

All in the Family

By Sarah Child

Definitely, He Is One Of the Family

"Write about the Pope," my son urges, confronted with the familiar sight of his mother stuck in front of a typewriter, paper blank, deadline ominously near.

Coverage for this Papal visit has been heavy. It is on all our minds, children as well as adults. In addition to newspapers, magazines and network TV we have access to New York's Channel 11 which thus far has outdone the networks in both quantity and quality.

On this particular day through the courtesy of WPIX we have followed Pope John Paul II from late afternoon on through the evening as he visits St. Patrick's Cathedral, Harlem, Yankee Stadium.

One of the very best moments of coverage came when reporter Jeff Kamen interviewed a handful of women in Harlem. Intelligent questions evoked beautifully simple and eloquent answers.

We hang on every gesture of this human and humane Pope, thrill for the child whose head he caresses, delight in picking out his voice lifted in song and try to put ourselves in the place of those receiving communion from his hand.

Belatedly I remember notes I took in Rome last May upon the occasion of the ordination of Bishop Clark. I rummage for them and relive the experience these people in Boston, New York, Chicago and Washington are going through now. St. Peter's Basilica or Yankee Stadium — the feeling is the same. I had written:

"The initial procession makes its way down the aisle shortly after the scheduled time of 4 pm. The Pope is last and he is walking. (There were some who thought he might be carried on a chair so that all could see him.) The cheers are ear shattering.

"I catch sight of him between the massed bodies of the 8,000 present. Being a little over five feet, I find only the old, diminutive Italian women are shorter. I am lucky to get a split second glimpse. He is ruddy cheeked and healthy. One of the ancient, gnarled widows, her hair in a tight bun has glimpsed him seconds before. Tears run down her wrinkled face.

"This 'Papa Polacco' inspires quite a different emotion in me. I want to clasp him in a bear hug as one might a favorite uncle."

I focus back on the TV. It is hard to tell precisely what the throngs are feeling despite the cheers, the expressive faces, but somehow I gather they are perceiving him much as I did four months ago. Very definitely he is one of the family. A beloved member here on all too short a visit.



Sarah Child

Everyone's Invited To Enter HOPE Run

The Run for HOPE scheduled for Oct. 20 in Geneseo is open to everyone who would like to run, walk, jog or roll a wheel chair for the benefit of the American Cancer Society. It is "a fun run, not a race," the announcement says, and Bishop Matthew Clark is honorary chairman.

The run begins at 11 a.m. at Kelsey Field, Geneseo, on Route 39. Participants may

register at 10 a.m. During the day, there will be a magic show, a bake sale and refreshments for all, among other things. The festivities were organized by the Livingston County unit of the cancer society, of which Helen Stefano of St. Paul of the Cross parish in Honeoye Falls is executive director. A committee reflecting wide community involvement is headed by Jerry Sullivan and Kara Kassaboon.



Getting Ready

Ladies of St. Rita's are baking pies and rolls for their ham dinner Oct. 13, 4-8 p.m. at 1008 Maple Drive, Webster. Pictured (l-r) are Ann Steinkamp, Gladys Hickey, Gloria Ferrara and Barbara Kleinhammer. Reservations: 671-1065; prices \$3.50 for adults, except Seniors - \$3, and under 12, \$1.50.

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Couples Invited To NFP Instruction

An instruction class in Natural Family Planning has been scheduled for 7:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 19, at Holy Ghost Church on Coldwater Road.

Earl and Judy Knab, certified instructors, will conduct the class. A \$30 fee includes three instruction sessions, books and supplies.

The class will be limited to six engaged or married couples. Registration is required and may be made by calling the NFP office at 464-8705.

NFP Information

Natural Family Planning of Rochester has scheduled an information session for 7:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 19, at St. James Church in Trumansburg.

The meeting is open to the public at no charge.

