



Father X has been ordained less than six years, and sometimes advises me about the mental directions of his peer group. I sent him a pre-view of Msgr. Birmingham's funeral plans (Cf. C-J Sept. 10) Fr. X sent back a funny reply. Here it is, with comments.

**A YOUNG PRIEST'S FUTURE FUNERAL.**

"First we must assume the Church will be filled. Young priests make more friends due to their associations, on committees, protest groups, fire departments and local night spots. Eucharist is to be celebrated by the Sisters of the parish and local Pastor, if he so desires. Bishops need not be present, but probably will to demonstrate solidarity."

Comment: If a member of the Fire Department, why not use a fire truck, rather than a funeral car? The pastor may be a pastorese, and really should have

some primacy of honor even if not of jurisdiction.

"Priests and religious (Sisters) attending will be asked to seat themselves throughout the congregation. An opportunity to mingle with the people they are called to serve. Any priests or Sisters arriving in clerical or religious garb will be ushered to the Church Hall where they will be entertained by a viewing of the Movie: 'Going My Way.'"

Comment: This seems a kindly way of avoiding polarities. But don't you think that those who consider the clerical or religious garb a sign of Witness might better be given the BBC Film of 'Something Beautiful for God — Mother Teresa's Work' which can be gotten from Father Reinhart at the Propagation of the Faith. Or even 'The Song of Bernadette' by Franz Werfel. Or 'The Sound of Music', which is so beautiful perhaps some of the congregation would prefer it to the Celebration in the Church.

"Pall-bearers are to be members of the Parish Council; and Communion is to be distributed by members of the Liturgy Committee only. Banners are to be carried in procession depicting the various causes and protests which the young priest has espoused."

Comment: Hardly practical. Having 20 to 30 Council members carrying the coffin would make for crowdedness and dubious decorum. Have the Council members, with badge draped in resurrection gold, act as honorary bearers. Choose six men/women (persons) who despised the deceased most vigorously for the

honor of being active bearers. This will give them great satisfaction, and it will be a relevant and meaningful act of charity on the part of the decedent.

"Finally the homily for the Liturgy is to be preached by the young priest's wife. It is hoped that she will carry on his ministry."

Comment: Your male chauvinism is showing. With the new and meaningful progress, women will not "carry on any male work"; but will be self-involved. However since you anticipate a great outpouring of priests and priestesses at the funeral, why not have a great convivial dinner after the cremation, put on by the Human Development Bureau, with approved lettuces, grapes and wines; and in the spirit of ecumenism, include Kellogg's Adventist Corn Flakes and Jewish bagels and lox? After the dinner, the speeches and the joyful and meaningful celebration, all should link arms and sing "We Have Overcome". This will send the congregates out into the Market Place to proclaim the Kerygma "in season and out of season, when convenient and when inconvenient", making the secular world a joyful place to live in. Hopefully some thought will also be given to the words of the Word: "What does it profit a man if he gain the whole world and suffer the loss of his soul; or what exchange will a man make for his soul? (For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels; and render to each man according to his works



PARENTS CLUB OFFICERS

**Kearney Parents Plan Variety of Activities**

Discussing future plans of the Bishop Kearney High School Parents Clubs are (from left) Brother William M. Stoldt, Fathers Club moderator, Ray Klafehn, new president of the Fathers Club, Mrs. Anthony (Ann Marie) Lipari, new president of the Mothers Club, and Brother Lawrence A. Killelea, Mothers Club moderator.

these activities is to raise money to keep the school's tuition to a minimum, they also provide Kearney parents and the surrounding community with quality entertainment.

First on the agenda was the seventh annual Kearney Carnival which was held Sept. 11-14. Some of the other events which will be presented this year include Orientation Night, several dances, a Christmas boutique, an antique sale, a eucharist tournament, Showtime, a family Mass and a Bicentennial Night. "Dining After Dark" dinner books are being offered and sold throughout the Greater Rochester area.

The new officers have been working steadily throughout the summer with their moderators and various committee chairmen planning a variety of activities for the coming year.

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