

Courier Launches Readership Survey

The most complete and comprehensive readership survey ever taken by the Courier-Journal through which every subscriber will be given the opportunity to evaluate this newspaper is now under way.

The survey will be conducted in two parts — by mail to subscribers selected at random and to special groups, and through the newspaper to all of its subscribers.

The mail survey, sampling a large portion of readers, was begun last week and the same questions will be asked all readers in the edition of June 26.

In the mail survey, 7 per cent of the readership will be tested,

amounting to approximately 4,900 of our 70,000 subscribers. In addition, all 489 priests serving the diocese, 1,250 Sisters and Brothers, and all presidents of parish councils have been sent questionnaires.

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, publisher of the Courier-Journal, has included a cover letter with the survey. In it, he says:

"Your cooperation and participation in this readership survey will help the Courier-Journal in its constant goal to improve.

"Your signature is not necessary, as all replies are anonymous."

All survey answers are to be

sent by readers to Courier-Journal Research, 555 Albany Ave., Amityville, N.Y. 11701. There, the Planning and Research Center of the diocese of Rockville Centre will evaluate the results. Sister Helen Butler, OP, will supervise compilation and analysis.

When Sister Helen's work is done, the Courier-Journal will print survey results in its regular editions.

"It is an important part of our job to be sure that this paper is in tune with our readership," said Anthony J. Costello, Courier-Journal general manager.

"We are especially pleased that Rockville Centre has agreed to handle the survey for us. It is a

fine example of inter-diocesan cooperation. It also provides for purely objective analysis of the results.

"All the results will be made public in the paper as soon as possible. Therefore, it is necessary that those surveyed make their returns quickly.

"To give all readers the opportunity to express their feelings, on June 26 we will print the very same survey mailed last week," Costello said.

The survey is aimed at learning such things as how readers judge this newspaper's performance in covering Church and diocesan news, its general interest, whether the content is conservative or liberal. In addition, the opportunity will be offered to rate

our regular features and columnists.

Space will be provided for comments and suggestions.

Costello said that the answers to direct questions will be compiled and evaluated at the computerized center.

"The extra comments and suggestions made by readers will be returned by Rockville Centre to our editor, Carmen J. Viglucci, who will make a study and report on them," Costello said.

Aside from the newspaper's editorial content, readers will be asked their opinions on its advertising and on Catholic newspapers in general.



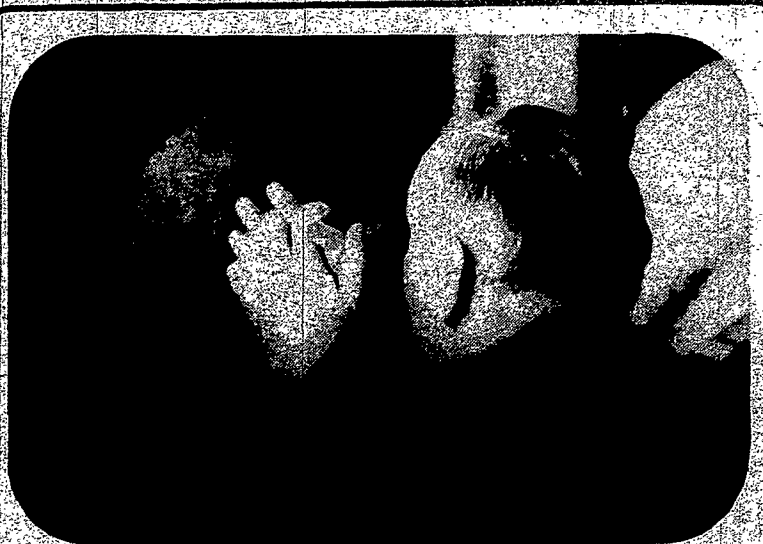
Blessing The Fleet

One of the highlights of the Holy Cross St. Anthony's Day celebration this year was a boat parade and blessing of the fleet which took place last Sunday having been rained out on Saturday. New to Rochester, the blessing is an ancient tradition among the fishing fleets of the Adriatic during the feast of St. Anthony. Father Richard J. Beligotti,

associate pastor of Holy Cross Church, gave the blessing, "May God protect you from all danger and keep you safe. May He bless your coming and your going both now and forever" as approximately 100 boats passed in review. Father Beligotti was accompanied by Thomas DePalma, Robert Lenarcik, Michael Farrell, and John Metzger.



Photos by Dave Witbeck



Father Alexander Stec, pastor of St. Stanislaus Church, was one of 70 diocesan priests who spent three days in prayer last week during the Priest's Retreat. Story and pictures are in the centerfold. Bishop Joseph L. Hogan's column, "Pastoral Perspective," also describes the retreat.

Chavez To Visit Rochester

Cesar Chavez, leader of the United Farm Workers, is coming to Rochester June 25 as part of a tour of upstate New York.

His itinerary here begins at 5:30 p.m. that evening at Immaculate Conception School Hall, 445 S. Plymouth Ave., where a soup and bread supper will be served. Music will be provided by local folk singer Julie Babb and donations are requested.

An Interfaith Prayer Service with Bishop Joseph L. Hogan and leaders from other religious denominations also will be held there at 7 p.m.

Churches have been asked to take up collections in advance and bring the proceeds to the service to aid farm workers. Music will be led by Mitzie Collins.

The evening will close with an 8 p.m. rally at the Civic Center Plaza with music by the Swamp Root String Band and Senora Tropical.

The Interfaith Community Coalition in Support of Farm Workers, the diocesan Human Development Office and others have been making arrangements. All events are open to the public.

Eucharistic Congress Set In Philadelphia

Philadelphia (RNS) — Pope Paul has approved the celebration of the 41st International Eucharistic Congress in Philadelphia for 1976 — the nation's bicentennial year. The event is expected to draw several hundred thousand persons, including, perhaps, the Pope himself.

Cardinal John J. Krol of Philadelphia made the announcement following receipt of a letter conveying the Pope's approval from Cardinal James Knox, former archbishop of Melbourne who heads the Vatican's Permanent Committee on International Eucharistic Congresses.

A spokesman for Cardinal Krol said that Pope Paul will, of course, receive an invitation to the week-long congress, expected to be in early August, 1976.

The Pope has attended two of the last three Eucharistic Congresses, 1964 in Bombay and 1968 in Bogota. The pontiff did not attend the 1973 congress in

Melbourne but he had made a trip to Australia in 1970 during his Far East swing.

The U.S. Catholic bishops approved Philadelphia as the site for the 1976 congress and the approval was seconded by the Inter-Board of the Eucharistic Congress. Cardinal Krol, who is also president of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops (NCCB), proposed the project to the bishops. Cardinal Lawrence Shehan, former archbishop of Baltimore, presented the petition to the Vatican committee.

The 1976 congress will be an exception in the sense that eucharistic congresses are held every four years or more. Because of the bicentennial year in 1976, the four-year rule was waived by the Pope.

The congress has been held only once before in the U.S., in Chicago during the sesquicentennial (150th anniversary) of the nation in 1926.

The proposal to hold the
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