



Campers move on to the next activity.



Campers join together for noon Mass.



Putting the finishing touches on their crafts project are from left Pete Murty, Julie Murty, Sue Michalski, Elaine Lomedica and Mary Anne Klahn.

Family Camping

At first glance the campground looked normal enough. An even mix of campers, trailers and tents were set up under a grove of trees. Children were busily playing at picnic tables scattered around the large play area.

At other tables parents talked leisurely, enjoying the bright morning sunshine. Campfires were still smoldering from the previous night's revelry.

Everything seemed very normal. It all looked like any camping area in any park during the summer, until you got close enough to listen to what the campers were talking about.

Instead of chattering about the weather or what mischief the kids got into last night, two couples were discussing how they could help their children understand God more clearly.

Another foursome was describing to each other ways to show their children how much they loved them, even though discipline was inevitable.

Instead of trying to decide when they would go swimming or choosing sides for a baseball game, two teenagers were asking a group of youngsters what Christ meant to them and what would you do if Christ were here sitting at the table.

One bright-eyed youth stated matter-of-factly that Christ is already here. He is everywhere. "Exactly," the counselor replied.

It was not, to be sure, the ordinary banter common to most campers, unless you happened to be attending the Family Camping Renewal.

A combination retreat and vacation headed by Father



Danny Murty, left, and Paul Murty color pictures during a morning workshop.