

Refugees Give 'Year of Family' Meaning

"1980: The Year of the Family" is being celebrated by parishioners at St. Joseph's Church, Penfield, on a grand scale. The parish community has arranged for a Laotian family to come to the United States and live in the Penfield area. Parishioners are also providing help for the family so that they may adjust to their new lives.

The cooperative effort involves the St. Joseph parish council, eight project committees and some 400 parish volunteers.

The family project began last fall when Father James Moynihan, pastor of St. Joseph's, suggested to the parish council that they might consider sponsoring a family, according to Nancy Gullen, a committee co-chairperson.

After discussion the council agreed to begin the project with a target arrival date of February, 1980 to coincide with the Year of the Family. In November eight committees were formed and geared to supply the refugees with food, clothes, housing,

education and job training for their new life in America.

On Nov. 15-16 a general membership drive took place to provide volunteers that would carry out the many tasks involved. A brochure was passed out which explained the program and asked parishioners to volunteer their services.

Some 400 replies were received, forming a large nucleus of people for the program. The committees were divided into eight

categories: housing, food, clothing, education, employment, recreation, finance, medical and social services and a general category for miscellaneous problems.

The six-member Rajaphoumy family arrived last month and have set up residence in the Pines of Perinton in Fairport. Family member Boun Lovanh (father) Sang Vane (mother), Vasana, Boun Nharith (sons), Vilavanh and Vieng Krek (daughters), are now attending school with particular emphasis on English. The parents are also taking job skill training at the Oakmont School in Rochester.

Each volunteer is asked to spend 3-4 hours a day for a few days working in their particular area. The number of the volunteers is seen as the key to the program's success by committee members Gullen, Barbara Pulsifer, Margaret Quinn and Dianne Anderson.

With so many people

Puzzle on Page 19.

PUZZLE ANSWERS FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 1980

I: 1. Siloam 2. reform 3. sin 4. money 5. cute 6. well 7. you 8. duel 9. bottle 10. thus 11. Lou 12. Yale

Key Passages I: But I tell you, you will all come to the same end unless you reform.

II: When the Lord saw him coming over to look at it more closely, God called out to him from the bush. "Moses, Moses!" He answered, "Here I am." God said, "Come no nearer!"

III: I want you to remember this: our fathers were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea; by the cloud and the sea all of them were baptized into Moses. All ate the same spiritual food.

available no one person is expected to provide all the work necessary.

According to Margaret Quinn, education committee co-chairperson, the "perseverance, humility and courage of the Rajaphoumys is inspiring." Mr. Rajaphoumy has already asked if he could get work now, even though his studies are far from completed. He worked in Laos for 25 years as a policeman and also fought with a guerilla

force against Communist troops.

In May, 1977 he took his family out of the country to Thailand, where they spent nearly two years in a refugee camp.

The ultimate goal of the family project is for the Rajaphoumy family to become self-sufficient and with the help of St. Joseph's parishioners it appears they will achieve that goal.



Photos by Terrance J. Brennan

Three Deacons Ordained

Three seminarians from the Syracuse Diocese were ordained to the diaconate last Saturday at St. Bernard's Seminary. Presiding over the ordination ceremonies was Bishop Frank J. Harrison the Syracuse. The three are: Richard B. Dunn of Rome, N.Y.; Michael P. Minehan of Binghamton; and Steven P. Wirkes of Mattydale, N.Y. The three will complete their theological studies at the seminary in May and will then serve as Deacons in their own diocese in preparation for ordination to the priesthood. Above, the three men lie prostrate during the ceremony. Right, Bishop Harrison takes Michael Minehan's hands in his as Rev. Mr. George Heyman, left, assists.



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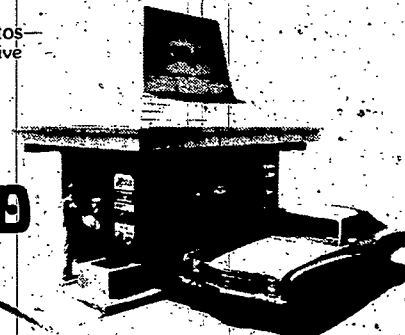


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