



**New Season for Parents Club**

The St. Agnes High School Parents Association has launched its first project of the 1977-78 school year: the fund raising dinner book sale. According to the association's advanced release, dinner club participants will receive a \$125 value with the purchase of the \$6 club book which will include coupons for 25 restaurants and 11 theaters. Heading the Parents' Club are Millie Schwind, co-treasurer; Alexander and Mary Eadie, co-secretaries; Frank and Cathy Cibella, co-vice presidents. Standing behind the Eadies is Robert Schwind, co-treasurer.

**Tape Recording Cited**

**Lefebvre Broke Promise To Close Swiss School, Priest Claims in Article**

St. Paul (RNS) — A Franciscan priest writing in the conservative Catholic weekly, *The Wanderer*, has claimed that French dissident Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre, CSSp, reneged on a 1975 promise to the Vatican to close his Swiss-based seminary.

Father Milan Mikulich, OFM, of Portland, Ore., said that according to a tape recording of a three-hour-long meeting with the heads of Vatican congregations on March 3, 1975, Archbishop Lefebvre said "I am after all disposed to close the (Econe) seminary and to retire peacefully."

During that conversation with Cardinal John Wright, prefect of the Congregation for the Clergy; Cardinal Gabriel-Marie Garrone, prefect for the Congregation for Catholic Education; and the late Cardinal Arturo Tabera, prefect of the Congregation for Religious and Secular Institutes, the priest said, Archbishop Lefebvre also denied he considered Vatican II heretical and the New Order of the Mass invalid.

Father Mikulich said that in subsequent discussions with theologians from the Vatican, the dissident prelate again denied that he opposed Vatican II and the New Mass, a fact corroborated by a priest-

associate of Archbishop Lefebvre who was there.

Father Mikulich said he first became aware of the Lefebvre movement in 1971 by "sheer chance," when he was asked by a friend of the archbishop to look into the possibility of establishing "an orthodox Roman Catholic Seminary within the Archdiocese of Portland." He said he had no knowledge at that time of Archbishop Lefebvre's attitudes. Since then, he said, he has amassed much documentation on the dissident movement, including the fully transcribed text of the tape recorded discussion at the Vatican on March 3, 1975.

"I am using the text as published by a strong defender of Archbishop Lefebvre," Father Mikulich stated.

The Franciscan also pointed out that the French prelate, who was a member of the Central Preparatory Commission for Vatican II, approved and signed 14 of the 16 documents of the Council, including the Constitution on the Liturgy, which set the stage for current changes in the Mass.

He also noted that while Archbishop Lefebvre obtained permission to set up an "experimental" community, the Fraternity of St.

Pius X, no permission was sought for a seminary and no permission ever granted either from the local Swiss bishop or the Vatican.

While Archbishop Lefebvre stated in his November, 1974, manifesto that he holds "firmly to all that has been believed and practiced... throughout the Church... and codified in books which appeared before the modernistic influence of Vatican II," the Croatian-born Franciscan said that "no one, especially Archbishop Lefebvre, can deny that the canon law of the Church, which codified what had been practiced throughout the Church... was published before Vatican II."

"And in spite of his declaration that he firmly holds to the canon law, which prescribes the tradition of the Church concerning the ordination of priests, he went ahead and broke these canons," the priest added.

Father Mikulich said "one wonders how Archbishop Lefebvre claims that he defends the tradition of the Church from modernistic and Protestant Rome, while he violates the disciplinary laws established by that same tradition."

**KofC Urged to Fight For Life Amendment**

Indianapolis (RNS) — The president of the U. S. Catholic bishops conference told a national Knights of Columbus gathering here that recent court rulings relieving government of the obligation to fund abortions are not the basis for "acceptable social compromise on abortion" and do not correct the court's "tragic fundamental error in legalizing abortion."

Archbishop Joseph Bernardin of Cincinnati outlined a five-point program which culminated in a call for "continued and increased efforts to obtain early enactment of a constitutional amendment restoring full legal protection to human life at all stages, before and after birth."

**Pro-Nuncio Named**

Italian Archbishop Edoardo Rovida, Apostolic Nuncio to Panama, has been named Apostolic Pro-Nuncio to the African Republic of Zaire, the Vatican announced.

An apostolic nuncio has the diplomatic status of ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary. Traditionally, because the Vatican diplomatic service has the longest uninterrupted history in the world, a nuncio has precedence among diplomats in the country to which he is accredited and is dean of the diplomatic corps on state occasions.

In countries where this prerogative is not recognized, the Vatican's ambassador is called a pro-nuncio.

**More Missionaries**

An interdenominational Finnish Missions Congress has urged the doubling of the Finns contribution to missionary work in the next five years.

The five-day gathering, held in Helsinki, brought together representatives of the numerically dominant Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland, as well as Methodist, Baptist, Pentecostal, and Salvation Army representatives.

In a major address to the international meeting of the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus last week, the archbishop noted that concern for abortion as a "pre-eminent violation of the fundamental human right to life" should lead to greater sensitivity for the aged and infirm, the handicapped and the poor as well.

With his address drawing on the theme of human rights in both the foreign and domestic spheres, he particularly cited two groups — the unborn and the aged — "to illustrate both the tragic problem of disrespect for the fundamental right to life in our society today and the need for a comprehensive approach to the solution of this problem: an approach which deals not only with direct abuses and violations of the right, but with social and human factors which help make abuses more likely."

Speaking to more than 1,600 officers, directors, delegates and guests at the Knights annual States Dinner, Archbishop Bernardin pointed out that the human rights question has emerged of late as a dominant factor in formulating and implementing this country's foreign policy.

And he expressed the belief that "Americans

generally have welcomed this new emphasis. Spontaneously and intuitively, they have recognized it as expressing our best values as a people." He said this is so because it places the emphasis on people, not governments, and what is required to insure individual dignity and freedom.

Whether the human rights policy of the U.S. is applied with "moral suasion" or through more direct means, the prelate observed, "in either case we are on the right track, in principle, in making it clear to all that the United States, in exercising its international responsibilities, seeks a world in which human rights are universally respected."

When the right to life "is violated—as it is in many ways in the U.S. today — discussion of other rights becomes hollow and even cynical," he said.

Declaring that "abortion is the crucial test case for the right to life," Archbishop Bernardin mentioned the "welcome rulings" of the U.S. Supreme Court in recent months which held that government need not fund welfare abortions. In the light of what he called the court's "almost unqualified commitment to abortion," he said it is encouraging that the court "has recognized a strong and legitimate state interest in fetal life..."

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**Chile Bids Adios To DINA**

Santiago (RNS) — In conjunction with the official visit of a high U.S. State Department official, President Augusto Pinochet, military ruler of Chile, announced that the dreaded secret police agency, DINA, would be disbanded.

DINA, over the years, has been charged with kidnappings, killings and systematic torture, and been named by international human rights groups, such as Amnesty International, as responsible for the disappearance of hundreds of political prisoners.

The announcement that DINA has been terminated coincided with the two-day visit of Terence Todman, U.S. assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs.

Expressing pleasure at the announcement that DINA would be disbanded, the U.S. official declared that the move by the Pinochet regime would "tend to diminish tension and give the (Chilean) people a greater sense of freedom."

Todman made a brief visit to the offices of the Vicariate of Solidarity, a Catholic organization set up to replace an interreligious agency to aid political prisoners that was forcibly shut down by the Pinochet regime. The vicariate, which investigates complaints on missing persons, now lists 501 as having disappeared.

DINA had been set up shortly after the 1973 coup, in which a military junta overthrew Chile's first elected Marxist president, Salvador Allende.

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