

Black Composer Slated to Speak

Grayson Brown, nationally known author and composer, will lead a workshop on Black Religious Experience in Song and Liturgy this weekend at St. Francis Xavier Church.

The workshop is sponsored by the diocesan Office of Black Ministries.

Brown, who is director of music at St. Ann's Church in Brooklyn and a committee member of the National Office of Black Catholic Culture and Worship Committee, will be joined by Ronald Harbor, director of music at St. Benedict the Moor Church, Washington, D.C.

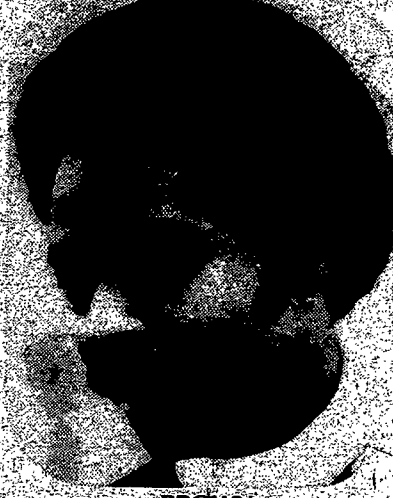
The workshops, which begin on Friday, Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m., also will feature the Howard University Choir with soloist Thomacena Nelson.

Father Jerome Robinson, OP, executive director of the local black ministries office will be the celebrant of a Mass on Sunday, Dec. 12, at 10:45 a.m., which will conclude the program.

A registration fee of \$2.50 includes a Saturday lunch.

Brown is the composer of Liberation Liturgies and Mass for a Soulful People.

According to the National Office for Black Catholics, a participant in one of Brown's recent workshops remarked that Brown's music "just grabbed the hurt around my heart, held it and tossed it away!"



BROWN

Choirs Festival Rehearsals Set

The Diocesan Music Commission through the Office of Liturgy will sponsor the Third Annual Diocesan Choir Festival on the Second Sunday of Lent, March 6, at St. Thomas More Church.

The program will begin with sung Evening Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours, followed by a performance of Mozart's Vesperae Solennes de Confessore.

It is the hope of the Diocesan Music Commission that as many

members of parish choirs as possible will participate in the festival.

Singers not belonging to parish choirs also are welcome, as well as proficient instrumentalists for the orchestra that will accompany the work.

Rehearsals will be held each Tuesday evening from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., beginning Tuesday, Jan. 4 at St. Thomas More.

Proceeds from the benefit performance will be used toward the commissioning of a new composition of church music.

Further information and application forms are available through the Office of Liturgy 328-3210 or Sister Virginia Hogan 223-9006.

Seminary Slates Scholar, Mass

Father Carroll Stuhlmueller, CP, nationally known Scripture scholar will deliver a lecture on Women in Leadership: A Biblical Interpretation, tonight, Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Bernard's Seminary. Father Stuhlmueller's presentation will be followed by Vespers for the feast of the Immaculate Conception.

The seminary also announced that a Mass with Latin Gregorian Chant will be celebrated in the chapel on Sunday, Dec. 12, at 4:30 p.m. Music will be provided by students from the Eastman School of Music.


HOLIDAY CAKES

The University of Notre Dame Women's Organization is selling fruit cakes to replenish its scholarship fund. The one-pound packaged loaves, light or dark, may be ordered by phoning Mrs. James Jones at 544-1535. The price is \$1.45. Profits go into a fund that aids four-area collegians each year. Mrs. Thomas Wurzer of Fairport and Mrs. James Doyle of Honeoye Falls are co-chairmen.

NOW A BASILICA

Philadelphia [RNS] — The Roman Catholic Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul here was raised to the special status of minor basilica by Pope Paul, largely because of its significance during the recent 41st International Eucharist Congress. The 112-year-old structure, under construction during the time of Blessed John Neumann, fourth bishop of Philadelphia who is soon to be canonized in Rome, becomes the 23rd basilica in the U.S. The first U.S. basilica was the original cathedral of the Baltimore archdiocese.

Life, Liberty and Law



Nancy Murphy

Proposal: The creation within the Rochester Diocese of the position of Human Life Coordinator to promote and encourage a pastoral effort addressed to the very special needs of the unwanted mother during pregnancy, to promote and encourage pastoral efforts toward those who have had or who have taken part in an abortion, to promote and encourage to the highest extent the orthodox doctrines (the Magisterium) pertaining to the sanctity, protection and reproduction of human life. The Coordinator would be a paid staff member of the diocese, independent of existing offices such as the Office of Family Life and the Office of Human Development. She would have direct and frequent communication with Bishop Joseph L. Hogan and would answer directly to him in all pertinent matters. She would serve as a research librarian for the bishop in the areas of pregnancy care, abortion and abortion research, euthanasia, fetal/human experimentation and Communist tactics as they relate to the suppression of the Roman Catholic Church.

The Human Life Coordinator, in accordance with the "top priority" of the United States Catholic Bishops, would press for the enactment of a human life amendment to the Constitution which will effectively protect all innocent human life from the moment of fertilization to the moment of natural death. In line with consistent and repeated Vatican directives, in the case of the unborn this would allow for the rare exception by indirection when the mortal life of the mother is directly threatened by an existing physical disease.

Support: The prisoners, the migrant workers, the minorities, the hungry, the oppressed and the unemployed all have dedicated articulate voices on their grateful behalf within the diocese. This is as it must and should be. (Most

Masses include petitions for these sufferers in the intercessions, which again is as it should be. But prayers for the lowly unborn, the unwanted mother, the captive priests, and the human experimentation victims are not voiced aloud.) Those millions who are unwanted by family and state — those threatened by direct manipulation and silent spiritual/moral/physical death — must have articulate representation in our diocese in a unique way. Not diluted in any degree and not set into low priority. Human life is unique and must be honored before it can be fed, clothed, employed or educated.

Extent: The Human Life Coordinator must go beyond the limitations of existing Right to Life groups. Her office must defend and encourage the moral methods of family-based fertility control. She must be familiar with all contraceptive methods contrary to the moral doctrines of Roman Catholicism and be prepared to offer funded courses in Natural Family Planning. RFL groups are unable to take positions on these matters.

Research: The Human Life Coordinator must have at her disposal knowledge culled from dependable sources: from medicine, law, nursing, high school counseling, education, nutrition, agriculture, theology, history, captive nations, drugs, audio-visual aids, public health, Birthright, pharmacology, statistics and the United Nations. She must be familiar with and constantly updated on all legislation pertaining to human life issues, and have access to communication channels through which she may share this knowledge with the community. In so doing, she will contribute substantially to ongoing ecumenical movements.

Hers will not be an enviable position. In some cases she will be obligated to support the Vatican against a majority of her audience. But in such cases she can recall as I have, the wise and honest words of my good friend Methodist minister William A. Flanigan: "God is not subject to the democratic process." It helps to remember that.

NEXT WEEK: Continued.

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