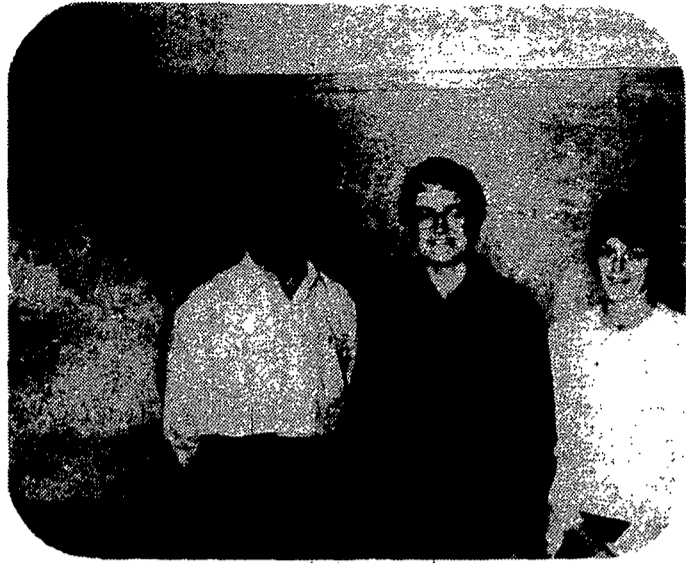


# Ten Parishes in Seven Towns Represented at Penfield CERT

Continuing Education for Religion Teachers, the diocesan CERT program, has drawn more than 100 men and women to St. Joseph's, Penfield, over the past several weeks. Some of the students are not teachers, but have been taking the course as "adult education," and that is "gratifying" to Sister Mary Lynch of the parish religious education department.

The final session, on Tuesday evening, Nov. 29, and Thursday afternoon, Dec. 1, will deal with teaching techniques and creativity. Lecturers for this CERT course included Leonard Paganelli, David Nowack and Mrs. Judy Kollar; Fathers William Darling, James Moynihan and Gerard Hafner, and Sister Mary. Among topics considered were Scripture, liturgy and worship, morality formation and psychology.



Hosts and hostesses to CERT students at St. Joseph's, Penfield, included Paul McAllister, John McInally, Sister Mary Lynch, SSJ, and Hazel White.

These parishes, besides St. Joseph's, were represented: St. Lawrence, Greece; St. Jerome, East Rochester; Resurrection and Assump-

tion, Fairport; Holy Spirit, Penfield; Holy Trinity and St. Rita's, Webster; St. Thomas More, Brighton, and Christ the King, Irondequoit.

## THE OPEN WINDOW



Fr. Louis Hohman

Dear Father Hohman,

Is it right that we bring God down and treat Him as a brother instead of holding Him in higher reverence as we were used to? It seems to me that many young people are calling Jesus their brother and are in the process of bringing Him down to their level rather than they being elevated to God's level. What is your opinion?

(Signed) C.M.

Dear C.M.,

I'm afraid that you have gotten the question the other way around. It was God's idea to come down upon earth to be "made flesh" and become our brother. When he did it, he made Himself the lowliest of the low and was born in a stable in Bethlehem. The fact is that Jesus wanted to be brother to each and every one of us. There is an occasion in the Gospels where Jesus is told that His brothers and His mother are waiting outside for Him. He responds with a question: Who is my brother, my mother? And then answers it: He who does the will of my Father in Heaven, he is my brother and sister and mother. So you see Jesus actually wanted to be known as brother to all people. As St. Paul indicates in the second chapter of his letter to the Philippians:

### ADVENT RETREAT

A weekend retreat for men and women who wish to prepare spiritually for Christmas is scheduled for Dec. 2-4 at the Cenacle Retreat House, 693 East Ave. Father James Mason, CSSR, of Toronto and a team of Cenacle sisters will conduct the program, which will open with supper Friday and close with the Eucharist on Sunday afternoon. The theme is Advent: New Opportunity to Grow in Christ. For details and reservations: 716-271-8755

"Though He was in the form of God He did not think that being God was something to be clung to, but rather He emptied Himself and took the form of a servant being born in the likeness of man"

It is not a question of greater or less reverence for Jesus as our brother or looking upon Him as God who is above us, because the same letter to the Philippians tells us: "Therefore God exalted Him and gave Him a name which is above every other name so that at the name of Jesus every knee above the earth, on the earth and under the earth will bow and every voice proclaim to the glory of God the Father, Jesus Christ is Lord." So you see, our greatest joy and delight should be in the fact that God Himself elected to

become our brother in the person of Jesus Christ and that is a wonder and a mystery truly beyond our comprehension.

