



Seven Dwarfs, Dick Hanratty, Ed Allen, Bob Studley, Jerry Brien, Dave DeBellis, Jerry Campo and Andy Weather, along with Dick Hammel, production director, ponder over the fate of Snow White, played by Chris Quenell.

# Mooney Follies, '79

The 1979 Cardinal Mooney Follies will be presented Nov. 15-17, 8:15 p.m. performances with a matinee on Sunday, Nov. 18, 2:15 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17 is the date for the Dinner Theater and Dance beginning with cocktails at 5:30; dinner, 6:30; the Follies,

8:15 p.m. followed by a dance from 11-2 a.m. Music by "The Fathers".

For the evening and matinee performances, tickets are \$3 for adults; \$2.50 for students and senior citizens. These tickets are available

through Virginia and Robert Mueller, 865-1411.

Theater and Dance tickets are \$10 per person; reservations through Dorothy Keenan, 663-4366.

# Prayer Programs Listed

The Prayer Center of the Sisters of St. Joseph has published a calendar of events for the coming season.

According to Sister Judy Reger, one of six sisters who staff the center, "Many of us in our busy world today: committed lay persons, men and women religious, and ordained priests find there often exists a tension between the many activities and demands of our work and service to others, needs of family and other relationships that are integral to our daily lives, and the felt need and desire for time to be a person listening to the Lord, to look at Jesus, indeed, so that our lives and activity may be filled with the same Spirit that was the motivation of His life and actions.

"We hope for growth in wholeness," she said, describing the center as providing places and "some means of assisting all of us in our worn growth to wholeness as the Body of Christ."

center welcomes guests at its celebration of Eucharist, four times a week. Also there is daily Morning, early Evening or Night Prayer.

each month. Sister Kay Ryan offers Dance Prayer, and Sister Joan Sobala, SSJ, will lead a special evening of prayer on Advent.

The calendar of events also lists evening of Theological Reflection, facilitated by Sister Kathleen Kircher, SS J,

Further information on the Prayer Center programs is available by calling (716) 244-2416.

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### The community of the Special Sale

The School of the Holy Craft Bazaar and Bake Sale on Tuesday, Nov. 6, and Wednesday, Nov. 7, at Long Ridge Mall. A large variety of hand made gifts and decorations will be available.

# On the Right Side

By Father Paul J. Cuddy

## Of Knock And a Miracle

A special objective of the October Courier tour of Ireland was the shrine of Knock. Although Lourdes, Fatima and Guadalupe are well known, few people outside Ireland knew of the Marian shrine of Knock until Pope John Paul II visited it on Sept. 29. He celebrated Mass in the rain before a huge, enraptured crowd, just after his phenomenal meeting and Mass with 140,000 of the youth of Ireland at Ballybritt racecourse in Galway, West Ireland.



What is Knock? One hundred years ago last Aug. 21, the rain was pouring on one of the most depressing and poorest villages in County Mayo. It was Knock, a hamlet of no more than eight thatched cottages huddled around a rough church. The poverty was everywhere. The only hope was the emigrant ship to America or Australia. Yet with the dreadful poverty of the area, there was a profound religious faith. On this memorable day, sometime after 7 p.m., a strange apparition appeared on the south gable of the village church, like statues familiar in a church. The apparition included: the Blessed Mother in a posture of prayer, St. Joseph the guardian of Jesus and Mary, St. John the Evangelist with a bishop's mitre in the pose of a teacher earnestly teaching, and an altar on which stood the Lamb of God, symbolic of the

sacrifice of the Mass. The rain poured. The 15 witnesses, whose testimony was preserved in chancery files after severe interrogation by church officials, were soaked through. The vision was suffused with a bright light. Yet the witnesses attested that the ground where the figures stood remained dry. It is believed that the vision was given to a poverty-racked beaten people to give them courage and to manifest God's love for them. Knock, which means hill, thereafter was called Cnoc Mhuire, the Gaelic for Mary's Hill.

It was my privilege to celebrate Mass Oct. 8 in the very church of the apparition, with our 43 tourists transformed into devout pilgrims. The apparition seems something like those witnessed by hundreds at Wyalusing, Pa. While there were and are sincere skeptics, no one doubts the

veracity of the 15 witnesses, whose testimony under tough church scrutiny was consistent and convinced. Many miraculous cures are claimed. In 1976, our tour bus driver was a fine Dublin man, Paddy Somers. He narrated to me a moving story of his own little daughter's cure.

"My daughter was seven years old, a frail little thing in Dublin's Children's Hospital. The team of doctors could not diagnose her sickness and gave her up to death. Our family doctor, a wonderful man, said, 'Paddy, I want you to do two things. Take the child out in the car each evening for changes of air, and make a pilgrimage to Knock.' I took her for the nightly airing, and when I could, my wife and children and I went to Knock. It is at Knock. It is the practice of pilgrims to keep walking around outside the church, reciting Our Blessed Mother's rosary. I said to my wife, 'Let's say the rosary inside the church. It's too wet outside, with all this rain.'

She said, 'No. We'll make our pilgrimage around the church, even if it is raining.'

"So I carried our little daughter, who was wasted away to nothing, in my arms. My wife and children and I kept walking around the church, and we recited the 15 decades of the rosary. Even though we were all wet through and it is a 110-mile drive back to Dublin, no one got even a cold. Our daughter began to improve at once, and in a few weeks we took her to Children's Hospital for the doctors and nurses to see her, so improved was she. They were astonished, and said, 'We thought surely she had died with now,' and were delighted with her health."

Paddy Somers has a son in the seminary now, and if the son has the faith and charity and unction of his father, Our Lord and His Mother and the Church will be greatly served.

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