

# At Home With The Movies

**GODSPELL [1973]**  
Wednesday, Nov. 27

Here is a sparkling translation of the long running stage musical by John-Michael Tebelak based loosely on the "Good News" Gospel according to St. Matthew. Many of the off-Broadway leads (Victor Garber, David Haskell, Gilmer McCormick, etc.) repeat their original roles, and the play's basic material is virtually the same. What makes the difference and what makes the film so full of novel spirit is the way director David Greene and cinematographer Richard Heimann have used the entire city of New York as a giant stage set — not a locale or setting, but as a collection of props.

The streets are deserted, the parks glowing with color, the

buildings glistening — all strikingly used for great effect. The story itself parallels that of Christ, from his coming to his crucifixion, with Garber as the Christ figure, Haskell as a John the Baptist-Judas figure, and the others as Christ's disciples. The parables are presented in imaginative skits, many of which serve as springboards for the irresistible tunes that have made the play such a favorite.

Of these, "Day By Day," sung by Robin Lamont is probably the most engaging, but just try to resist singing along or at least hand-clapping when the whole troupe starts in with "God Save the People!"



## Concert Season Opens

The tenth performing season of the Concert Choral will begin on Sunday, Dec. 8 at a special invitational musical event, to be held at the Motherhouse Chapel in Pittsford. Members of the choral group are all Sisters of Saint Joseph.

### AS I SEE IT



Pat Costa

As I understand it, "Rhoda" has beaten Monday night football in the ratings every week since the season began. Those football fans who may be nervous over the import of the situation should just think of it this way. There are more viewers who'd rather watch a lapsed Catholic playing a Jewish girl than listen to Howard Cosell being himself.

An article in TV Guide was titled "Do those commercials really sell us?" In a personal tally I discovered that I really do believe that blondes have more fun, that Alex Karras will drink anything including diet Faygo and think it's delicious and that women who keep their kitchen floors clean enough for their babies to eat off already have their place in heaven.

On the other hand I find it difficult to believe that Margaret Hamilton left her Wicked Witch of the West activities completely behind her and is now just a nice old lady pushing Maxwell House coffee. And I refuse to believe that all that is standing between me and my husband's total adoration of me is a bottle of Downy. And finally if all those French chefs can't tell the difference between Blue Bonnet margarine and butter there is no reason for me to be yearning for Paris.

I was fearful that a first aid course our local ambulance company is giving might prove to

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**WILLY WONKA AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY**  
Thursday, Nov. 28

If you must watch TV on Thanksgiving, this is the one to see. When the mysterious owner of a fabulous candy factory includes five golden passes to his chocolate-flavored fantasies inside his wondrous Wonka bars, the whole world goes wild trying to eat its way to sweet-toothed bliss. Some people buy thousands, even millions of the candies in hopes of winning the ultimate trip, but poor little Charlie (Peter Ostrum) can't afford even one. But, being the hero, Charlie finally manages to come up with a passport to paradise.

As Willy Wonka himself (Gene Wilder) conducts the electrifying tour, the five lucky winners learn that greed and selfishness can be their own reward: Even the punishments, occasionally a bit gruesome for younger children, are in good fun. Reluctant chaperones will rejoice over Roald Dahl's deft screenplay from his popular children's favorite, since it manages to avoid the cloying sentimentality of most similar works.

If the factory is never quite magical as one would have hoped and if the Leslie Bricusse score is just as dull as his previous flat efforts, still Willy Wonka should provide a tasty treat for all ages.

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**THE AFRICAN QUEEN**  
[1951]  
Monday, Dec. 2

Humphrey Bogart and Katharine Hepburn star, with Robert Morley in a fine supporting role, in this classic adventure-romance directed by John Huston. The setting is the German Congo, Africa, just before the outbreak of WW I, where Bogart is a river rat, plying the Congo with his wares in a rotting hulk of a boat.

**THE 7TH DAWN [1964]**  
Saturday, Nov. 30

Trashy action-melodrama dealing with Communist guerrilla operations against Malaysian colonialists in the mid-1950's. William Holden, Susannah York, and Capuchine star. Holden plays a soldier of fortune, with the ladies sharing romantic interest and taste for exotic political adventure. B

### CORRECTION

ST. ANN'S HOME ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SALE will be held Fri. Nov. 29 from 4 to 7:30 P.M.

Last weeks Courier-Journal ad was in error on the date

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