



Eagle Scout

Scouting's highest award, the Eagle Progress Award, is presented to Mark G. Jaeger of Troop 38 in Dansville by John Rauber, Scoutmaster. Jaeger is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Emery Jaeger of Dansville and is a student at Dansville High School. He has earned the Ad Altare Dei and the Pope Pius X Award for older Scouts.

Hunger Series Begins Tonight

A Lenten Hunger series, sponsored by the human development committee at Blessed Sacrament parish, will begin tonight at 7:30 in the school. The three part series will continue for the next two Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m.

Tonight's lecture features Jean Cardinali, a professor of sociology at Monroe Community College. The topic will be "Multinational Corporations and Food

Distribution." On Wednesday, March 19, Father John Mulligan, co-pastor at St. John's Church on Humboldt Street, will speak on "The Social Gospel and the Church." The series will end with Dr. William Sullivan, professor of Religious Studies at St. John Fisher College, speaking on "Christian Responsibility and the Poor."

All those interested are invited.

Arbitration Board Named

The Pastoral Office announced last week the names of 12 persons who will constitute a new diocesan Board of Arbitration, to function, should the necessity arise, in the settlement of disputes within the administrative network. Three will serve by bishop's appointment; the others, by election within the ordinary's consultative bodies.

Bishop Dennis W. Hickey, releasing the list, commented that there never had been "a formal case in arbitration" since due process was established in the Rochester diocese in September, 1973. Conflicts either have been resolved at the level of the Council of Conciliation, or complaints have been dropped by persons who preferred to avoid arbitration, he explained.

Bishop Matthew H. Clark appointed James Dombach, a lawyer, and Fathers William

Seminar On Prayer

The Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Rochester are sponsoring a Seminar on Prayer on Saturday, March 15 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Rochester.

The Rt. Rev. Alexander D. Stewart, bishop of Western Massachusetts, will be the speaker. The seminar will deal

Building Fund To Honor Fr. Collins

The church of St. John of Rochester in Fairport has begun a Building Fund in memory of its late pastor, Father Vincent P. Collins. Father Collins died on Feb. 3, 1980 after an illness of several months. He had been pastor of St. John's since 1968. For the five

years preceding his appointment to St. John's he was pastor of St. Joachim's, Canisteo, and St. Mary's, Rexville.

Contributions may be made in his name to St. John of Rochester Building Fund, 18 Wickford Way, Fairport, NY 14450.

The Conclerges Are Religious

I'm not a travel agent. But if you plan a trip to Rome, you should know about "Brigits."

Compared with hotels which charge \$50 to \$75 and more per room per person, Casa di Santa Brigida offers the finest of accommodations for less than \$25 per person for room and meals, an especially welcome savings when the dollar is currently worth approximately 80 cents in Italy.

Though more than 400 years old, this immaculate, modernized guest house provides private rooms, showers and baths, central heating, elevator, room telephones, a TV/library/recreation room, roof terrace and other conveniences required by modern travelers.

The food — prepared and served by the Brigittine nuns — is excellent. And whatever the plain but spacious dining room lacks in "romantic" decor is more than offset by the atmosphere of meeting and dining with persons from all over the world.

Brigits, facing the famed Piazza Farnese, is ideally situated: within 15' minutes walking distance from St. Peter's Basilica, 8 minutes of the Pantheon, 3 minutes of convenient bus facilities.

Operating under the special protection of the popes, the Casa has an intriguing history all its own.

Because of the help offered in World War II to refugees in Rome by these Daughters of St. Birgitta (Sweden's Joan of Arc), King Gustav awarded the Service Cross of the Order of Malta to Mother Elisabeth, the founder of the third branch of the Order. Under her leadership, the sisters distributed food supplies and thousands of bundles of clothing.

It was in 1955 that this same Mother Elisabeth was also honored with the highest award of Sweden, the Order of the North Star.

Ingrid Bergman and Director Roberto Rossellini were at Brigits to film "Save the Children," a movie recognizing Sweden's and the Brigittines' efforts to help Italy's war ravaged children.

It was here at Brigits that Unitas (the internationally known ecumenical movement to reunite Christian Churches) was given early quarters to foster its goals until it outgrew its office at the house.

But the Order's interest in the ecumenical movement predates Vatican II by about 600 years. For the unity of Christians was an apostolate of St. Brigit (Brigida in Italian, Birgitta in Swedish).

Her era saw the rise of the great commercial cities of the Hanseatic League, the dynamism of great Dominican, Franciscan and Cistercian preaching, the growth of theological training in the Universities of Paris, Oxford, Bologna and Padua, and the building of the great cathedrals.

Nevertheless, it also was the period of the Avignon Papacy.

According to Cardinal John Willebrands, President of the Secretariat for the Union of Christians, "It is only since her death that history shows how fruitful the apostolate of Birgitta has been for the Church as a whole. Who could have imagined that a woman from the extreme North would have weight in one of the most critical

F. Peter Wigginton

Around Rome

periods of the Church to influence the pope and to make him free of what has been called the exile of Avignon, and to bring him back to his Apostolic See in Rome?"

In predominately Lutheran Sweden, St. Birgitta is represented in the official book of prayer, with prayers drawn from her writings. One of her petitions is included in the instructions for First Communicants and Confirmees of Lutheranism.

Mother Elisabeth, herself an ecumenical pioneer, conformed her sisters' contemplative life of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with the needs of contemporary times. Thus, in the Chapel of St. Catherine — converted from a former crypt discovered under the Church of St. Brigida in Rome — Protestant services are frequently conducted.

The apostolate of the nuns has been extended to include caring for the aged, providing day-care services for working mothers, conducting kindergartens and operating orphanages in India.

To support their Mary/Martha roles, the sisters operate other equally beautiful guest houses in Italy (Assisi), England, Switzerland, Sweden, India, Mexico and elsewhere. Their guest house in Darien, Conn., is known as Vikingsborg.

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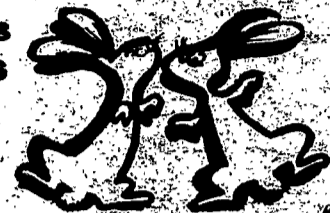
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