



'Drilling' the Lesson Home

Christopher Fisher, Mary Beth O'Hara, Ellen Wilmot, Archie, Kristin Knight and Kelly Mattingly pretend they're on a fire drill at St. Louis School. Last week, during a real fire drill, the youngsters staged a mutiny when they realized there was no safety provision for the guinea pig that is now a member of their second grade family. As all can see, now everybody has a chance to escape during a fire.

Pope Again Asks For Latin Chant

Vatican City (RNS) — For the second time in recent weeks, Pope Paul VI has recommended the use of Latin Gregorian chants in the Roman Catholic Eucharistic liturgy.

Last August, in the course of a general audience address, the Pope expressed his hope that those parts of the Mass would be sung in Gregorian chant.

At an audience (Oct. 12) with 300 members of European choral groups, the pontiff emphasized the need to preserve the Church's heritage of sacred music, saying that in the Latin Rite, "the use of Latin Gregorian chant should at least be kept for the Gloria, the Credo, the Sanctus and the Agnus Dei" of the Mass.

Over the years, since 1963, the use of vernacular languages in the liturgy has gradually led to widespread disuse of Latin hymns and Gregorian chants.

The choristers were in Rome for an assembly marking the 10th anniversary of the founding of the International Confederation for Sacred Music.

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ALL IN THE FAMILY Sarah Child

Somebody once wrote to psychologist Joyce Brothers to ask, "Is it true you can tell how creative a person is by the untidiness of her purse?"

Answered Dr. Brothers: "A person's sense of creativity and lack of concern about neatness are in direct proportion to one another."

At least I think she said that. The truth is that I embrace such psychological maxims, pouncing upon them to rationalize away my own disorganized existence to a degree that sometimes the original thought is squeezed beyond recognition.

And after throwing said maxims out as sops to a disgruntled husband, a disappointed mother who wonders where she went wrong in her training and to three kids who are just beginning to discover not every household must suffer the consequences of orange crayons mixed up with hot dryer loads of white underwear, the sayings wear a little thin.

Retreat Schedule

Seven parishes have scheduled men's weekend retreats for Oct. 26-28 at Notre Dame Retreat House, Canandaigua. Contact these parish representatives: Sacred Heart, K. Denninger, 458-6541; St. Pius X, R. Rose, 889-4094; Guardian Angels, D. Meehan, 334-1210; Good Shepherd, K. Blemel, 334-9724; St. John the Evangelist, Greece, G. Frank, 225-8185; St. Francis Xavier, M. Polizzi, 482-0742; St. Joseph, Rush, E. Bender, 533-1439.

Then I have to look for a new psychological truth to excuse away the dust balls, the dried on Kool-aid and the shirt sans buttons.

I can live on such nuggets for months at a time. When a new acquaintance, after carefully avoiding a second glance at my dining room table piled high with material, patterns, typewriter and newspapers ventured that anybody who'd ever gone to college could never get too enthused about housework, I seized upon it as a drowning rat would welcome a newly dispatched gangplank.

I battered it around, tried it on for size, hugged it to me and molded it to my most immediate needs.

The family was already showing signs of revolt over that particular rationalization when I learned about the girl up the street with six kids and a home out of "House Beautiful." She has, I understand, been working on her doctorate in history for the last two years. It's rumored her kids don't even have to ask for homemade chocolate chips.

Sometimes I run out of sayings, like yesterday, and I have to put it to my kids straight.

"Any mother," I began, "can make beds every day and serve 18 gourmet meals in a row without duplication, but how many mothers do you know would take you to hunt for fossils two counties away, read Mowgli, the Jungle Boy until her throat was raw, isn't afraid of crawly things and can kick a football 50 feet?"

"At least 10," one of them answered, "And where's the brownies you promised to make?"

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