



Arts and Crafts

The Our Lady of Mercy High School Annual Arts & Crafts Sale and Show will be held April 1 and 2, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the school gymnasium. Admission is free. Displaying some of the crafts to be sold are, from left, Mrs. Rosemary Pautz, co-chairman; Mrs. Agnes Gruensuer, refreshments; Mrs. Mary DeWolf, chairman; Mrs. Mary Simmons, Country Kitchen sale; Mrs. Rosaline Sylvestri, publicity.

The Church 1978



Fr. Andrew Greeley

If you're Catholic you gotta try harder. When John Kennedy was running for president he had to oppose aid to Catholic schools to prove he wasn't pro-Catholic. Similarly, Joseph Califano, despite the personal promise of the president and the Democratic campaign platform, has to repudiate aid to Catholic schools to prove that he isn't the Catholic "representative" to the Cabinet. Andrew Young never has to prove that he's not the black representative, nor does Patricia Harris. But that's different, you see. Also, Mr. Justice Brennan, the so-called Catholic justice on the Supreme Court, has consistently voted against the Catholic position in every case that has come up since he has sat on the court. That way he proves he's really not the Catholic representative. Mr. Justice Thurgood Marshall, of course, is perfectly free to vote the black position and nobody raises a complaint.

The Irish Catholic school superintendent in Illinois grew up in a Catholic neighborhood, but has to prove that he has transcended that neighborhood if he wants to get ahead in the educational world. So he attacks neighborhood schools. He also (in a letter to me) denounced the isolation and the bigotry of Catholic parochial schools (ignoring the overwhelming evidence that people who go to Catholic schools are less isolated and less bigoted than those who go to public schools). If you're Catholic, the price you have to pay for getting into the upper levels of the establishment is to sell out your own people and your own heritage.

One woman who was being considered for a number of major appointments in the Carter administration was passed over repeatedly. Somebody got hold of the White House file on her and found after her name the words: "Catholic — opposes abortion." She was blackballed. A complaint was made and she finally got a job. Then, when the administration's womenfolk challenged the president on abortion, there she was, right in the middle of the

challengers, making more noise than all the rest. Like I say, if you're Catholic, you have to try harder.

I remember asking sociologist Peter Rossi once why those University of Chicago faculty members who had been so friendly to me when I was a student had turned bitter enemies. "That's easy," Pete said. "They thought you'd be a convert. When they found out you wouldn't, they became very upset with you."

"Convert?" I said. "You mean they thought I'd leave the Church?"

"No," he replied. "They just thought you'd sell the Church out."

When the education department unanimously recommended me ten years ago to be a professor of higher education, the administration vetoed the appointment. One of the reasons given to the department chairman was that such an appointment was impossible because "of the Church's position on education." I'm not altogether sure what the Church's "position" on education is, but clearly I had not repudiated the Church or its educational position vigorously enough to establish myself as an independent scholar. If you're Catholic you have to try harder, and I hadn't tried hard enough.

It is precisely sell-outs like Mr. Califano and our state school superintendent who most vigorously deny the existence of anti-Catholicism. They have made their peace with it; they have compromised, sold out their heritage and their own community. They have to argue that the bigots are really enlightened, liberal folk, that nativism has disappeared from American life. In fact, they themselves have become worse than the bigots.

Nothing much has really changed over the last 40 years. If you are a practicing Roman Catholic, loyal to your church and loyal to your heritage, you are not really welcome in the upper levels of our intellectual and cultural elites. So you break the rules; you don't try harder when you're supposed to.

That means you're not like the trustees in the concentration camps during World War II—caricatures of the SS which had imprisoned them.

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Prayer Weekend Set At St. Boniface

St. Boniface parishioners are invited to gather at their school for "an informal sharing in prayer, thinking and planning" during the second weekend of April sessions begin at 6 p.m. Friday, April 7, and end at midnight Saturday. Several priests will take part.

"It is a form of communal prayer experience which

began in this diocese in Palmyra," Eileen Mc Cann wrote in the parish announcement, "and it is believed that this opportunity at St. Boniface is the first outside Palmyra." The people of St. Anne's, Palmyra, "are providing all the means necessary for meal preparation," she added.

There is room for about 48 persons to stay overnight Friday—using their own sleeping bags. Those who go home Friday night will be expected back at 7:30 Saturday morning. Arrangements can be made for child care and for special diets.

Priests involved include Msgr. Gerard Krieg and Fathers William Trott, James Callen, Thomas Bales, CSB, and William Hickey. John and Betty

Schmitt of 260 Mt. Vernon Ave. are in charge.

Church Women To Meet April 15

"Issues in Feminist Theology" will be the theme of the third annual conference of the Upstate New York area Organization of Women Ministers scheduled for 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 15 at the Third Presbyterian Church, 4 Meigs St.

Keynote speakers are Dr. Patricia Martin Doyle, lecturer in Theology at Harvard Divinity School, and Rev. Dr. Peggy Ann Way, assistant professor of Pastoral Theology at Vanderbilt University.

Also speaking will be Rev. Dr. Margrethe B.J. Brown, executive presbyter, Genesee Valley Presbytery and Ada Marie Isasi-Diaz, parish minister at St. Francis of Assisi Church, Rochester.

The Organization of Women Ministers has more than 150 members, including ordained clergy, seminarians and Roman Catholics serving as pastoral assistants or religious education coordinators. For

further information about the conference interested persons may call Rev. Judy Lee Hay (325-4950).

MIDDLE EAST

Rabbi Judea B. Miller of Temple B'rith Kodesh will speak tomorrow night, March 30, at St. John Fisher College on Conditions for Peace in the Middle East—an Israeli Perspective. Rabbi Miller, who recently returned from the World Zionist Congress, toured the Arab nations in 1974. The lecture, scheduled for 8 p.m. in 135 Basil Hall, is sponsored by the Jewish Chautauqua Society and Fisher's department of religious studies.

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