



Mrs. Genevieve Wing joins her great granddaughter, Mary Knapp, in a song.

Hand in Hand: A New Approach

A proposal for mutual interaction was presented to the human development committees of the two parish councils.

In turn they established a steering committee which met from June to November last year to identify areas of common concern.

By December Hand in Hand, they said, had sponsored a small gathering for liturgical and social interaction.



Preparing dessert for the supper are Sheila McAfee and Mary Anne Santangelo.

But by Mardi Gras time, at which these pictures were taken, the numbers of those interested in the new project had quadrupled. During April the group will sponsor a "pulpit and folk group exchange" Napierala and Anderson say. And, just last week, approval was given by the diocese to a proposal for money to publish an inter-parish newsletter.

Culturally, the two parishes are very different. St. Margaret Mary's is a suburban parish and Holy Redeemer has that city character bestowed by the intermingling of many ethnic groups.

Anderson and Napierala agree that if Hand in Hand is to work in such diversity "the relation has to be a two-way street, not one sided. We can help them, they can help us — a mutual thing."

They note that the development of regionalism in the diocese could bring with it a new approach to the question of parish boundaries. It is possible, they say, that "in the future there will be changes." Napierala, himself is an example of newer attitudes to parish ties. Holy Redeemer is the Church in which he was married, and though he lives in the suburbs, he and his wife still call Holy Redeemer their parish.

For the immediate future the group is developing a communication and educational vehicle, Anderson notes. He said the group is pondering the question of instilling a greater sense of confidence in the parishes' capabilities and what they have to offer.