

Rap Around Rap Around Rap Around Rap

Equal Time

Is prayer an important part of young people's lives?
NAZARETH

JOYCE MASTRELLA
Junior



"I definitely think people's lives involve prayer even if it isn't open. They do refer to God when they are in trouble or they will just take time to talk to Him, to say thank you for their being alive. It may involve a more personal prayer like talking to God as a friend. I don't think the need for prayer is gone — young people are aware of it."

THERESA GATSON
Junior
Executive Council



"I don't think it plays a significant part. It was something they were taught from childhood. However, there are situations when they do pray, especially when they are in trouble and it is more of a mental prayer rather than a formal one."

ANN LEON



"Yes, they do it unconsciously — it is something they've been taught from childhood and they fall back on it when they need it. To receive strength you say a formal prayer and a formal prayer is something you say out loud but don't think about. However, when you hear your own voice talking you get the feeling there is someone greater listening to you. When you say the prayers together you have a sense of unity."

ESTERILLIA WILLIAMS,
Junior
Junior class secretary



"Yes, I do but it is not like a ritual. No matter who you are, like the kids who attend public schools — they're not taught to pray formally so they are hesitant about praying out loud. But they do have a mental picture of something greater and when they're in trouble they'll say a prayer in their minds. A personal prayer is better — there's more to it rather than a memorized one. When it is said from your heart it means more than repeating a formal one."

MAUREEN MASON
Junior



"Yes, I do. I feel they do it consciously when they need help. Prayer is very prevalent in a teenager's life. It doesn't matter if you are taught to pray or not — it's a matter of believing in God. You are aware there are many times you need to lean on Him and you pray, using a type prayer that is just between yourself and God. Prayer helps."

ERIN O'DONNELL
Freshman
basketball



"I think it is a daily thing because they are taught from the time they were little and they keep doing it as sort of a habit. Prayer has become more personal rather than being a formal type thing. I consider that when you suddenly begin thinking about God and your faith it is a form of prayer."

SUZANNE BUCKLEY
Freshman



"Yes, I think so but I think it is more like when they see something beautiful and they begin to think of God and how it was created. Also, if they have problems they automatically talk to God because they know He will help them. I think they rely on prayer like every generation does. They've been taught that God will help and though going to a Catholic school makes you more aware of prayer, I think everyone prays in some way. People automatically try to solve their problems by talking to God."

TERRI KNAPP
Freshman
yearbook staff



"I think prayer is as important to people but they don't pray as often as they should. People feel they have better things to do than pray and I think it's because of the way society has changed. They don't pray formally. It means more to them if they can make up their own words when they talk to God — more like they are friends. I don't think kids pray on a regular basis but if they have a problem and they don't know where to turn, they pray."



Winners Circle

RapAround weekly will run a photo of a group of students taken somewhere in the diocese. One person will be circled and if that person brings the clipping to the Courier-Journal before noon of the Tuesday following our publication date, he or she will receive \$5. This week's photo was taken at St. Agnes during an assembly. The person circled above should bring the clipping to Joan M. Smith, Courier-Journal, by noon, Tuesday, March 27 to receive \$5.

Early College Preparation

By MARTIN TOOMBS St. John Fisher. high school transcript.

Elmira — Thirty-one Notre Dame seniors are getting a jump on college; they are taking either one or two college-credit courses this year, while still in high school.

Andrew Watts is in the same two classes, and is getting a head start on his chemical engineering studies at Clarkson College.

Asked if the work load was heavier than their other courses, all four students groaned agreement, but none expressed a wish they hadn't taken the courses. Mary Beth commented that it's "not really that they're tough, they're challenging," and the other students agreed.

Passing grades in the courses, taught by Notre Dame faculty, earn the students credit at Nazareth College in Rochester, which can be used there or at other colleges.

Alfred Tech's data processing course is where Mary Beth Brunnozzi hopes to apply her advanced work in the English and Math 12 classes.

Andrew commented that the English class has "read three books in the last two weeks."

Sister Mary Gerard, who teaches the Math 12 and Calculus courses in the four-year-old program, reported that nearly all the past students have successfully applied the credit toward their college work.

Mary Beth noted that the credit is "so easy to transfer," it made the decision to take the Nazareth credit the logical one. Andrew pointed out that taking the credit was less expensive than taking the test. He added that the courses "get you into your second year of Math" or English at college.

Mary Ellen and Theresa noted they hoped the courses will help prepare them for their college work next year.

The other course available is English.

Mary Beth added that an advanced placement course can look good to a college admission department on your

The students also mentioned the low cost of the program, and the head start they will have on college next year as being benefits of the hard work they're putting in this year.

The students can take an advanced placement test instead of the Nazareth credit, but it is a strenuous exam, and costs \$35 to take. In comparison, the credit at Nazareth costs a \$20 registration fee.

Anthony Pucci, who teaches the English course, reported that students who have completed such a program are better "attuned to what to expect" in college. His survey of former students has shown that the "kids looking back on it themselves, always think highly of it."

Sister Gerard noted that she and Pucci attend annual "adjunct faculty" meetings at Nazareth with teachers from other schools in the program, and the school sends copies of the mid-term and final exams with the grades to the college.

Four students, all Regents Scholarship winners or alternates, were glad they decided to take the courses, despite what they agreed was a much heavier work load.

Mary Ellen D'Aloisio, from the Math 12 and English classes, hopes to use her credit to start her education at the Rochester Institute of Technology, majoring in computer science.

Theresa Mallare takes the English and Calculus courses, hoping to use them toward a degree in Biology at either St. Mary's College, Indiana, or at



Lead Me to the Candy!

Mary Flow was the Gong Show host, Chuck Barris, while Diane Vang portrayed Steve Martin (in bunny outfit) at the St. Agnes kickoff assembly for the school's Spring candy sale, March 16. The drive will last until March 30 and prizes will be awarded for quotas. The school's super goal is set for \$26,496.



Angela Ferrara, Karyn Foley and Kathy Komorowski display souvenirs.

A New York Adventure

Forty St. Agnes students along with moderators, Sister Mary Kay Ryan, Mrs. Bette Geen and Sister Mary Anne Coughlin paid a visit to New York City during the recent winter recess from classes. travelers, Kathy Komorowski and Angela Ferrara went into every store on 5th Avenue they sampled New York's cultural offerings. Along with their traveling companions, they saw the Broadway show "Annie" and attended the King Tut exhibit at the New

York Metropolitan Museum. Surveying the city from the top of the Empire State Building, circling the Statue of Liberty by boat and riding the subways where people were "packed in like sardines" were a few of the other trip highlights.

Though two of the