

# Basilians Establish Rochester Novitiate

The Basilian Fathers have received six novices into their new novitiate at 402 Augustine St. The first were received Sept. 9.

In early August, the General Council chose the residence of the Basilian Fathers of Aquinas as the site of the novitiate, and appointed Father Howard Keon as Master of Novices and Father Charles Christopher, Director of the Basilian Associates Program as full time novitiate staff members, and Father Thomas Bales as a part-time member. (Father Bales continues to serve

on the Aquinas faculty as chairman of the Theology Department and director of the track and cross country program.)

Before taking his vows, each Basilian spends a year of preparation in a novitiate during which he learns the fundamentals of religious life, has an opportunity to experience common life in the Basilian community, and to be observed by the community he wishes to join. Growth in a life of prayer is a primary goal.



Baltazar Jimenez left, professes his intention and desire to be received as a Basilian novice. Father Howard Keon, master of novices, receives Baltazar into the novitiate. Father Charles Christopher, Basilian Associates director, looks on.



## Holy Childhood Benefit

St. Louis parishioners broke the bank at Monte Carlo Night to come up with \$1,000 for the School of the Holy Childhood. Here, Mrs. George Scardetta, treasurer of the Ladies Guild, hands a check for that amount to Father George S. Wood, pastor of Mother of Sorrows and chaplain to the school. With them are Mr. and Mrs. Donald J. Sheehan, who had charge of arrangements for the fund-raiser.

## Youth Encounter Works At St. Charles Borromeo

By CHARLES RANDISI

Three years ago, high school level CCD was floundering at St. Charles Borromeo Parish. Attendance had sunk to five or six a week.

So the parish education committee decided to scrap the program. Six months later Father Edward Palumbos, then associate pastor, came up with the idea of "Youth Encounter," a non-classroom program in Christian values, for high school students.

Today, Youth Encounter attracts a minimum of 110 students a week, and the numbers are growing, according to Father Ronald Harley, associate pastor and program moderator.

Father Harley described the situation prior to Youth Encounter as "absolutely absurd. The classroom approach was just not suited to their needs."

Youth Encounter is basically a course in group dynamics, Christian awareness, and in-depth discussion, said Father Harley. The "Serendipity" tape series by Lyman Coleman is the basis for encounter.

"There's a hell of a difference between CCD and Youth Encounter," Father Harley explained. "We've been criticized because it's not doctrinally oriented, but maybe adolescents are beyond that level. We have attempted to create a situation in which they can build strong peer relationships."

A typical exercise in the first "social contact" phase of Youth Encounter, he said, would be for a small group to draw on paper what they would consider "symbols of value," using different colored crayons to emphasize the importance of each. Members of the group would then share with one another these symbols, and discuss why they are valuable.

The discussions are necessarily "non-judgmental," Father Harley said. "We must accept one

another for what we are."

The second area of Youth Encounter is, he said, "letting the group relate to Christ." An exercise here would have the members of the small group quietly read a scriptural passage, for example, "Christ's invitation to Peter to walk on water." A question for discussion would be, "How would I respond if I were Peter?"

Father Harley pointed out that Youth Encounter is "not sensitivity training." He said, "Adolescents are not capable of handling it, and we (the group leaders) are not trained to conduct it."

Another important thing to Father Harley is that the groups don't become so close-knit that they become "cliques." Groups "extend outward" to other groups in some discussions, and each group must plan a social service project.

He pointed to one group that during Youth Encounter's first year, set up a "Pedal for Peace," which raised over \$1,000 for CARE.

The results Father Harley has seen in Youth Encounter have been in students whom he has seen "making the sacrifice of going to Mass on weekdays," and in general "growing more in personal confidence."

Youth Encounter has had the aid of "a lot of committed people," he said, especially the group leaders, who now number 19.

Marty Palumbos, Father Palumbos' brother, is Youth Encounter's coordinator. He said that over the program's three years, it has grown not only in popularity, but in spiritual content. He said that more "Bible study" is encouraged, as well as more "raps on the Church" (a rap is a discussion).

He said he is fairly certain that "the CCD format won't be coming back" to St. Charles.

The six novices come from a wide area, geographically and educationally: Richard Brown is from Rochester, a graduate of St. John Fisher College, with three years of theology from St. Bernard's Seminary; Victor Deyglio is from Osining, a graduate of Hunter College, and has a masters

degree from University of Toronto; Ronald Dombroski is from Philadelphia, with a BA from St. Michael's University Toronto; Philippe Dupuis is from Windsor, Ont., with a degree in engineering from University of Windsor; Baltazar Jimenez, is from Mexico City, with a BS and MD from Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico; Dennis Kauffman is from Rochester with his college degree being earned at St. John Fisher College.

Each novice will spend from four to six weeks in the Spring in some apostolic training as part of a systematic introduction to the life of a Basilian. After profession in the Fall of 1974, each will be assigned to one of the Basilian Fathers Apostolates in the United States, Canada, Mexico or France.

### AUXILIARY NOTES 40th

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus, Rochester Council 178, held a 40th anniversary banquet Nov. 4 at 513 Monroe. In charge were Mrs. James E. Martin and Mrs. Frank Melville.

Charter members attending were Mrs. Cal Lofink, Mrs. Howard De Roo, Mrs. N.J. O'Neill, Mrs. Carl Holley, Mrs. Harry Blaeser and Mrs. George Andrews.

## California Farm Story At U of R

The California farm dispute, which has sparked controversy among Courier-Journal readers in recent weeks, will be discussed here by Delores Huerta, a farm worker who has become vice president of the United Farm Workers Union. She will appear at the University of Rochester's Hubbel Auditorium, Nov. 15 at 8 p.m.

Bernie Duffy, a seminarian at St. Bernard's and a member of the Friends of the Farm Workers who are sponsoring the program, explained that a new thrust is being undertaken by the support group to "give the UFW new exposure and to spark local activity towards the farm workers' situation."

He added that the meeting was scheduled at this time to coincide "with the idea of Thanksgiving."

"Little attention is given to where our food comes from; too many people think of the machines, not the migrant workers," Duffy said.

The role of the union and the position of the farm workers will be highlighted by a movie entitled "Si se tuede" ("It Can Be Done") produced by the United Farm Workers.

Admission is free.

### AQ OPEN HOUSE

Practice sessions of the Aquinas Institute band, color guard and performing arts department will highlight a program Sunday, Nov. 18, for seventh and eighth grade boys and their families. There will be a variety of displays and demonstrations, with more than 100 students taking part, from 2:30 until 5 p.m.

Father Albert Gaelens, principal, said that although the open house was planned primarily for boys soon to enter high school, "a special invitation is also extended to all alumni and friends in the vicinity to see the renovated facilities."

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