

RETREATS

Canandaigua — The Notre Dame Retreat House schedule for September is: 7-9, women's weekend retreat; 15-16, weekend retreat for married couples; 21-23, men's weekend retreat; 28-30, men's weekend retreat.

COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Naples — The Parish Council of St. Januarius Church has met for the first time. Earl Cornish was elected president; John Neel, vice-president, and Luverne Savage, secretary. Carl Dinzler, Al Blum, will serve as members at large. Robert Linehan was appointed as chairman of the educational committee. Other committee appointments will be made later.

PICNIC

Palmyra — Parishioners of St. Anne's are requested to save Sunday, Sept. 9, for a day of family fun. The parish will hold a picnic at the Palmyra Fairgrounds from 3 to 7 p.m. Families are asked to bring their own table settings and a dish to pass. Hot, hamburgers, and cold drinks will be available.

Priests Appeal End to Trial-less Internment

Belfast [RNS] — Nine Roman Catholic priests who, since late 1971, have regularly ministered to internees in the Long Kesh Internment Camp near here have appealed to the British government to end "once and for all" its

policy of internment-without-trial of alleged terrorists in Northern Ireland.

In a report to British Prime Minister Edward Heath on conditions in the camp, the priests described the "plight" of

the internees as "desperate" and declared that "the only satisfactory remedy for the situation . . . is to end internment once and for all."

"It is our belief," the priests said, "that this imprisonment without a fair trial within a reasonable time is immoral," and added:

"If you cannot see your way, for your own reasons, to answer our moral appeal immediately, we must urge you to implement at once at Long Kesh the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners adopted by the United Nations."

The priests, in their report, referred to the first visit to Long Kesh (Oct., 1971) by delegates of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). At that time, said the priests, the ICRC delegates observed:

"The internee, unlike the convicted man, suffers from mental anguish. He believes himself to be unjustly arrested and he cannot calculate the number of days he has to wait for his release; his morale is rapidly affected."

"If that was true in October, 1971, two months after internment began," the priests argued, "it is truer now."

The priests alleged that "living conditions" at Long Kesh had "a

particularly damaging effect on morale," the most acute problem being one of "overcrowding and total lack of privacy at any time."

Referring to the Nissen-type huts (24 by 66 feet) in which the men are housed, the priests charged that "repeated searches" by soldiers had contributed to the "rapid deterioration" of the huts. Soldiers, they said, had caused "wanton destruction" by breaking windows and damaging walls.

Further, said the priests, "the electric fan heaters are inadequate to deal with the cold and humidity in winter. In wet weather many of the huts leak. In hot weather the heat is oppressive and ventilation is inadequate."

"The repressive atmosphere" created by such conditions, the report continued, "is made still more repressive by the security arrangements at the camp," arrangements that "seem calculated partly to terrorize and partly to create total insecurity in the internees."

Overall responsibility for security is in the hands of the British Army. The internment camp is inside an Army camp.

The priests said that the ICRC delegates observed in their Oct., 1971 report that "the constant presence of the British Army around the internment camp seemed to be a factor making for

tension which could not but increase with time."

"The greatest cause of complaint, on the security side, — since 1971 — is the frequent unannounced raids by the British Army on the compounds," the priests added, describing the treatment of the internees during the raids as "a reign of terror."

"The soldiers come in full riot gear with guns, batons, shields, helmets, visors and shouting obscenities. The internees are herded into the recreation/canteen hut while the search goes on. On some occasions they have had to run the gauntlet between rows of soldiers and been beaten."

The priests who prepared the report are: Fathers Brian Brady, Sean Cahill, Patrick Foy, Martin Kelly, and Kevin McMullan of Belfast; Fathers Turlough Connolly, John McKean and James McNally of County Armagh; and Father Denis Faul of Dungannon.



Anguish and Love

Despite her anguish, the love of a mother for her badly frightened son is written all over the face of a Cambodian refugee woman who had recently arrived in Phnom Penh. The terror of war has become a reality for the Cambodian people, who are fleeing the countryside in great numbers for the relative safety of the nation's capital. [RNS]

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phone Frank Costanzo
at 546-5850