

May 11-12 Congress To Focus on Educational Commitment

The family and educators working together will be the major item under discussion at the Educational Congress slated this year for May 11 and 12 at the Dome Arena. The congress, sponsored by the diocesan Division of Education, will feature nationally known experts who will explore the topic in its spiritual, psychological and educational aspects.

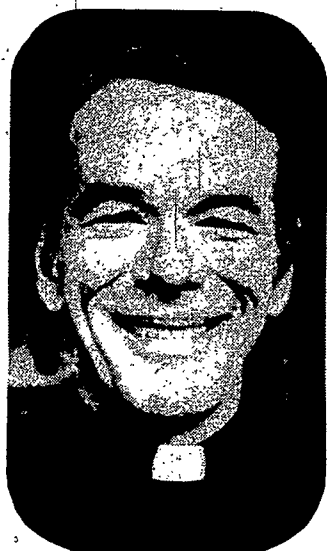
The major speakers at the event include:

Dr. Elinor Ford, Ed.D., professor of Education at the Graduate School of Education, Fordham University, and consultant to the National Catholic Educational Association;

Father Edward Farrell, pastor of St. Agnes parish in Detroit, who is active in pastoral, ecumenical, civil rights, family and retreat ministries;

Maureen Gallagher, field editor for Paulist Press and educational consultant;

Father William O'Malley, SJ, teacher of theology, English and drama at McQuaid Jesuit High School



FR. WILLIAM O'MALLEY

in Rochester, who also is a prominent author with Paulist Press.

In addition to the main speakers, the Congress will feature 12 mini-sessions highlighting various aspects of family in religious education.

Other Congress participants include, Mrs. Rita Foley, religious educator, lecturer and author, who will speak on "How Can We Enrich the lives of Our Own Families." Mrs. Foley is presently

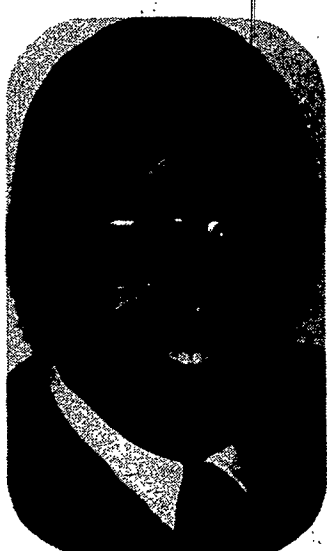


DR. ELINOR FORD

director of the Gift of Faith project, a program based on what the Church has traditionally held — that the parent is the primary religious educator of the child.

Matt and Sally Lynch who are both involved in education and clinical work, will focus on the topic, "The Grace of Being Parents."

John Roberto of the Northeast Center of Youth Ministry, Paterson, N.J. will highlight the study he is



JOHN ROBERTO

conducting on youth ministry for the diocese.

Sister Roberta Tierney, director of General Education, sees the Congress as a preparation for the 1980 Year of the Family and as a response to the concept of total religious education. Parents, educators, parish staffs and all interested in furthering the cooperation between home and educational programs are welcome. For reservations, contact Sister Clare Brown, Diocesan Office, 328-3210.

'Self Help' Discussed

Cecile Carson, a physician at Wilson Health Center and an instructor at the University Of Rochester Medical Center will be the next speaker at the April 24 session of Make Today Count.

Make Today Count, an organization of cancer patients, their families, others with chronic illnesses and interested persons, meets each month at the Monroe

Developmental Center 620 Westfall Road.

Carson will speak on self help methods for cancer patients aimed at teaching them "to participate more fully in their treatment and recovery process," according to a release. For more information those interested may call the United Cancer Council, the sponsoring organization at 716 473-8230.

On the Right Side

By Father Paul J. Cuddy

On Tour In the Mideast

To me, the three most devotional places in the world are Lourdes, Guadalupe and Nazareth. Each relates to our Blessed Mother, in three different cultures — the 19th century Western culture of Lourdes, the 16th century Indian culture of Mexico, and the first century Eastern culture of Nazareth. Christ and His Mother pervade all cultures, all ages, and are perennially the possession of all mankind.

