

'Congress' Plans Arts Program

Philadelphia — A host of internationally known artists will perform at the 41st International Eucharistic Congress here next August.

Eugene Ormandy and the Philadelphia Orchestra, soprano Benita Valente, Helen Hayes, Ella Fitzgerald, Dave Brubeck, The Dance Theatre of Harlem, The Demeans, The Cantate Domino boys' choir of Belgium — all are part of the 14-event program scheduled just before and during Congress Week, Aug. 1-8.

Father Louis D'Addezio, coordinator of Performing Arts, said, "We have literally taken the 150th Psalm of David, which exhorts us to praise God on cymbals and harps in song and dance, and given it special meaning."

A premiere performance of "Francis," a musical based on the life of the gentle saint, by Richard Duprey and Ken Ford, will be presented as children's theatre. Another youth-oriented presentation will be the Eucharistic Congress' own production of "Godspell."

A musical pageant "The Miracle of the Bread," is scheduled for July 29 and Aug. 2-6. This work is being produced completely by the priests of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. The work is offered as a gift to the Eucharistic Congress and the Christian community by its authors.

An especially significant part of the week's entertainment, according to Father D'Addezio, will be a series of productions mounted by five colleges in some of the city's oldest churches.

"All of our performing arts can be traced back to primitive religious ceremonies and dances," Father D'Addezio observed.

Religious Leaders Support Quinlan Decision — Cautiously

New York [RNS] — Religious spokesmen generally supported — with caution — the New Jersey Supreme Court's landmark ruling that comatose Karen Ann Quinlan be allowed to die if her condition is considered medically hopeless by a panel of physicians.

As in earlier cases, when Miss Quinlan's own Roman Catholic pastor and bishop agreed that the decision of her parents to ask for an end to "extraordinary means" of treatment was morally correct, a spokesman for the New York archdiocese, the bishop of the New York Episcopal diocese and a Jewish seminary professor concurred with the court ruling.

Msgr. Eugene Clark, director of communications for the New York archdiocese, said, "No one is bound to use extraordinary means to maintain life." He warned, however, that every case "must be judged individually with the greatest care and with the best interests of the individual and the community in mind."

Episcopal Bishop Paul Moore Jr., of New York conceded that there are "some times" when a person is able to remain living only in a "semi-vegetable state, when all medical evidence eliminates any conceivable possibility of living, then that person should be allowed to die."

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Link from the Past

This monstrance designed for the 28th International Eucharistic Congress 50 years ago, will be used during the 41st International Eucharistic Congress Aug. 1-8. Examining the monstrance are (from left) Msgr. Charles McManus, coordinator for liturgy; Father Louis D'Addezio, co-chairman for performing arts; and David Schafer, special groups coordinator.

Three other series performances are the Grand Court Series, noontimes at Wanamakers; the Cathedral Series of morning and afternoon recitals and the Public Square Series in the city's five

public parks or concerts by Catholic high school bands. To complement the Congress-sponsored events, many national heritage groups will offer programs of their own.

However, the Episcopal leader cautioned that every case must be considered on individual merits.

Rabbi Seymour Siegal, who teaches ethics at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, observed that allowing Miss Quinlan to die would be "passive euthanasia" which is permissible for most Jews.

The efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Quinlan to win the court's permission to disconnect the mechanical respirator and allow their 22-year-old daughter to "die with dignity and grace" have been strongly supported by their pastor, Father Thomas Trapasso of Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Mt. Arlington, N.J., and by Bishop Lawrence B. Casey of Paterson.

Bishop Casey, in a 10-page statement issued last November, said he was applying the "official teaching" of the Catholic Church as it pertained to the Quinlan case. He said the Quinlans — who reside with two other children in Landing, N.J. — were not requesting euthanasia (mercy killing) but an end to "extraordinary" treatment of a hopelessly ill patient.

Just prior to his November statement, however, 11 Christian

clergymen, mainly moral theologians and ethicists, issued a statement drawn up at Drew Theological School, Madison, N.J., which called for a "narrow" court ruling by Superior Court Judge Robert Muir, (whose decision was overturned by the New Jersey Supreme Court) should he rule in favor of allowing the woman to die.

They expressed fear that a favorable decision if "specific guidelines" were not included, could set a precedent for society's approval of euthanasia.

(The March 31 ruling of New Jersey's Supreme Court did include guidelines for the Quinlan case which, it said, could be applied to other such cases involving the terminally ill.)

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Charities Reorganizes Settlement House Work

The problem-stricken Genesee Settlement House was effectively dissolved by Catholic Charities April 1. Financial mismanagement forced Catholic Charities, the incorporated agency responsible for the settlement house, to act to ensure the continuation of services, according to a statement released by Father Joseph D'Aurizio, charities director.

In the statement Father D'Aurizio explained that "the Advisory Board of Genesee Settlement has virtually collapsed; the operations of the agency are financially precarious — the federal government has imposed a tax lien; the status of the executive director and staff are uncertain, and the services to the clientele are in jeopardy."

The Community Chest, which supplied more than \$290,000 to the settlement house last year, announced that they were ending support of the house due to financial irregularities, and the Monroe County Department of

Social Services also announced that they were withholding funds. The tax lien, \$18,704, represents employee's income and social security taxes for April, May and June, 1975.

Catholic Charities has asked member agencies to assume the operations of the settlement house. The three group homes will be administered by St. Joseph's Villa. The Catholic Family Center will take over the settlement's counseling activities, and the CYO will expand its work in the area. Negotiations also are underway for the day care center at 2 Ritz St. to be operated by the Centralized Day Care Administration.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Montezuma - Port Byron — First Holy Communion classes are held every Saturday at 11 p.m. The parents, with the help of Father Bernard Kuchman, pastor, are instructing 18 children for the May 8 Reception Day. More than 250 children were under religious instruction this year. A faculty of 21 teachers worked under the direction of Sharon Seaman.

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