



### Rosary Pilgrims

Father Edward Shamon, pastor, St. Aloysius Church, Auburn, loads the bus of area residents who joined the Rosary Rally Festival at Pratt's Falls Park Aug. 26.

The festival gathered families and individuals together from throughout central New York in a public demonstration against the abortion rulings, and to show concern for the sacredness of life and stability of the family in modern society.

Highlight of the rally was the display of the National Pilgrim Virgin statue on tour of the United States. It was brought to the rally from a tour of the Albany Diocese. The same statue drew 6,000 people during its presence in Auburn last December.

Accompanying the bus, driven by Father Shamon, and the several-car motorcade was Father James O'Connell of Waterloo.

## ON THE RIGHT SIDE

A recent OTRS column narrated: "One reason for returning to Ireland is this. Last October I picked up a recording of 'Let There Be Peace: The Mass of St. Francis' composed by an English convert, Philip Green, and sung in the Franciscan Church in Cork by a choir of 110 Irish children. It is contemporary, cheerful, with an odd beat, but it was movingly devotional. I hope to get the record introduced into the United States."

Mrs. Margaret Gleesing-Salter of Silver Springs, Md., read the article and wrote: "Our parish choir sang that Mass of St. Francis two weeks ago. It can be gotten from Belwin Mills Publishing Corp., Melville, N.Y. Zip 11746." I ordered the Mass, and received a Cantata Kit, composed of the vocal and organ score, plus the record of the Children's Choir. It is only \$3 for the kit. In Ireland the price is \$6.50, just for the record.

Meanwhile, I had sent Sister Regina two tapes of the Cork Choir. On Aug. 26 she wrote:

"So many thanks for the two tapes you sent me of the Cork Children's Choir. I am so pleased to have them, and am sharing them with everybody. One tape I have passed on to Mr. and Mrs. Lease. Mrs. Lease teaches at our grade school and also at Wahlert High. Mr. Lease has the famous Clarke-Loras Singers. (Clarke and Loras are our Catholic colleges here.) We are having a Religion Conference here Sept. 6th and 7th. I plan to use the tape at a workshop I am conducting. So you see the 'good news' is spread far and wide.

"Thank you also, for the interesting enclosures. I am sorry our diocesan paper does not carry your column. It is so informational and inspirational. The blue folder about Abp. Sheen's Retreat tapes I have passed on to Jack O'Neil, the president of the Dubuque Sera Club. Since our correspondence, your voice on the radio each Sunday is like hearing a close friend. God bless you and your holy work.

"Dear Sister Regina, I replied: 'Your letter makes today a double plus. I am happy you will use the music of the Children's Choir for your Dubuque Work Shop. This very day I phoned the company near New York City which publishes the score for the Mass, and have had it sent on to

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# Needed: More Personnel Who Speak Spanish

By PAT PETRASKE

The need for more trained Spanish-speaking personnel was emphasized at the fourth session of the special seminar sponsored by the diocesan Spanish Council and the Spanish Apostolate. The seminar, "Unity in Diversity," attempted to equip parishes to serve the needs of the Spanish speaking.

Touching on the topics of mental health, migrant farm workers and prison reform, each of the speakers called for increased organization and leadership among the Spanish speaking people. Joe Cromatie, an employment counselor for Bridge, Inc., that helps "bridge" the gap from prison to society, believes more cultural support would give inmates and minority groups a "better sense of identification."

He noted that approximately 85 per cent of the prison population is black or Puerto Rican while 80 per cent of the community that prisoners encounter are white. Cromatie urged those gathered at St. Bernard's Seminary for the four day seminar to establish programs of education and awareness.

A problem with integrating the Spanish speaking into the Church is their attitude toward it, maintained Francisco Diana, a representative from the Division for the Spanish speaking, United States Catholic Conference.

Diana believes the Spanish people have a sense of dependency on the Church and find it difficult to work for it. The Church tends to emphasize being productive and becoming Americanized, he said, adding what the Church should do is to promote Puerto Rican identity.

The Spanish speaking who have become migrant farm workers have poor attitudes toward their work, said Stephen Solis, migrant specialist for the U.S. Catholic Conference. While attempts have been made to settle migrant farmers permanently in a community, "they don't stay very long," Solis commented. "They have a feeling of inadequacy and feel they can't do anything besides farm work. Work gives them no sense of human dignity."

If the migrant farm workers lack a feeling of dignity, part of the problem stems from the conditions under which they must exist. Housing, according to the Mexican-American speaker, can be anything from a "chicken coop to mobile homes." Violations in California of the regulations regarding toilet facilities have been linked to the out-break of typhoid epidemics, he said.

The causes of migration vary. Solis believes Mexicans take advantage of the easy access to the United States. Later when they land a job, the employers take advantage of the Mexicans with poor working conditions and

low salaries "They have to migrate north," he said.

In Puerto Rico the cost of living is high and the government feels that industrialization rather than agrarian reform would answer the island's problems. The people move to the United States for better opportunities.

To alleviate migrant farm workers' problems quality education is necessary, he said. Solis offered resources that are available to help the Spanish speaking, including day care and Head Start programs, Title I, High School Equivalency and College Assistance Migrant Programs.

Attempts at quality education are hindered not only by the migrants' cultural and language barrier but by the lack of continuity of services because of the workers' mobility. Solis noted that parents often misuse their children. "The whole family has to work to support themselves so the children are often taken out of school," Solis said and added that the regulations on child labor are not always enforced.

A third speaker, Clifton Hatcher, director of mental health at the Anthony L. Jordan Health Center, agreed that education was vital but "greater than the language problem is the stigma attached to getting into a group to talk about problems." The health center has 20 Spanish speaking employees to explain the meaning of mental health and its programs.

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