



Hospital Gift

Dr. Kate Purwin, director of the children's unit at Rochester State Hospital, second from right, accepts a gift to the children's playroom from the Catholic Daughters of America Court Our Lady of the Cenacle. Left to right, Mrs. Samuel Attardo, Mrs. Henry Taillie, grand regent; Dr. Purwin, and Elizabeth DiMartino. Children put the simple form to many uses during playtime.



THE OPEN WINDOW
Fr. Louis Hohman

Dear Father Hohman,

I am writing to you because I think all Catholic people should be informed about the charismatic movement.

A little over a year ago, I started attending charismatic prayer meetings in Ontario, N.Y. It was something completely new and confusing to me. I couldn't talk to my parish priest about it, so I talked to a priest I knew. He was very understanding and knew a lot about the charismatics. Later that week I gave my heart to Jesus Christ and amazing things started to happen to me.

I started reading my Bible daily. I started praying daily. My prayer life before this was nil.

Jesus Christ had become a living reality in my life. I have seen people being healed by the Lord and I have been the recipient of three healings. I have received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit and have spoken in tongues. I praise God.

The reason for my concern is that when my parish priest and some of the people in our small parish found out about this they vehemently rejected it. As a result, I have left the Catholic Church. I feel that if they were properly informed, this wouldn't have happened. Any help you could give, Father Hohman, would be deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,
M.G.

Dear M.G.

May I just make some observations on your letter:

* The charismatic movement is acceptable within the Church and numbers many holy people.

* The process you went through (with the exception of speaking in tongues and ordinarily healings) is nothing more or less the normal process of conversion to a spiritual life. Saints through the ages have undergone the same process. You have simply used the medium of the charismatic movement to produce the same effect.

* If you'll pardon my saying so, I do wonder about the reality of your conversion. Jesus said, "Blessed are they who suffer persecution," apparently you wilted under the first onslaught. Shouldn't your union with Christ have sustained you through that rather than make you "cop out"?

Bail Fund Services Threatened

By PAT PETRASKE

When the operating budget for the Rochester Bail Fund dipped below \$70, a fund raising appeal was launched Dec. 6 to cover counseling, supportive and administrative services, including salaries for a three-man staff. While the results have been "gratifying," approximately \$1,000 a month is needed to keep the agency in existence.

Appeals have been sent to "anyone and everyone," said director Barbara Ellis, who added that contributions have been coming in the form of \$5 and \$10.

To meet operating costs for the next two years, the Bail Fund must raise \$53,000 to "cover bare necessities." Unless nearly \$1,000 is raised by the end of the month, the staff "will be forced to find other jobs," Mrs. Ellis said. She added that to conduct the Bail Fund solely through volunteers will be "less effective."

The three-year-old Bail Fund which works in conjunction with the Jail Ministries of the Genesee Ecumenical Ministries, posted bail for 175 people in the past year. Of these, 90.4 per cent appeared in court. Mrs. Ellis

estimated that the Bail Fund had saved the public hundreds of thousands of dollars because "it costs over \$27 a day to keep one person in jail."

The Community Chest has declined to fund the operation on the ground that government aid would be more appropriate than community support.

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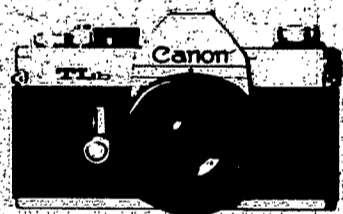
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