



'Anything Goes'

Scott Meckling and Pam Michalski rehearse their lines for the showing of Cole Porter's "Anything Goes" staged last week by St. Louis parish in Pittsford. According to Patrick B. Fox, parish Religion Education coordinator, more than 100 teenagers have been involved in such projects over the past three years. The project, he said, has resulted in more young people getting involved in the parish youth program. Below, members of the cast run through rehearsal.



On The Right Side

By Father Paul J. Cuddy

Memory Is Like a Jewel Box

So you are finally taking on the little ones in your parish CCD school. May God bless you! I don't know the texts you will use but I do hope they will include memorizing precious prayers and Bible passages. Memory is a storehouse. Prayers, Scripture passages, poetry, Shakespeare—all are precious jewels to be stored for use on many occasions.

Frequently, after the Communion meditation at Mass, I invite the congregation to pray together using aspirations and other short prayers. For example: O Sacrament Most Holy: O Mary Conceived without Sin; Acts of Faith, Hope and Charity, and I often include the prayer to our Guardian Angel. Do you remember it? "Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom His love commits me here, ever this day be at



Fr. Cuddy

my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide."

Praying thus has a double purpose. First, it reintroduces to our people the practice of aspiration prayers which were common when many Catholics were indulgence gatherers; and secondly, it teaches these prayers to children and to teenagers, who rarely know them.

Recently, at Mass in beautiful Caledonia where I was supplying for Father Morgan, successor to Father Emmet Halloran, a little blonde girl about seven was in the front pew loyally admiring her brother, who was serving that week. I said to her, "Kay, if you learn the Angel of God prayer perfectly I will give you a prize." (I thought I had brought a bundle of the little grey prayer book, Treasury of Prayers, which has the Angel prayer along with most of the prayers every Catholic should know, but I found I had left them back in Webster.) I typed out the prayer for her and the next day she appeared with the prayer memorized perfectly.

Sunday, Kay was at the 10:30 Mass. From the lectern I explained how I had promised her a prize for learning the prayer and invited her to the lectern. She marched up with laudable unselfconsciousness. The lector adjusted the microphone. Kay's tiny voice trilled throughout St. Columba's Church. The angels surely smiled with the congregation. A pretty set of blue rosary beads was presented. Kay tripped back to her seat happy in her accomplishment.

Those who heard the late beloved Bishop Kearney speak at any occasion, religious or civic, admired the way he would weave Bible quotations, poetry, Shakespeare—and also humor—to present truth and life clothed in a literary beauty which was inspiring. Abp. Sheen often has spoken of memorizing as "storing priceless jewels to be brought out for use on apt occasions." How wonderfully he exemplifies this art.

If I were working with children, I would have them fill their memory chests with nursery rhymes, Bible passages, poetry and great prayers treasured throughout the centuries. The late Father Daniel Lord, SJ, strongly

urged this for parents. Children do memorize quickly (Kay memorized her prayer in five minutes) but they forget quickly unless there is frequent repetition. Hence, memorize, review, renew and increase.

To illustrate the retentive powers of the mind. Last week I celebrated Mass at a nursing home in Webster where the congregation are mostly from 70 to 93 years of age. Mass is celebrated in the dining room. The homily is an informal dialogue. Since the Gospel was on the parable of the pearl of great price, I told the story of Kay to illustrate the memory as a storehouse for precious jewels. I asked, "Do you remember any nursery rhymes you learned as children?" A tiny Mary, who is a delightful bit of unpredictable spice, called out emphatically, "I don't." "O come, Mary, I'm sure you do. Do you remember Jack and Jill ...?" With a tremor of excitement, she took over: "went up the hill to fetch a pail of water. Then most of the others chimed in. It was over 80 years since Mary learned that rhyme, and nearly that for the others. Yet, like pearls in the jewel box, they had retained and preserved it.

Achievers At NAJAC

Sixteen delegates are representing the Rochester Junior Achievement Association at the National Junior Achievers Conference this week at the University of Indiana.

Over 3,000 achievers from throughout the U.S. and nine foreign countries are attending the seminars, workshops and lectures with business and industrial management reps from around the country.

The delegates are: Al Alaimo and Ralph Azzarone, Bishop Kearney; Michael Brown, McQuaid; Larry Dunivan and Avis Glazer, Pittsford-Mendon; Alfred Pitts, Madison; Bill Yawman, Brighton; Lisa Baker, Edison Tech; Marie Connolly, Linda Jones, Julie Schmidt, Kathy Troidle, and Susan Vergo, Our Lady of Mercy; Debbie Henritta, Cardinal Mooney; Amy Kichlighter, Jefferson; and Jane Putt, East High.

Those who will be competing for the National Officer of the Year Award are Al Alaimo, Marie Connolly; Susan Vergo, Linda Jones, Larry Dunivan, Alfred Pitts and Bill Yawman.

Mike Brown, Julie Schmidt and Kathy Troidle were officers in Symmex, a JA Company counseled by Gleason Works and which will be competing for National Company of the Year honors.

Divorced, Separated

- Diocesan Coordinator: Sister Kathleen Kircher, Pastoral Office, 1150 Buffalo Rd., Rochester, 436-5450.
- CHEMUNG-SCHUYLER**
- St. Mary's: 901 Decatur St., Watkins Glen. Jeanette Fazzary, 535-4315
 - St. Patrick's: Clinton St., Elmira. Loxine Reed, Kathy Rampulla. contact rectory, 733-6661
 - LIVINGSTON-STEUBEN
 - St. Agnes: 96 Prospect St., Avon. Ms. Scottie Emery, 346-5600 or Dorothy P. Welch, 243-3624
 - St. Patrick's or St. Mary's, Corning. Ann Marie Kapral, 936-9012
 - St. Joachim's, Canisteo. Father Thomas Burr, 698-4034
 - Bath-Hammondsport. Contact: Beverly Aho, 569-3307
 - NORTH REGION**
 - St. Thomas Apostle: 4536 St. Paul Blvd., Rochester. Jane Schantz, 342-6849 or Mary Lochner
 - NORTHEAST REGION**
 - St. Joseph's: 43 Gebhardt Rd., Penfield. 1st and 3rd Sundays, 7:30 p.m. Robert Cobbett, 872-6267 or Judy Martowski, (315) 524-8649
 - NORTHWEST REGION**
 - St. Charles Borromeo School Library: 64 Maiden Lane, Croton
 - 1st and 3rd Sundays, 7:30 p.m. Maureen Gage, 359-2531
 - St. Christopher's: 3350 N. Union St., N. Chili. James Fannon, 352-5733
 - SENECA-CAYUGA**
 - Contact Person: Betty Myers, (716) 454-5015 or 253-6387
 - SOUTHEAST REGION**
 - St. John the Evangelist (includes widowed): 547 Humboldt St., Rochester. 2nd and 4th Sundays. Rita Lewis, 482-1715. Sandy Crawford, 473-6722 or Leo Naber, 334-6995
 - Cenacle Retreat House: 693 East Ave., Rochester. Betty Mitchell, 467-1007
 - SOUTHWEST REGION**
 - St. Monica's: 34 Monica St., Rochester. 1st and 3rd Fridays, 8 p.m. Sheila Dixon, 964-8310 or Earl Nagle, 328-8844
 - TOMPKINS-TIOGA**
 - Ithaca: Meeting location rotates. 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 8 p.m. Rose Sacan, 257-3375
 - YATES-ONTARIO-WAYNE**
 - St. Francis (includes widowed): 130 Exchange St., Geneva. 3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Pat Miller, 584-3509 or Mary McMenamin, 597-2273

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