

## Lonely at Christmastime

See Centerfold

Perhaps the most distressing cases listed as part of the Courier-Journal Christmas Fund campaign are those that tell of loneliness and despair during a time when so many others are delighting in the joy of Christ's coming.

Certainly it is heart-rending to learn of children who will not receive any gifts symbolic of the great day, or even a special meal to connote the feast, or even a sign of hope. And those families who will be struggling to make even the most meager ends meet cannot be ignored.

But the cases sealed with loneliness at Christmastime are truly pathetic. The smallest remembrance at this time of year can do much to show these brothers and sisters that we have

not cast them aside and that they are indeed still members of the family.

Catholic Charities through its various agencies tries to help these cases and can use your financial assistance to do so. To accomplish this Christmas task, the Courier-Journal set up its annual fund six years ago. Since then the fund has grown each year, hitting a high of some \$34,000 last year.

The neediest cases (listed this week in the centerfold) are all true and supplied by Catholic Charities. They come from urban and rural areas throughout the diocese and any parish with special requests for such help should contact Catholic Charities.

Readers are invited to contribute to individual cases but

because some cases may receive a great deal of attention and others none, Catholic Charities must use its discretion and expertise in aiding as many as possible.

Catholic Charities is not able to accommodate gifts of clothing, toys or food. Three Rochester parishes will help but they also are not able to accept gifts of clothing. Gifts of food and toys, however, may be taken to Mount Carmel, 60 Woodward St.; St. Michael's, 869 N. Clinton Ave.; and Immaculate Conception, 445 S. Plymouth Ave.

Financial contributions should be sent to:

Courier-Journal Christmas Fund  
Care of Catholic Charities  
50 Chestnut St.  
Rochester, N.Y. 14604



DICK GREGORY



MR. JACKSON

## Jackson, Gregory Hit Pro-Abortion Mentality

New York [RNS] — Two well-known black social activists told a gathering of youthful right-to-life leaders here that the nation's pro-abortion mentality undermines the value and dignity of every human life and that "killing babies" is symptomatic of a civilization and culture which operates without sacred absolutes.

Comedian-turned-activist Dick Gregory and the Rev. Jesse Jackson, director of Operation PUSH (People United to Save Humanity), spoke during the third annual "Thanksgiving for Life" convention sponsored by the National Youth Pro-Life Coalition, a non-sectarian, non-partisan group working for "positive alternatives" to abortion, war, capital punishment, euthanasia,

compulsory sterilization and "other forms of violence."

Another speaker, Dolores Huerta, vice president of the United Farm Workers (UFW), also took part in the three-day convention which drew about 500 high school and college age youths from across the country. Susan K. Bastyr-Hilgers, president of the NYPLC, welcomed the delegates.

Gregory, who said he opposes abortion because of its coercive and genocidal aspects, said he fully supports the right to life of every human being "from conception to natural death." He added that he "unequivocally" endorses a "total human life amendment" to the U.S. Con-

Continued on Page 2

## Don't Reject Original Concept, Pope Paul Tells Jesuits

[See other story on Page 3.]

By Father Robert Graham, SJ

Rome [RNS] — In an unusually "straight from the shoulder" talk to Jesuit priests in Rome for a General Congregation, Pope Paul declared that "certain shadows" that hung over the previous congregation in 1965 had not been fully dissipated.

He urged the congregation to reject the idea of abandoning the original Ignatian concept of the Jesuit order, while examining the order's "identity crisis."

At the same time, he lauded attempts being made by the Society of Jesus to renew its apostolic effort and religious life, provided it was done in complete consistency with the ideals of its founder, Ignatius of Loyola.

"Certain sorrowful facts that subject to discussion the very essence of belonging to the society," said the pontiff, "are repeated with too great frequency and are pointed out to us from many sides, especially from pastors of dioceses, facts that exercise a sad influence on the clergy, on other religious, and on the Catholic laity."

The Pope spoke at a special audience to the nearly 250 Jesuit delegates chosen from provinces throughout the world, as they gathered on the second day of the 32nd General Congregation. The society's top decision-making body has before it more than 1,000 proposals for consideration. Some of the more radical propositions envisage the transformation of the Jesuits from a religious community into a mixed lay-sacerdotal group.

Evidently alluding to these suggestions that would completely transform the Jesuits, the Pope insisted that the Society of Jesus retain its character as an apostolic, sacerdotal and religious body. In particular, he rejected a proposal that non-priests should be put in the same status as priests. The work of the Jesuit, said the Holy Father, is essentially orientated to the sacerdotal function.

Referring to the struggle to find new apostolates and new forms



Happy Holidays

Photo by Bruce Genit

Children of St. Mary's School in Dansville came north (to Rochester) to visit Santa Claus. Tomi Bocon tells Midtown Plaza's St. Nick what she wants for Christmas.

of ministry, the Pope said that it had reduced itself to a process of trying to do too much and to multiply roles, at the expense of the specificity of the Jesuit vocation.

"Today," he said, "one notes the difficulty of making properly thorough and decisive choices. Perhaps there is a fear that full

Continued on Page 2

## Should Girls Play On Boys' Teams?

The Courier-Journal in an effort to broaden its statewide coverage will be publishing occasional features written by Kathleen Powers from Albany, where she works for that diocese's newspaper, The Evangelist.

Her articles will cover areas of interest on a statewide scale, particularly doings in the State Legislature, but also on other subjects, such as the first one this week on the issue of girls on previously all-male athletic teams. See Boom or Boomerang, Page 7.