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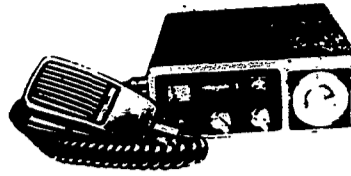
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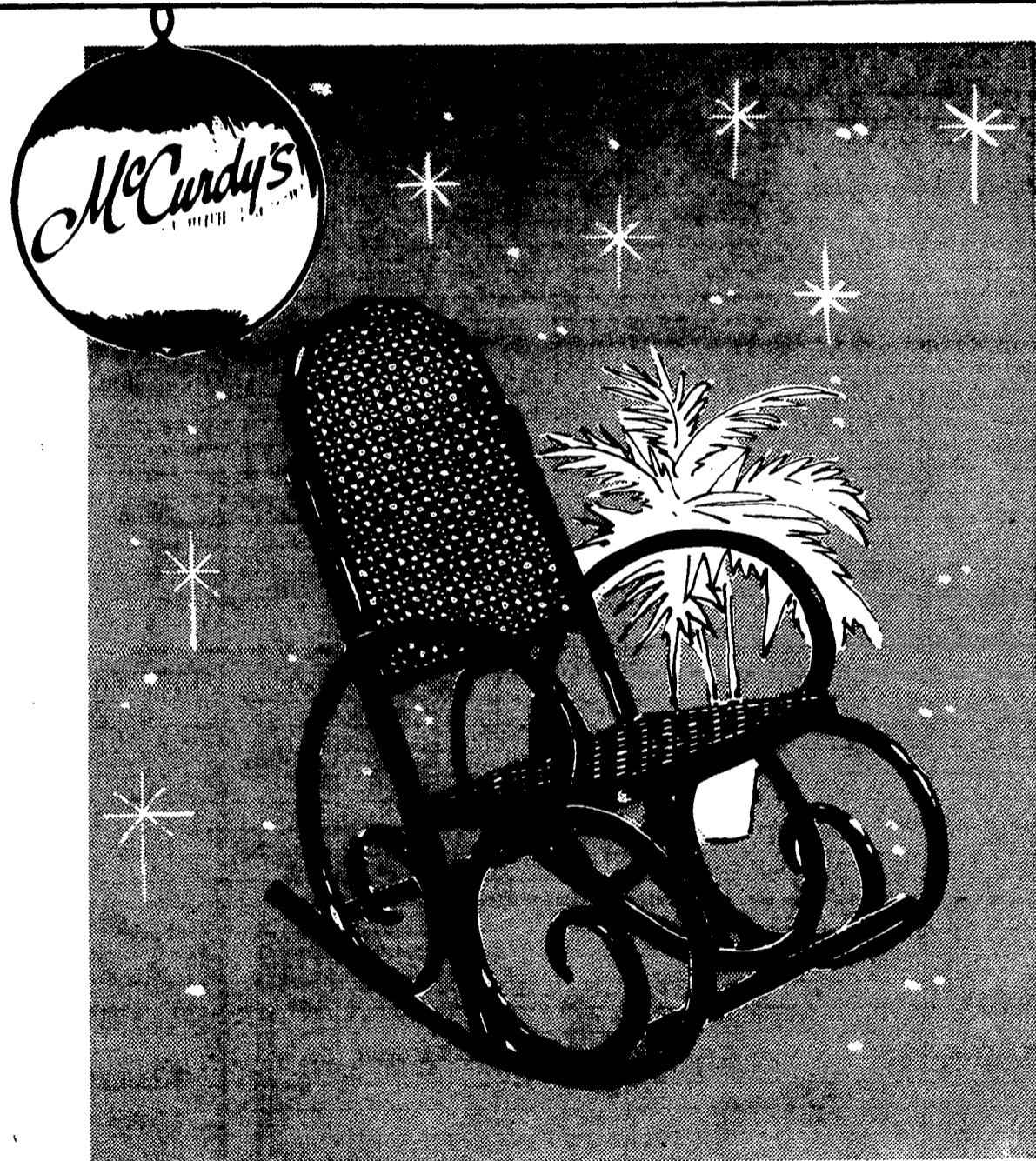
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