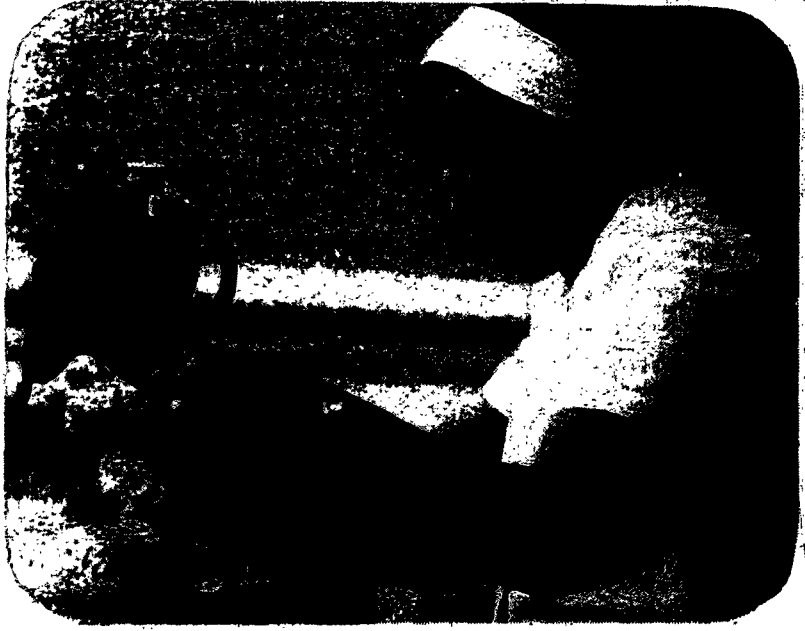




Mary Pat Bennett, above, lends a hand by putting books on shelves in the newly finished Celebration Room. With concentrated effort, Mrs. Jane Lonner, below, feeds drapery material through a sewing machine.



First graders Lori St. John [left], Emilia Donato [center], Donald Corey [background], and Joseph Elia [right], singing in the celebration room with teacher Mrs. Mary Lee Walters.



Acting out a religious song are Roseann Pettinari [left], Michael Fess [center], and Kimberly Canton [right]. Mrs. Walters accompanies them on the guitar.



Using her hands and facial expressions, Mrs. Walters describes a bible story to her class in the celebration room while Kimberly Canton [right] and David Clarcq listen attentively.

# Life at Holy Family

parish funds, most of the items for the Celebration Room were donated.

The center is the result of hard work and dedication on the part of parishioners. Space was available because of a reduction in classes at the school.

"People gave their time and energy willingly to renovate the rooms," said Mrs. Bennett. "Draperies for the Celebration Room and my office were made by some of the women.

"We found material that had a pattern of a circle enclosing a triangle, so we used it because we felt the circle symbolized unity, and the triangle, the Trinity," she added.

According to Mrs. Bennett, parish response has been "great."

"Once parishioners see the center, they're impressed," she said. "The dedication Mass was the first time that some people had experienced a really close celebration."

She thinks that celebrating in a smaller group gives those attending a sense of closeness to God and their neighbors and helps prepare them for larger Masses.

She emphasized that the center was not for parish use alone.

"We want to reach out beyond Holy Family," she said, "and we want people in the community to make use of the center, too. Eventually we're hoping it could be a meeting place for other faiths in our community."



Holy Family's Deacon Louis Sirianni places an altar bread in the ciborium at the offertory.