



Christian Family Movement

Mr. and Mrs. James Govola, [left], Rochester diocese federation couple for the Christian Family Movement [CFM] talk over plans with Mr. and Mrs. Ray Maldoon, president couple of the National CFM at a recent leadership meeting in Erie, Pa. The next big event for the CFM will be the Area Four Convention Aug. 16-18 at Seton Hill College, Greensburg, Pa. The convention's theme is Christ Alive in Us. The convention is open to all CFM members and any others who wish to attend.

Waldensians Note 800 Years

New York [RNS] — The Waldensian movement, a branch of Protestantism that pre-dates the Reformation, is observing its 800th anniversary.

Summer celebrations are taking place principally in Italy and Latin America, where most of the 45,000 modern Waldensians live. Their churches are most numerous in the Piedmont and Lombardy regions of Italy.

While the communities are small today, the Waldensians

hold a prominent place in Western Christian history. Their founder ranks with John Hus as a major dissenter in medieval Christendom.

The term "Waldensian" refers to two different elements in the church, the Rev. Giorgio Tourn, a district president in Torre Pellice, Italy, noted recently. One element is a spiritual movement that arose in France toward the end of the 12th Century. The second is an organized denomination, part of the

Reformed Protestant tradition.

"Waldensian" comes from the last name — Waldo (or Valdes) — of a wealthy Lyons merchant who died sometime between 1205 and 1218.

Around 1174, the merchant heard the story of St. Alexis, a fifth century Roman who left a life of ease to distribute his property among the poor. Valdo did the same. He became a wandering preacher and soon attracted a following, "the poor men of Lyons."

The early Waldensians took a dim view of material goods and criticized the worldliness of many clergymen of the period. Waldo also translated the Scripture from Latin into the common language.

Pope Alexander III approved of Waldo's work but said the Waldensians should preach only at the invitation of regular priests. The prohibition was not fully observed and, in 1184, his group was placed under ban of excommunication by the Council of Verona. After that point, the Waldensians began to organize separately from the Roman Catholic Church.

Like other reform movements, the Waldensians wanted to "purify" the Church. Their numbers grew — in Italy, France, Spain and Germany. Persecution followed.

Despite their precarious position, the Waldensians persisted in isolated areas of the Alps. In the Protestant Reformation in the mid-1500s contact was made with Swiss and Dutch Reformed Churches and the movement was gradually molded into a Protestant denomination.

Napoleon I granted the Waldensians a constitution of their own in 1805 but Victor Emmanuel cancelled it nine years later. It was not until 1848 that political and religious freedom were finally granted.

OUR PARISH COUNCIL

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If you "service" your local editors, your parish council can get more attention from the press, radio and television.

Here is a program for "servicing" the news gatherers in your community — and getting more publicity for your council.

Get to know the local news outlets.

Your home town newspaper, radio and TV stations, and your diocesan paper are your best means for communicating with your members and your area people. Nearby papers and TV stations, company publications, school bulletin boards, and other means should also be considered.

Plan your stories for more than one editor.

The religion editor or service-group editor for press, radio and TV wants to be informed of your regular meetings and programs, but there are other outlets for your publicity. Your story might have an angle for the news or photo editors, the society editor, the business or real estate editors, the sports editor, or Sunday feature editor.

Get to know your editor.

An editor is a busy person. But he wants to meet a newly appointed publicity chairman. Call for an appointment. Come prepared to describe briefly, your parish council, its aims and philosophies, and to outline the year's plans.

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Each editor has his own style of presentation, but every editor must know who is doing what, when (day, date and time), where and why. He must also know the full name of each person mentioned: John J. Jones, Jr., vice president, or Mrs. Charles Sommers, chair person.

Above all he has to know that each of your facts, down to the most minor characters, middle initial, is accurate.

Add your own name, address and phone number in the upper left-hand corner of the release. Also give the date the news release was mailed.

Never send an amateur, blurred photo. Try for action pictures. Don't pose eight people staring nervously at the camera, with a caption that says they are your bake-sale committee. Photograph a toddler trying to eat, decorate or smask a cake, or get an action shot of your Community Life Commission painting a house for an elderly couple.

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Compensation For Veterans To Increase

Veterans and dependents scheduled to receive increased compensation payments in their monthly checks from the VA, are advised that the increase will reflect in checks received about Aug. 1 and thereafter.

A separate retroactive check covering the increases for the months of May and June will be sent to the veterans and dependents by mid-July.

For further information, contact Anthony Ferrarese, State Veteran Counselor, Civic Center Plaza, 55 S. Fitzhugh St., Rochester 14614.

RTL SPEAKER

William P. Polito, of the Rochester Area Right to Life, will speak on Legislative Action, in St. Ambrose School, Wednesday, July 24, at 7:30 p.m.

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 after the game

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