National Post

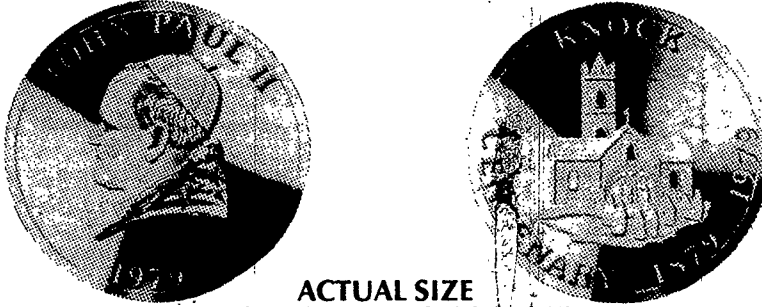
Sister Mary Rene, RSM, administrator of St. James Mercy Hospital in Hornell, has been named to the Bylaws Committee of the Catholic Health Association of the United States.

Correction

In a previous issue of the Courier-Journal, Cardinal Mooney was mentioned as the largest school in Monroe County. However, according to the Diocesan Directory, it is Bishop Kearney with an enrollment of 1825.

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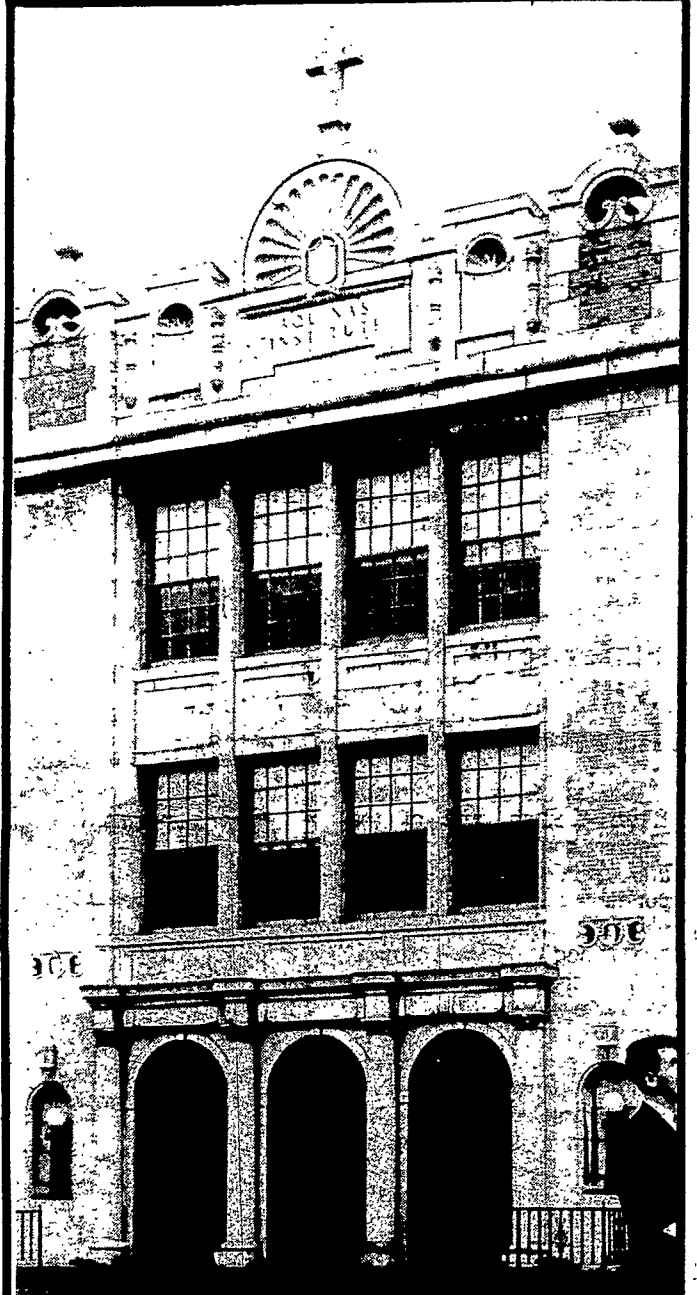
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