

Religious Themes Appear In Children's Reading

By BARBARA KOSINSKY (RNS Correspondent)

Advent becomes a family celebration with two new devotional activity books. The Schroeder Family shares some of their customs in Celebrate While We Wait (Concordia Publishing House, paper, \$2.95), a series of devotions answering the question "What are we waiting for?" followed by Christmas story devotions for the twelve days of Christmas. Extras for each devotion are an explanatory reading in language children can understand and special activities like reading additional Arch books or serving symbol cookies.

Advent for the Family (Fortress Press, paper) by Frederick P. and Patricia K. Auman provides a devotional outline for the season based on the Advent candles. Other chapters show how to make Advent wreaths and symbols, give baking plans and recipes, and supply ideas for joint family activities during the weeks of Advent to make this season a very special, personal time.

Children will also enjoy making their own Advent calendars, manger scene figures and tree ornaments out of various materials. In the process the children will learn of the varied decorative styles of many nations by following the directions in Creative Christmas by Kathryn Shoemaker (Winston Press, paper, \$5.95).

A Christmas Angel Collection by Catherine Stock (Scribners, \$3.95, ages 8 and up) is meant to be colored, cut up and hung on the tree. Black and white angels from the Twelfth through the Eighteenth Century can be painted or crayoned and used year after year.

Retellings of the Christmas story are always popular. When Jesus Was a Baby by Joann Scheck (Augsburg, \$2.50) from the Bible Pop-O-Rama Series retells the Nativity story from the angel's visit to Mary through the shepherd's visit to the baby. Continuing the story with the visit of the wisemen is The Brightest Star from the same series, by the same author.

The Shepherd Boy's Christmas by Bunshu Igushi (Judson Press, \$5.95, ages 4-8) tells with bright water-color and charcoal pictures the story of a shepherd boy, who shows late travelers to his father's stable and later visits their baby after hearing of His birth from the angels.

Several new books begin with the birth of Jesus and



Religious themes abound in books for children this year. Photo taken at Walden Books, Midtown Plaza.

continue on through His boyhood and ministry. Even the most reluctant readers will be intrigued by two comic style Bible series.

The birth of Jesus is pictured in Volume 17 of Bible Story Cartoons by Norman Lynch (Standard Publishing Company, 59¢ each, ages 5-11). Also Volume 3 of the Comic Strip Bible called Jesus and the Early Church (David C. Cook, paper, \$3.95) begins with the angel's announcement to Zacharias.

Simple collage-effect illustrations highlight the story Jesus Has Come by Marjorie Villers and Phillipe Joudion (Judson Press, paper \$2.75, ages 3-8), from the Annunciation to Jesus' ministry. More stylized, traditional drawings illustrate seven stories from the arrival in Bethlehem to Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem on the back of a donkey in Jesus by Carrie Lou Goddard (Abingdon, \$4.95, ages 5-8).

Well-known illustrator Tomie De Paola tells the same well known Nativity story with scenery and

costumed children in The Christmas Pageant (Winston Press, \$5.95, ages 5-9). An angel suspended by a rope, sheep on wheels and multi-national children all add to the uniqueness of this intriguing narrative.

Both Tasha Tudor lovers and music lovers will appreciate Tasha Tudor's Favorite Christmas Carols (McKay, \$7.95, all ages) illustrated by Tudor and Linda Allen. Words, music, and a brief history of 17 favorite carols are accented by intricate drawings and paintings.

An aged juggler presents all he has to the statue of the Madonna and the Christ Child on Christmas Eve with a surprising result in The Clown of God (Harcourt, \$8.95, ages 3-8), a retelling by Tomie De Paola of an ancient French Legend. In brilliant watercolor and ink drawings Giovanni rises to fame with his juggling and descends back into poverty and obscurity as his talents fail. Finding the child still somber after the Procession of Gifts, he takes up his juggling tools for the last time in an attempt to make him laugh.

7th Step Needs Toys

Seven Lakes 7th Step Foundation, an ex-offender program, funded under the direction of the Monroe County Office of Criminal Justice Planning, has scheduled its annual Christmas Toy Drive.

For the past three years, more than 200 families of

inmates and recent parolees have benefited from the program through the work of churches, businesses, fraternal organizations and schools, as well as individuals.

Anyone with toys in good condition or with contributions for food baskets should call 232-1211.

Appreciation Party

The priests and Sisters of St. Thomas the Apostle parish will be feted tonight by the Rosary and Altar Society at the annual "appreciation" Christmas party. Before the party, which is scheduled for 8

p.m. in the school hall, parishioners will go carolling at Lakeshore Nursing Home. They are asked to assemble in the church parking lot at 6:15, and to bring small, wrapped gifts.

ST. BERNARD'S SEMINARY
2200 LAKE AVENUE
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK
SUNDAY EUCHARIST 11:00 A.M.
SUNDAY VESPERS 5:00 P.M.
Public is Cordially Invited

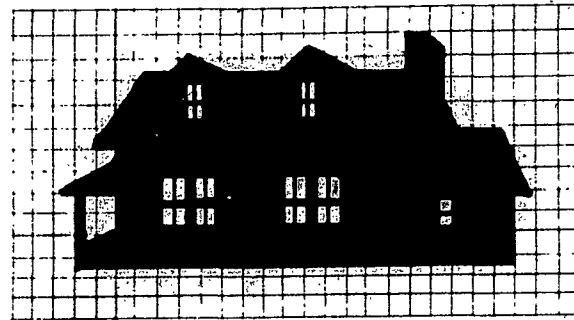
Energy Saving News

★★★★

Economical answers for energy savings from Ergonomy

★★★★

Give your house a physical.



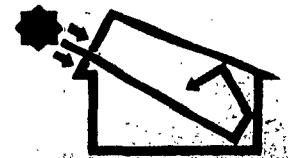
Perhaps one of the most unique services Ergonomy offers is the "energy profile." It can be quite an educational experience.

Getting to really know your home. Specially trained Ergonomy engineers come to your house. We look at your heating system we look for heat losses everywhere. We'll look at your insulation situation. In the walls, in the ceiling.

We talk to you about problems that have always bothered you. Drafts in the hallways. Odors that just don't leave. Too much or too little humidity. Icicles on the gutters. We take our observations and your complaints back to our office. With the assistance of a minicomputer and several volumes of source materials, we prepare our recommendations.

Open Every Day 8-5
Tues., Thurs & Fri. Eve.
and Sat. Morn.

The many ways to solve your problems. We'll show you several different levels and amounts of cure. To suit your wallet and your expectations. For this kind of personal service you only pay a nominal fee.



ERGONOMY

Eastview Park, 7979 Victor-Pittsford Road,
Victor, New York 14564, (716) 425-2100

Whose birthday did you say it was?

3 out of 4 people in the world have no idea that we celebrate the birth of Christ at Christmas.

YOU can make Christmas meaningful to them too — by helping to support missionaries who bring the "glad tidings" to all men of good will.

Send your sacrifice to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, which has been aiding the Church's mission work for over 156 years.

To help spread the meaning of Christmas to those who don't know it, I am enclosing my Christmas sacrifice of:

\$1,000 \$500 \$200 \$100 \$50 \$20 \$10 \$5 Other \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send your gift to:

12/78

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH



Most Rev. Edward T. O'Meara
National Director
Dept. C, 366 Fifth Avenue
New York 10001

OR:

Rev. Joseph E. Reinhardt
Diocesan Director
123 East Avenue
Rochester, New York 14604
716-454-2926