



Naples Activity Center

The diocesan Office of Human Development, in co-operation with St. Januarius Church, Naples, recently gave a grant of \$400 to the Naples Activity Center (NAC) which is sponsored by the Naples Council of Churches. Shown with the money are Father Robert Smith, pastor of St. Januarius, Adolphe d'Audiffret and NAC directors Mary Sherwood, Janet Preston and Loe d'Audiffret, [seated]. The NAC runs a program each Thursday that provides a meal and four hours of craftwork, games, discussion groups and entertainment for out-patients from four mental hospitals in the area, as well as elderly living in and around Naples. The program is operated by volunteers with the help and guidance of two or three staff members provided by Willard Psychiatric Center.

Vatican Weekly Calls Nixon Quitting 'Victory'

Vatican City (RNS) — Vatican press officer Federico Alessandrini has called the resignation of Richard M. Nixon as president of the United States a victory for freedom.

The editorial, which marked the first public comment by a Vatican official on the Watergate break-in and its aftermath, said in part:

"From the Watergate case there stemmed a question of constitutional character which left no choice open to any American political forces, not even to the Republican Party.

"The resignation has been the conclusion of a story which ends with one victory: liberty."

In a signed editorial in the Vatican weekly, L'Osservatore della Domenica, Mr. Alessandrini said the resolution of the Watergate affair had confirmed the strength of American democracy.

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THE SLOT MAN

Carson Uggucci

And to think that I almost voted for Mr. Nixon in 1972. This even though I, like many, have always harbored misgivings about the man. Yet from a realistic viewpoint he seemed the more efficient of the candidates and indeed the choosing was difficult. If nothing else, subsequent revelations have shown the fault of being simply pragmatic in choosing our leaders.

I feel sympathy for those people so sincerely loyal to the man that they still proclaim his innocence. However, I would ask them to consider all the careers ruined, all the men in jail, the families touched indirectly by the taint, and the former president's friends, John Mitchell and Herb Klein, to mention just two, who received none of the fidelity from the former president that his adherents now think is owed him. And all this could not be for the good of the country. It was to protect one man.

And in defense of that one man, it seems foolhardy to attack so many others, such as "Nixon haters" or the general press

(which if it could be put together as one piece would be the craziest quilt of all time), or the Democrats or labor or the clergy or the American Bar Association or the liberals or the moderate Republicans or leading conservatives or the legislative committees or the courts — all of whose judgment was fashioned by the obvious misfeasance of the President of the United States.

Probably in any given circumstance there will always be a hardrock group of dissenters to the majority thought. And obviously this is healthy because even the smallest minority can be right in the face of majority opposition. But not very often.

There always will be a small band who believe that Hitler did not die in the bunker but lived his last years in Argentina; that Jesse James was not killed but lived until recent days; that Franklin Roosevelt committed suicide, etc. etc. Makes for titillating conjecture but in reality is hogwash.

Now we all wish the new president all of God's blessings. President Ford seems to be the proper prescription for the nation's present maladies. He is open where we have had stealth; straightforward where we have had obfuscation; humble where we have had arrogance; industrious instead of merely ambitious.

And while only the most foolish of Americans would wish him anything but success, many nonetheless feel that some of the luster of the shiny new administration was dimmed by his choice for vice president.

It does not seem the proper time to do so but it will be tempting for some to revive the cry of "high taxes Rocky." Also it is impossible to forget the former governor's pro-abortion stand or his Attica tactics. Sure we can get some comfort in knowing that such issues do not fall within the purview of the vice president. But Nelson Rockefeller is a very opinionated and persuasive person and his feelings will not be ignored in the halls of the national capital.

WOMEN'S JOB SEMINAR SET

A seminar for women who want to go to work is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 12, 9 a.m.-noon, at the Monroe County Fairgrounds, Building 1. Speakers will be Mrs. Helen Curtis of the State Employment Service, Sister Jamesetta of Nazareth College, Mrs. Josephine White of Bausch and Lomb, Mrs. Connie Mitchell of Rochester Jobs, Inc., and Mrs. Kay Wheat, director of Business Personnel Services, the sponsoring agency. The fee is \$3.50.

BAND PARENTS

Home — Band Parents are requested to attend the parents' meeting, Sept. 5, at St. Ann's to work on the Calendar Project. Parishioners are welcome to submit significant dates for the calendar and information may be submitted to Mary Mahoney, 324-2196.

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