



Mission Day

Counting money raised at the Mission Day festivities on Feb. 22 at St. Thomas the Apostle school are [l-r], Mrs. Charles Brady, secretary of the school; Miss Julie Plavan, junior high science teacher; Thomas Sinnot, school custodian, and Mrs. Ellsworth Kehoe. According to Sister Roberta Rodenhouse, school principal, \$702.11 was raised and will be given to home and foreign missions.

ON THE RIGHT SIDE

Letter to a hard-nosed conservative:

Good heavens! You write like the Sons of Thunder. "Why doesn't the Pope or the Bishops excommunicate the trouble-makers in the Church?" You sound like those who go to a bull-fight and scream "Ole, Ole, Ole!" when the poor bull is to be skewered. I don't know why the Pope and the Bishops don't excommunicate trouble-makers, but can speculate.

1) Religion is less awesome to most people today than, e.g., when Gregory VII excommunicated Henry IV, and let the Emperor cool his heels for three days in the January snows of Canossa, back in 1072. Gregory's excommunication was effective, less because of the piety of Henry than because of the Faith of the people, who turned against an excommunicated Emperor.

2) Do you know that some people are automatically excommunicated by their own knowing and deliberate action? For example, a woman who presents herself to abort her child is excommunicated as soon as the act is committed. She may not receive Holy Communion. She may not even be absolved in Confession until the excommunication is lifted by the bishop, usually through her confessor. Do you know this applies also to all who physically assist in the act: a doctor, nurse, technician? Do you know that anyone who formally advises the woman to commit such a crime, e.g., a boyfriend or girl-friend, is also excommunicated? Does excommunication deter from the crime? With some, yes. With others, no. Did you know that if I, a priest, should decide to slip out and attempt marriage without first being secularized by the Church, I am excommunicated? The Bishop doesn't send me a letter telling me so. The law of the Church makes it an automatic excommunication. I suspect you want an excommunication with book and bell and candle.

3) I think what we need is less enthusiasm about excommunicating people, and more holiness and love of Christ and

RETREAT WORK

Hornell — Harry Fillmore and Rudy Schneider of St. Ann's Parish, spoke at all the Masses at St. Ignatius, Feb. 24, concerning this year's men's retreat, Apr. 5 to 7 at Notre Dame Retreat House. Joe Paopardo of St. Ignatius is this year's lay parish coordinator.

the Church and the people. We need saints — and that is an invitation to you to use your passion for justice in a glorious activity of constant and consistent love.

To TV Channel WXXI, Rochester:

For some time I have been wanting to see the film about Mother Teresa of Calcutta; and even more so since reading Malcolm Muggeridge's book, A Beautiful Thing for God. Somehow, when you did have it on, I missed it. But Thursday, Feb. 21, I did catch it on your station at 10:30. Despite a lot of technical weaknesses in the film, the message and the spirit came through beautifully and clearly.

Thank you for the presentation. TV is so saturated both with muck and with vacuities that programs which enoble the spirit are gratefully received. May I send you a copy of Muggeridge's book with my compliments and thanks? Even TV people — producers, directors, engineers, clerks and God knows who else — might find the life of noble Sisters of Charity a heart-warming experience, even as Muggeridge did.

From Sister M. Corita, BVM, Dubuque:

Thank you heartily for the tapes of Bishop Sheen's talks to Priests and Religious. Our Administrator and all the Sisters here join in sending thanks to you for selecting Mt. Carmel to receive these precious tapes. We are 90 retired Nuns here at the Motherhouse. All the Sisters are loud in their praise of the talks. In addition we have on our grounds Marian Hall, our hospital for sick or disabled BVM Nuns. There are 120 patients at Marian Hall. When we finish hearing the tapes at Mt. Carmel we will take them to Marian Hall so our sick Sisters may enjoy them.

Do you have the address of Bishop Sheen? I would love to write a note of appreciation to him for the profound spirituality in his talks. They mean so much to us. Also we enjoy your Magnify the Lord radio program. Most of us discuss your talk at the breakfast table about an hour after hearing it. Keep up the good work. We are praying for you. I did contact the radio station this morning to thank them again for giving your Legion program a place on their station. God love you!

[Address: Most Rev. Abp. Fulton J. Sheen, 205 E. 78th Street, New York City 10021]

Pope Asks Children To Help Hungry

New York [RNS] — In an Ash Wednesday message to U.S. Roman Catholic school children, Pope Paul has appealed for "prayers and sacrifices" for millions of homeless and hungry children in the world and observed: "It is good, then, that you can help."

Calling upon the youngsters to recognize their Christian responsibilities for the less

fortunate who "have no one else to turn to for assistance," the pontiff said in his Vatican Radio message released here through Catholic Relief Services, "your Lenten kindnesses become a mighty weapon against misery and despair."

"As you begin to make your Lenten sacrifices, dear children, remember that each little gift will help make the future of some

poor boy or girl a brighter one," he added.

The Pope observed that of the boys and girls who need assistance, "many have no schools, no doctors; many go to bed hungry every night because there is simply not enough food to go around. And there are many children who have no mothers or fathers; others who have no homes at all."

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ST. Augustine Parish — Utilities, furnished rooms, responsible. Single person. 328-1775.

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1973 GOLDEN Stitch & Sew sewing machine. Brand new, never been used. Full size, heavy duty. Makes button-holes, darts, monograms, automatic bobbin winder. 25 year guarantee. 1 year free sewing instructions. Full price, \$31 or 3 monthly payments of \$13. Call Mr. Needle, 288-2100.

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WEDDING Dress: Never worn, reasonable price. 544-2330.

BABY Items: Crib, Mediterranean —

Mattress, Serta — Car Seat, blue. Next to New. 225-4029.

WOODEN barn beam tables with glass design. Done with wooden pegs. Must See. Call 467-7500.

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CANDLE Sale: Jay-Dee Gift Shop, 3260 Lake Avenue. Phone 663-2340.

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TWO rugs beige, 9x12 and 10x12. Carriage, playpen, highchair, etc. 521 Guiver Pkwy.

SPECIAL MISCELLANEOUS

THANKS given to St. Anthony for favors received.

CANADIAN pilgrimage to St. Ann, 3 Rivers and St. Joseph's Montreal. Also Our Lady of LaSalette. Leaving June 30 and returning July 7. Memorial day weekend to Our Lady of LaSalette. Leaving May 25 and returning the 27th. For information call Mrs. Mary Colavecchia, 190 Independence Street, Rochester, N.Y. 14611. 235-6134.

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