

Marriage Tribunals Seldom Say 'No'

Toledo, Ohio (RNS) — According to the compiler of church statistics on canon law procedures in the United States, it is a rare Catholic marriage tribunal that today does not grant requests for annulments.

27,670 annulment cases were settled in 1978, the last year for which statistics are available. That was over 40 percent more than the previous year's figure of 17,190.

Father Donald Heintschel says the Canon Law Society of America does not compile separate statistics for cases heard and annulments granted because the number of requests turned down is now "minimal."

Most tribunals have a screening procedure, explains Father Heintschel, the society's executive coordinator and a judge of the Toledo Diocesan Tribunal. If the evidence submitted at a preliminary hearing shows "a prudent doubt" that an annulment is warranted, the case will not be accepted for trial.

Father Heintschel says

The diocese of Brooklyn, N.Y., has gotten something of a reputation as the "Reno" of the Catholic Church in recent years. In 1978, 802 decisions

Rector

Continued from Page 1 University. Father Kanka was ordained in 1956 at the Cathedral. He has served on the diocesan Commission for Ecumenical and Inter-religious Affairs, on the Priests Council and as associate coordinator of the Livingston-Stauben Region.

Father Leone, six years a priest, is associate pastor of St. Jerome's in East Rochester, where he has been since 1977.

were handed down there. However, the national statistics show that other dioceses are proportionately higher than Brooklyn.

Cleveland with 300,000 fewer Catholics than the Brooklyn population of 1.4 million settled 887 cases in the same year, while Dallas with a Catholic population of only 132,858 had 456.

Fr. Shamon

Continued from Page 1 A Rochesterian, he went to school at St. Lucy's, St. Helen's and Aquinas Institute; He was a Becket Hall student at St. John Fisher College and was ordained from St. Bernard's Seminary on April 5, 1974, at St. Charles Borromeo, Greece, where he had served a diaconate year. He was at St. Francis de Sales, from 1974 until 1977.

Costello

Continued from Page 1 fluted canopy over the altar, the mosaic panel in the altar and the statue of St. Lawrence.

He came to Auburn as pastor of St. Aloysius and St. Joseph parishes in 1962. He was widely sought as a speaker and delivered the

Father Oscar Dies at 79

Mass of the Resurrection was celebrated Monday for Father Albert J. Oscar, OFM, who died Friday, May 16, 1980, at the age of 79.

Bishop Matthew H. Clark was principal concelebrant at the Mass at Holy Apostles where Father Oscar served from 1969 until two weeks ago when he moved to St. Ann's Home where he died.

Father J. Emmett Murphy, pastor at Holy Apostles, said that Father Oscar "was deeply involved with people, assisted at Mass and heard confession."

Father Murphy said that Father Oscar was crippled by arthritis and didn't get around much but still used to accompany funerals to the cemetery. "He was loved by the people," the pastor said.

sermon at the first ecumenical service of worship in Auburn at St. Mary's Church in May of 1966.

At Auburn East he was president of the Class of 1934. In high school, he was a member of the wrestling and tennis teams. He played semi-professional football with the Nemolites of Auburn.

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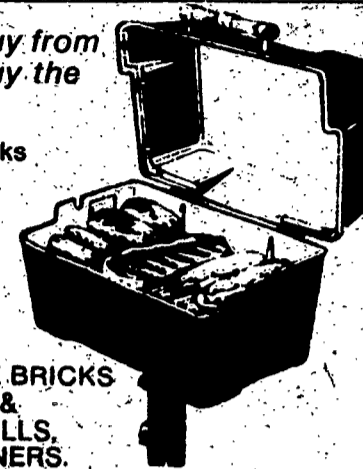
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Today's Courier May 21, 1980

Exams Questioned. . . . 13

College board exams, especially the SATs, are being questioned as to their fairness in judging individual student ability, and the powerful control they have over a student's future educational opportunities. This week's RapAround gives an insight into what the testing controversy is all about, and in Equal Time, Mercians discuss their own views about the subject.

Enriching Experience. . . . 8

A 1930 graduate of St. Joseph's School of Nursing returned for the school's alumni banquet May 17, and brought with her experience she has gained working in a hospice program in San Diego the last three years. Sister Mary Hock, a Maryknoll sister, spent 43 years working in Asia before her latest involvement, which she calls an "enriching experience."

Guarding the City. . . . 19

In one of the "Your Turn" essays, Joan Hensler, a member of the Rochester City Council, expresses her view that all groups that participate in the city planning process are doing their part in "guarding the city." She notes that many groups — unions, church, neighborhood and others — can be valuable participants in the process.

Prayer Offered. 4

Dolores Curran offers a prayer for those persons who have immersed themselves in work to avoid dealing with their spouse, or who find themselves waiting for the death of their spouse, in her column this week. Mrs. Curran's thoughts on the subject were occasioned by a priest's experience of having married persons, who were not contemplating divorce, telling him that they would be uncomfortable if asked to renew their marriage vows.

Busy Parishes. 9

Information on activities in several parishes is included in the "At Your Parish" section of this week's paper. Readers will be able to find out about the crowning of the Blessed Mother and the meeting following sponsored by the Women's Club at St. Philip Neri; about Teacher Appreciation Day activities today at Good Shepherd School, Henrietta; about the Religion Fair coming up at Annunciation parish, and the St. Thomas More Fun Nite, scheduled for June 3.

Calendar

Gintoft, of Milwaukee, Wis., president of the CPA.

Costello has been with the Courier-Journal since 1965. He formerly was associated with the Gannett Newspapers. The award goes annually to the person who has done the most to further the progress of the Catholic press.

The Courier-Journal's RapAround section won the youth award for the third time in the last four years, missing only in 1978 when it took second place.

The judges said, "The fine RapAround section, edited by Joan M. Smith, . . . combines pictures and content in an exciting format. Stories and features are clearly written and the section gives a detailed account of local sports and youth activities. The Equal Time and Speaking Out sections are excellent; they let the kids be heard. All in all, RapAround genuinely touches the felt needs of today's youth."

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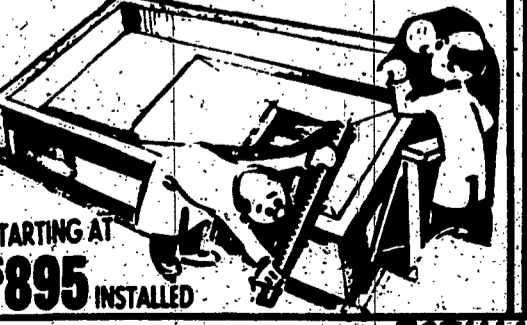


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