



Presentation

Sister Serafine, director of the School of the Holy Childhood recently was presented a check for \$300 by David Connelly, grand knight of the Canandaigua Council 1445 of the Knights of Columbus.

AS I SEE IT



Pat Costa

There is a good possibility that any parent who saw the special reunion of "Father Knows Best" cast on a recent Sunday night along with some of the flashbacks of the original show that was popular 20 years ago will go easier on the kids and their passion for the likes of "Laverne and Shirley."

Actually "Father" with its great emphasis on moral rectitude, strength of family structure and innocuous story lines is nothing at all like "Laverne and Shirley." But it does serve to remind those adults who decry the lack of substance in today's fare that the TV programs that pleased an earlier generation were also more marshmallow than meat.

As one of those parents who deplore the popularity of a sit com which has one of its heroines, for example, worrying over the possibility of being pregnant, I find it difficult to be too hard on the never-never qualities of the fairy tale world that Jim and Margaret Anderson and their Betty, Kathy and Bud inhabited for so long.

Family life, as we all know, is not a bed of roses. It is not even a bed of petunias. Fathers and mothers do not remain calm, understanding and lucid in every sibling-sponsored set-to. Most rant and rave occasionally, react with something less than equilibrium in the face of yet another family tempest and even have been known to comment aloud that they regret ever having offspring.

And real children do not always see the error of their ways, or eventually come to terms with the other kids living in the same house much less treat them as friends.

Still what a splendid model of family life to set before young, impressionable children week after week. No matter that we cannot hope to attain it. At least now we know what a civilized family does at supper time. It sits down together in a dining room

and converses while it consumes. A rarity in today's fast-paced world of Little League, scouting trips and lessons for everything imaginable.

The 90-minute reunion which showed the children grown and with children of their own carried on in much the same vein it had earlier. Robert Young obviously had little control over the script for the most imaginative thing it had him doing was chuckling aloud every three minutes at the antics of his children or grandchildren.


Jane Wyatt and Elinor Donahue as mother and older daughter seemed to have weathered the years best. Both have remained before the cameras although, not with the frequency of Young whose Dr. Welby might have been uncle to the young Jim Anderson.

It is somewhat sobering to remember that Billy Gray (Bud) was once considered a serious drug offender. Actually he was arrested for possessing marijuana which puts him the company (possession, that is) of some very prominent people. The world indeed has changed in 20 years.

CWPC Meeting

The next meeting of the Catholic Widowed Parents Club is scheduled at 8:30 p.m., Friday, June 3 at St. Theodore's Church, 168 Spencerport Road. A social hour will follow.

The group is planning a dinner dance for June 18 at the Pittsford Tavern on the Mall.

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Insights into Liturgy

Nicodemus Revisited

BY ADELITA MENGES

Remember Nicodemus? He was a very pious man, the Gospel of John tells us. He came to Jesus, late at night, to tell him that he believed in him as a teacher sent from God. A Pharisee in search of sound religious teaching, Nicodemus was willing to accept Jesus as a rabbi and a potential source of further knowledge about God.

But Jesus turns Nicodemus' good religious intentions back on him with this challenge: "You must be born from above." Born of the Spirit. This Spirit, Jesus tells Nicodemus, is like "the wind" which "blows wherever it pleases, you hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going."

Jesus doesn't tell us who the Spirit is, just what the Spirit is like. He knew that in his own Hebrew tongue spirit and wind have the same name, *ruah*. Jesus says, "Unless a man is born through water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God." In the words of the poet, Carl Sandburg, "it's as though a great slow wind had washed you clean and strong inside out." In truth, the Spirit can't be written about or intellectually understood, it

can only be experienced.

But Jesus' words weren't what Nicodemus came in the dark to hear. Despite Jesus' warning "do not be surprised when I say this," Nicodemus is surprised. He says, "How can that be possible?" According to Jesus' analogy, the Spirit is that part of God which works in astonishing ways.

Cardinal Suenens described the Spirit as the principle of surprise in the Church. Sometimes, however, we are disconcerted by surprises. We want things to turn out the way we expect them to, and we have little desire to be surprised.

But if we cannot tame the wind, then we can't contain or possess the Spirit. Where do we look for renewal, "born-againness," in the Church? Are there appropriate and predictable channels through which the Spirit always flows? Can we be sure the Spirit will move in one direction, yet not in the opposite ways as well?

Perhaps it is truly a sign of the Spirit's presence in our Church that after so many years of having the answers, we find ourselves searching once more. Our search may well lead us to discover that all the changes have

brought to us a renewed and unexpectedly strong faith; we may then cease to fear and place our trust in the Holy Spirit. In fact, one way for each of us to recognize the experience of the Spirit is when the fear of the new or different has been replaced by the joy of

having been surprised.

We know one other thing about the Spirit from John's writings. It bears witness to Christ Jesus. If we can keep these simple tests for the Spirit in mind, how will we view the Church in our own time? Where will the Spirit move us next?

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