



Class Retreat

The 1977 Confirmation Class of Blessed Sacrament Parish gathered at the Cenacle Retreat House for a "Day of Reflection" prior to receiving the sacrament on December 1. Shown above are four members of the class (from left) Susan Morabito, Cathy Regan, Marsha Manzler and Jane McMullen.

Legion of Mary Enjoys Reunion

Some 265 members of the Legion of Mary and their friends gathered recently at Holy Rosary Church for prayer prior to their reunion dinner at Barry's Party House.

Legionaries work in about

Deaths

Fr. Connor, CP

The Mass of Christian Burial for Father Michael Connor, CP, was celebrated last Saturday at the Passionist Fathers' Holy Cross Center in Dunkirk.

Father Connor, formerly of Rochester, died Nov. 29, 1977, at Mercy Hospital, Buffalo. He had been ill for a long time.

He was born here and went from Immaculate Conception parish school to St. Andrew's Seminary. He entered the Passionist's seminary in Dunkirk in 1933 and was ordained to the priesthood 10 years later. For more than 30 years he conducted missions and retreats, working out of Toronto, Scranton and Dunkirk. He was on loan to this diocese in 1971 as a full-time assistant at St. Patrick's, Elmira.

His only surviving relative, according to records at the Dunkirk house, is a cousin, John Connor of Rochester.

Thorman Dies, NCR Editor

Kansas City (RNS) — Donald J. Thorman, publisher of the lay-edited National Catholic Reporter and a leading Catholic journalist, author and spokesman, died here Nov. 30 after a year-long struggle with hepatitis.

The communications specialist, 52, became publisher of NCR in 1965, a year after its founding. He was author of "The Emerging Layman," a study of developments in the Catholic Church which became a religious best-seller.

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Possible Cooperation Between African Nations and Israel

New York (RNS) — Black African countries which broke ties with Israel during the 1973 Arab-Israeli war may renew normal relations, according to Bayard Rustin and Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg.

Rustin, a civil rights leader and early supporter of African liberation movements, and Rabbi Hertzberg, president of the American Jewish Congress, made their comments at a press conference announcing publication of a new study by the Congress on Israel's involvement in African countries.

Re-establishment of Israeli/Black African ties would be a result of Anwar el-Sadat's Israeli visit in November, the two men said.

Rustin said that there were calls for renewal of African-Israeli cooperation in Kenya, Nigeria, Zambia, the Ivory Coast, Ghana and Sierra Leone.

He cited a Nigerian government official as saying, "Nigeria's diplomatic relationship is long overdue for review. It has never been in our 'enlightened self-interest' to quarrel with Israel."

According to Rustin, a member of the Zambian Parliament wrote of Israeli agricultural experts: "We want the Israelis to return. Ten of them did more for us than a thousand of the present advisers."

Rabbi Hertzberg said the title of the AJC study — To Serve, To Teach, To Leave — derived from a principle stated by Dr. Isaac Michaelson, an Israeli ophthalmologist who worked in six African nations.

"To serve in helping developing states organize and build," Dr. Michaelson said. "To teach the scientific, technical and administrative skills necessary to make it work, and to

leave when the developing country says it is ready to take over."

According to Rabbi Hertzberg, the program began in 1957, nine years after Israel became independent, when, at the invitation of Ghanaian leader Kwame Nkrumah, Israel helped create Ghana's Black Star shipping line and its Trade Union Congress.

The program included nutrition, education, agricultural training, water resource management, regional planning, epidemiology, civil engineering and urban sanitation.

It began not only because "African countries were the closest to Israel geographically, but also demonstrated the greatest need." Another reason was that many of the African countries resembled Israel in their nation-building efforts.

"Finally, Israel needed friends," the report said, "especially in countries susceptible to Arab influence. And the best way to win a friend is to be a friend."

The report quotes former Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir as saying, "To the black states in the making there was a great deal that Israel could and wanted to give. Like them, we had shaken off foreign rule; like them, we had to learn for ourselves how to reclaim the land, how to increase the yields of our crops, how to irrigate, how to raise poultry, how to live together and how to defend ourselves."

"We couldn't offer Africa money or arms but on the

other hand we were free of the taint of the colonial exploiters because all that we wanted from Africa was friendship..."

The 125 page report was written by Moshe Decter, director of research for the American Jewish Congress.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

The Life in the Spirit group at St. Andrew's parish will hold an open workshop Thursday, Dec. 22, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the religion room of the school, 923 Portland. Joe and Pauline Marotta will lead discussion on the topic: What God Expects of Us; What We Can expect of God.

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