Before our March pilgrimage to the Holy Land, Father Morgan had said, "I want to play one game of golf in Israel." He is not a fanatic, but he is a golf enthusiast. On Tuesday we made some detours in Jerusalem, because President Carter was going to Cairo from Israel, and security was tight. We drove to Jaffa, where we planned on Mass at St. Peter's Church, on the spot where St. Peter had the vision about the gentile Cornelius, confirming that the Gospel included the Gentiles. We were ready for our Mass at 3 p.m., when an Italian priest blew in with a group of 30 Italians. He joined us. We celebrated, with a mixture of English, Latin and Italian. Father Morgan gave a short homily in English. Padre Italiano gave a longer one in Italian.

Jaffa is practically a suburb of Tel Aviv. We stopped at an open market: bananas, oranges, beautiful

strawberries, vegetables — all homegrown — fish and meats, and all the smells, noise and liveliness common to the bazaars of the Orient. Our overnight hotel was in Tel Aviv, a prosperous city of 400,000 Jews, and no Catholic church. In the morning we toured the city, then went on to Caesarea, which was handily right next to the only golf course in Israel. Dropping off Father Morgan at the golf club, we went on into the city, and by 3 p.m. were climbing the steps of the monastery on beautiful Mount Carmel, famous for the prophet Elijah and for Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. The Carmelite Fathers gave us a tour of the place, including the cave which tradition says hid Elijah from the wicked King Achaz. Then we had Mass at a peaceful conventual chapel, where our pilgrims seemed to hit the zenith of interior devotion. By 6:30 we had our rooms in a fine hotel in Haifa and were relaxing at a sumptuous dinner.

Thursday, on to Nazareth, which today is divided into the upper city — new, entirely modern and Jewish, built by and for refugees and immigrants to Israel — and the lower city, Old Nazareth, which goes back beyond Christ and has an entirely Arab population of Catholics and Muslims. The mayor of Nazareth, like the mayor of Rome, is a Communist.

Nazareth always stirs my soul — not the city, but the place of the Annunciation. In 1960-68 the Franciscans built a basilica over the large, stone, cave-like home where Mary lived. There are two churches. The lower is a large chapel embracing the stone house; the upper

hovers above, with a great marble balustrade around the edge, where worshippers can stand and wonder at the Annunciation that took place there. Before the stone home is a large altar. Father Morgan and I concelebrated Mass with a priest from Bishop Casey's Paterson diocese, who had 40 pilgrims with him. Mrs. Kyle, a lively Baptist from Chili, Rochester, was with us. An accomplished organist, she play for our Mass while our congregation of 100 sang with devotion. We left with awesome memories that we had been present at the very spot where Christ took flesh within the tabernacle of Mary's womb.

Franciscan Brother Lawrence Bode took care of us. On leaving, I asked him, "Do you have a set of Abp. Sheen's Retreat Conferences?" "No. I did hear a few of them when I was in our monastery in Washington. I would like to hear all of them." "I brought a set with me, and will mail them to you." The next day the Sheen tapes went from Jerusalem to Nazareth, and on Holy Thursday I had this from him: "Just a little note to thank you for the set of tapes. I remember watching Fulton Sheen on TV when I was 7 years old. That was in 1952. I've played all the tapes and found them inspiring. I will pass them on to members of my community, and I hope to other communities. So in behalf of all of us, may God bless you, and thank you very much."

If the memories of the holy places visited on the pilgrimage are a consolation, even more to me is the realization that many Franciscans — and they are all over the Holy Land — will be edified by the Sheen conferences; and the holiness which they exude will deepen the holiness of the good Franciscans and will reach the hearts of many pilgrims.

Mass League Elections

The Daily Mass League elected officers recently at the Missions Office on East Avenue. They are Frank M. Griffin, president; Henry Miller, administrative vice president; Marguerite W. Driscoll, secretary; and Urban Kress, treasurer.

Mass League directors are Joseph DeMaria, Robert Dunning, Robert Kalb, Donald Karol, Daniel Morgan, Joseph Palmisano, Duane Pancoast and John Risenberger. The League co-sponsors the Sunday Mass for shut-ins on Channel 10 and is active in prayer card ministry.

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