

Father Beltran Leads Workshop

Enabling Hispanic Catholics to take a more powerful role in the Church and society at large has taken Father Edgar Beltran "everywhere, all over the country."

Father Beltran, who works with the national Secretariat for Hispanic Affairs of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops/United States Catholic Conference, was in Rochester last weekend to continue work he had begun last summer: establishing "ecclesial base communities" among diocesan Hispanics.

The program he conducted for about 40 Spanish-speaking dioceses, brought together by the local Office of the Spanish Apostolate, included lectures, role-playing exercises, prayer, and a great deal of hearty give-and-take.

During one session, Father Beltran described the differences between the ideal Church and institutional society.

Speaking in Spanish to the assembly at Corpus Christi Church, Father Beltran likened contemporary society

to corn flour, in which bits of corn are disparate and alone.

He said the Church, on the other hand was a people, marked by communication, by closely knit groups.

Where institutional society is static, Father Beltran said, the Church is a people on the march. "Pueblo de Dios en Marcha," also was the theme for the II Encuentro, a national gathering of Hispanic Catholics held two years ago. References to that meeting occurred frequently in Father Beltran's talk.

He also said that where modern society is marked by uniformity, the Church is a united body of pluralities.

Where the modern world is concerned with material goods, the Church is poor, and stands as a witness against materialism, Father Beltran said.

He also said that the world's pursuit of material gain is the underlying reason for the breakup of modern families. He said that the Spanish family's strength will be one of its great gifts to the world.

SALT II

From I

Council of Churches with 32 Protestant and Orthodox member-communions and the U.S. Catholic Conference, which is the national action agency for the 136 Roman Catholic dioceses throughout the country, have already announced that they will work for ratification. In the words of Bishop Thomas C. Kelly, general secretary of the USCC, the churches will "contribute to the moral dimensions of the SALT II debate."

The religious community gained valuable experience and encouragement from their lobbying efforts during the Panama Canal Treaty debate.

Thomas Quigley, USCC Latin America adviser, said that several senators expressed gratitude for the input supplied by the Churches on the Panama Canal issue.

Last December, the Catholic bishops' Office of International Justice and Peace sent specially prepared publications to every diocese, with the aim of promoting grassroots citizen action on disarmament. One booklet, entitled *The Arms Race: Illusions of Security*, specifically takes up the SALT II treaty and says that "the arms race was described (by the Vatican) as a danger and injustice which not only threatened the life of the human community, but also constituted an act of aggression against the poor who stand in dire need of the \$300 billion annually expended on arms. Against the background of this teaching, failure to take every reasonable step to bring the current SALT II negotiations to a satisfactory conclusion, as one step we can take toward disarmament, must surely be judged as capricious and irresponsible."

To depict the religious community as unified on this issue would be to create an illusion, however.

Some conservative religious groups have a crusade mentality against communism and see an agreement with the Soviet Union as diabolic appeasement. At the other extreme, some groups, such as Pax Christi, radically committed to the peace movement and disarmament, will not support SALT II because, they argue, it equalizes the arms race rather than lessens it. Auxiliary Bishop Thomas J. Gumbleton of Detroit, says that as a religious leader he could not support "an agreement that would sanction that kind of destructive power in the hands of any government."

Ultimately, however, the moral input of the Churches will not be very productive if SALT II opponents can prove that the pact tips the strategic scales against U.S. national security or that the treaty's conditions cannot be adequately verified. But the active presence of the religious community in favor of ratification does put the opponents of SALT II on the defensive, not an enviable position in any debate.

Muggeridge Talk Slated For Tonight

Malcolm Muggeridge, the internationally acclaimed critic and journalist, will speak on the Vanishing Right to Live at the Otto Shults Community Center, tonight, May 23, at 8 p.m.

Muggeridge's talk will be followed by an informal exchange with the audience. The event is sponsored by Rochester Right to Life.

VFW Poppies Aid Disabled

Beginning tomorrow, May 24, and continuing through Monday's observance of Memorial Day, the area Veterans of Foreign Wars will conduct their annual Buddy Poppy sale, according to Vincent J. Guadagnini, Monroe County Commander of the VFW.

The poppies are assembled by disabled and needy



Wine Tasting

The St. Mary's Women's Auxiliary has scheduled the fourth annual International Wine Tasting Party, to benefit St. Mary's Hospital, for Friday, June 8 at the Otto Shults Community Center at Nazareth College. The event will begin at 7 p.m. and a donation of \$9 is requested. Shown above from left are auxiliary members Barbara Mehnert, Donna Ortelce, Muriel Trunfio, Connie Newton and Marge Lortie. For reservations interested persons may contact Mrs. Ortelce, 348 East St., Pittsford (14534), or Mrs. Bianca M. Infantino, 34 Landsdowne Lane, Rochester (14618).

veterans in hospitals throughout the U.S. Funds raised through their sale are used exclusively for aid to veterans and their dependents.

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All in the Family

By Sarah Child

A Little Of This and Some of That

The school nurse was quite firm. The sixth grader was much too ill to finish the testing that was going on that day at school. Would someone pick him up, please? Someone would. The same someone spent the rest of the day plucking him (none too gently) off his bike, removing the soccer ball from his embrace and pointing out that three soupbowls full of cereal was too much energy for an afternoon snack, even for someone in his weakened condition.

Summer is here. Spilled and dried lemonade has us bonded to the kitchen floor. "Don't bother mopping," instructs one of the culprits cheerfully, lugging the gallon size, spill-proof container halfway to the counter before stopping it down herself. "It's going to be hot again tomorrow."

As much as I protest, age may be creeping up on me. First I noticed that the kids' teachers all appear to still be going through puberty. Next it was the politicians and pediatrician trying to write my laws and examine my children when they should be taking college entrance exams. Now, it appears that my high school yearbook is at least one year older, maybe two than the bishop-elect's.

We can complain all we want to about modern church music being something less than inspired. A friend confides that she has copped her favorite prayer from "Take Out Bread" one that we sing frequently in church. Half dozen times a day she utters "I am Yours, I am Yours," variation of the chorus.

Somedays I get the

terrible feeling I'm living one of those atrociously written TV situation comedies. — Roller skates on the stairs, a third grader who tries to slip out to Mass with mascara on, and a dog which growls ferociously mistaking the head of the house for an intruder.

Very dear neighbors are moving to New Orleans and we are already bereft. I am never sure why a friend is a friend. Is it shared values, same kind of funnybones, loyalty or all of the above?

Alexander Smith Carpet

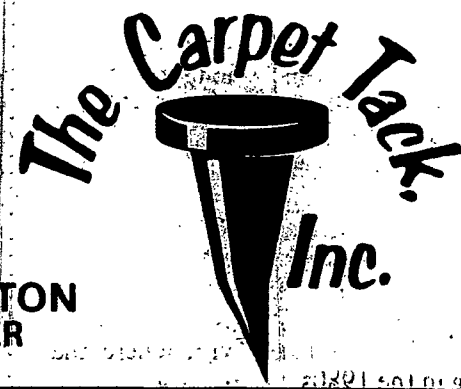
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100% Heat Set Nylon Contemporary Styled Saxony plush with a pulled-down dense construction, yet achieving the velvet finish so much in demand today, all nylon pile insures not only good looks but also long wear, durability & excellent overall performance.

SALE HOURS: Wed.-Fri.: 9-9
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