



Holy, Family!

This is the Perrotta family, rounded up for a photo during its annual celebration of the traditional Feast of the Holy Family, on the third Sunday of January. The Perrottas have gathered every year for more than 40 years on this date to celebrate Mass and eat a traditional breakfast first prepared by Marietta and Alfredo Perrotta, and now prepared by their children. The progeny of this couple are active in Church life, serving in such roles as parish council members,

Eucharistic ministers, religious education teachers, lectors, choir members, church secretaries — and even a finance chairman and a cook. Three dioceses and 15 parishes are represented by the 86-member family here gathered in Webster. The Perrotta's only son, Al, commented on the occasion: "Ma worried about what would happen to the family after she was gone." It certainly stayed together.

Suicide of Peace Figure Is Mourned in N. Ireland

Belfast, Northern Ireland (RNS) — Hundreds of mourners from Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic packed a church here Jan. 24 for a funeral Mass for Ann Maguire, mother of three children whose violent deaths led to the founding of Northern Ireland's Nobel Peace Prize-winning Peace Movement.

Mrs. Maguire, 34, described here as "the most tragic mother of the decade," was found dead with her throat cut in an armchair in her Belfast home, an apparent suicide.

Friends said she suffered severe bouts of depression

ever since the deaths of her children.

In 1975, she saw a speeding car, its Irish Republican Army driver shot dead by British soldiers, run down and kill three of her four children — Joanne, 8, John, 2, and Andrew, 11 months.

The car smashed into the children near the railings of the Catholic Church of St. Michael the Archangel in the Andersonstown district of Belfast.

It was in that church that mourners gathered for the requiem Mass. The celebrant, Father James Killey, called Mrs. Maguire "the most tragic

mother of the decade of violence in Northern Ireland.

Among the mourners were members of the Peace Movement, including hundreds of Protestants. Also present was the movement's co-founder, Mairead Corrigan, who is Mrs. Maguire's cousin.

The Peace Movement, born of the tragic incident, linked Roman Catholics and Protestants in a widespread demand for an end to violence in British-ruled Northern Ireland.

Mrs. Corrigan and the movement's other co-founder, Betty Williams, shared the 1976 Nobel Peace Prize.

Mrs. Maguire, her husband Jackie and their surviving son Mark emigrated to New Zealand in 1977, but returned seven months later because they were homesick. Subsequently, Mrs. Maguire had two more children, Joanne, 2, and Louisa, 10 months.



Oldtimers' Reunion Scheduled

An Oldtimers Sports Reunion featuring great local athletes of the 20s, '30s and '40s, is scheduled for Sept. 13 at the Mapledale Party House.

Reunion co-chairmen John (Doc) Herring and John W. Molinari, are currently making arrangements for the dinner and are looking around for some of the oldtimers. Athletic events are also being planned prior to the Reunion that include the oldies foul shooting contest and an oldtimers baseball game.

Senior Fun

Mary Massa slices the birthday cake at the Senior Citizens Club monthly birthday party. The club, organized by Lee Williams, each Sunday gathers seniors for an afternoon of refreshments, dancing and fun. The club has grown so extensively in recent months that it soon will move into the Church of the Annunciation hall.

Proceeds from the dinner will go the National Baseball and Basketball Halls of Fame. For information or tickets those interested in attending may contact John Herring, 2273969 or John Molinari, 467-2017.

NFP Class Scheduled In Penfield

A Natural Family Planning Class is scheduled at St. Joseph's in Penfield Friday, Feb. 15.

Classes are limited to six engaged or married couples wishing NFP instruction. A \$30 fee includes the cost of three sessions and books.

Registration is required and may be made by calling 464-8705.

NFP Information Sessions

Natural Family Planning Information Sessions take place the first Monday of each month in the Bishop Kearney Education Building at St. Mary's Hospital from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

The sessions are open to the public at no charge; registration is not required. Anyone interested is invited to the sessions on education of fertility awareness.

Study Guides For 'Families'

The Religious Education office has study guides for the Father John Powell television series, "Families." The Office of Family Life made these suggestions for using the guides — within the family, among a few families gathered for Sunday supper, or in the parish hall, with a pot-luck dinner sponsored by a parish organization.

"We're excited about having WXXI air the Powell "Families" series in prime time because its greatest impact comes not simply in viewing it, but in the family discussion about the concepts after the program," said Sue Staropoli, co-director of Family Life.

Channel 21 will show the series at 7 p.m. Feb. 3, 10 and 17. The price of the study guide is \$2 per copy, including postage; \$1.50 per copy in orders of five or more. The Office of Religious Education is at 1150 Buffalo Road, 328-3210.

Dutch Bishops Discuss Celibacy

By Pamela Mendels
Religious News Service

'optional celibacy' proposed by some.

Vatican City — The special synod of Dutch bishops ended its first week with a discussion of priestly celibacy, a thorny issue in a country where some 20 married ex-priests have been allowed to teach in Catholic theological faculties.

The talks were held "in a spirit of great frankness," a communique said. One synod father suggested that the Dutch hierarchy's attitude toward the celibacy problem was not clear, according to the communique, which as usual did not identify the speaker.

Pope John Paul II convened the assembly of Holland's seven bishops at the Vatican in the hope of reconciling divisive issues in the 5.6-million-member Dutch Church. Six high curial officials are taking part.

The celibacy issue is an old cause of friction between the Dutch Church and Rome. In 1970, Holland's National Pastoral Council — priests, laity and bishops, voted in favor of a resolution asking for "optional celibacy" for priests. The Vatican was disturbed by the decision of the bishops to present the resolution to Rome despite their personal opposition to it. (Four of the seven bishops of that time are attending the synod.)

The Vatican communique of Jan. 19 said: "Different participants recalled that the bishops have always defended celibacy in a wise manner, clearly and unequivocally excluding the notion of

The bishops also brought up the matter of unordained pastoral assistants, who increasingly share the work of priests. "The approval of statutes which clarify their ecclesial situation would be especially helpful," one participant said.

The synod considered another issue that has been under discussion in Holland for some time — the creation of more dioceses, which of course would require the appointment of more bishops. Some progressives fear this step as an effort, justified by pastoral need, to "pack" the Dutch hierarchy and create a new conservative majority. Currently, two of the seven bishops are considered "conservative; four "liberal," and one, Cardinal Johannes Willebrands, "moderate."

The communique noted that all in the synod felt "the study of the configuration and sub-division of the diocese must be undertaken by the Dutch episcopal conference," not by Rome.

Vigil

Fr. Frederick Eisemann will celebrate Mass at 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 1, at Holy Rosary Church, opening the monthly devotions sponsored by the Blue Army of Our Lady of Fatima. Father William Endres will lead the prayers and meditations from 10 until 11, and Father Michael Cerretto, CSB, from 11 until midnight.

LAY CARMELITES OF ROCHESTER
(Third Order of Mt. Carmel)
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FOR INFORMATION: 244-5329

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