

## Family Conference: Hopeful

Baltimore (RNS) — Drug and alcohol abuse, care of the elderly and flexible work-place policies drew the most votes from 670 delegates gathered here for the first of three regional sessions of the White House Conference on Families.

The voting results substantiated what conference chairman Jim Guy Tucker and his staff have been saying over the past year — that delegates could get beyond their disagreements on abortion and homosexuality and agree on a wide range of other less emotional issues.

And the friendly atmosphere at the conference's closing session substantiated another of Tucker's beliefs: that most of the delegates had come to find issues they could agree on, not issues that divided them.

At the closing sessions, delegates who had never met before were applauding each other and kissing goodbye.

The Rev. John R. Bryant of the Bethel AME Church asked everyone to hold hands as he gave the benediction.

When the disco song "We Are Family" came over the loud speakers, the delegates cheered and gave themselves a standing ovation. Some wiped away tears.

The warm mood contrasted sharply with a walkout on the conference's second day by 30 to 50 members of pro-family groups, who said the conference had been "stacked" against them and their views.

"We knew we didn't have the numbers, so we might as well go home," Jean Bingham,

a member of United Families of America, said as she left. But many other delegates including other pro-lifers disagreed with the tactic.

"I'm not happy with a lot of the things coming out of this conference," declared Maryland Sen. Francis X. Kelly, who said he was "absolutely against abortion." But I'm going to stay here and fight for what I believe in. You don't leave just because you're outnumbered."

The delegates who called themselves pro-family were generally against such things as abortion, the Equal Rights Amendment, homosexuality and sex education in the schools.

The 57 recommendations approved here will be combined with the votes of the other two cities.

Among the recommendations receiving the most votes were:

— Americans should develop more preventive programs and promote more education on drug and alcohol abuse. Doctors should have more training on drug and alcohol problems.

— The elderly should be cared for at home, when possible, instead of in institutions; families who do care for their aged relatives should be given tax credits.

— Business, labor, and government should encourage flexible work hours and flexible leave policies, which would make it easier for working people to care for their families.

— The "marriage tax"

should be eliminated by changes in the law to tax two-worker married couples more fairly.

— Tax laws should also be revised to encourage homemakers caring for pre-school, handicapped or elderly relatives.

— The value of homemakers should be recognized and programs to help homemakers who are newly widowed, abandoned or divorced should be encouraged.

The delegates rejected only three issues that the government provide a minimum living standard for all citizens; that tax incentives be available for marriage counseling in the first 18 months of marriage, and that the media avoid "entertainment fare" that "ridicules strong family relations."

Delegates approved a recommendation that abortion be available "to all who freely make this choice." The vote was 383-202. A recommendation urging an end to discrimination, including prejudice because of sexual preference, passed by one vote.

If the pro-family delegates who walked out of the conference had stayed, that recommendation probably would not have passed, Tucker said.

The Catholic Committee for the White House Conference filed two minority reports, one against abortion and one urging tax credits or tuition vouchers for parents of children in nonpublic schools.

The next WHCF meetings are scheduled in Minneapolis later this month and in Los Angeles in July.

the human family." "Father of the family of nations," "Father of Jesus, the Savior of all."

In a sense, the Independence Day liturgy, while celebrating the goodness of our nation and national experience, also takes a prophetic stance so that we do not identify the Gospel with American ideals or our Christian mission with national progress: "Ward off the pride that comes with worldly wealth and power" (Opening Prayer B), "Give us the courage to build a land that serves you in justice and truth" (Opening Prayer C), "Help us to share what we have for the welfare of all men and women" (Prayer after Communion C), "We thank you, Father, for your blessings in the past and for all that, with your help, we must yet achieve" (Preface I for Independence Day). Just the strong theme of universal justice and peace, running throughout the liturgy, is enough to keep us from glorifying American ideals or from using the liturgy for flag-waving.

Third, music in the liturgy is part of the single act of prayer and praise of God. Therefore, patriotic songs should not be used at the liturgy. They do not praise God or reflect a prayerful relationship with him appropriate to the liturgy, and they negate the very essence of the liturgy, which again transcends all national boundaries and concerns. Hymns praising God for his goodness would be a worthy expression of worship on this day.



## Scouting Awards

Thirteen diocesan, including three area priests, were honored May 11 at the annual Bishop's Report Dinner sponsored by the Catholic Committee on Scouting. Bishop Matthew H. Clark was among the more than 200 who attended the affair at the Airport Sheraton Inn and lauded the 10 recipients of the St. George Emblem and Fathers Gerald Dunn, Robert Hammond and Robert Billotte who received the Bronze Pelican Awards. Recipients of the awards, from left, back row, George Herbert, Lawrence Wolfe, Frank "Red" Smith, Robert Bittner, Robert Flynn, Richard Lawrence, Jr., and Andrew Mehalick. Front row, Francis Piccazzi, Michael Miller, Bishop Clark, Diane Nary, Father Dunn and Father Hammond. Father Billotte was not able to attend the affair.

## Sloan Named Chairman Of Diocesan Committee

Father Robert Winterkorn, diocesan chaplain of the Catholic Committee on Scouting, has announced the appointment of Edward J. Sloan as lay chairman of the diocesan committee. Sloan has been chairman of the Otetiana Council Catholic Committee.

At the same time, Father Winterkorn announced the appointment of Thomas Scahill as chairman of the Otetiana Council Catholic Committee replacing Sloan.

Sloan, a 33-year veteran in scouting, has been chairman of the South Side Youth Association for the past 20 years, and in his parish, St. Boniface, has been a leader in scholarship, junior bowling and other youth projects. Sloan is treasurer and controller of Langie Fuel Service, Inc.

During his years as chairman of the Otetiana Council committee, much emphasis and progress has been made in the promotion of the religious awards — Pius XII, Ad Altare Dei, and Parvuli Dei — for scouts and cubs.

Scahill also has long been involved in scouting. He has developed a leader compendium used in training scouts for the Ad Altare Dei and Pius XII awards. The

### Blood Drive

The Church of the Annunciation, 1756 Norton St., will be the site for the Red Cross Bloodmobile on Friday, June 20, from 2-8 p.m. Blood will be taken in the church hall.

### Puzzle on Page 19

#### PUZZLE ANSWERS FOR SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 1980

I. 1. death 2. suffer 3. erase 4. dinner 5. sin 6. stand out 7. money 8. firm 9. dig 10. fish 11. sue 12. man.  
Key Passage I. "The son of man," he said, "must first endure many sufferings, die and rise."  
II. I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and petition; and they shall look on him whom they have thrust through.  
III. Each one of you is a son of God because of your faith in Christ Jesus. All of you who have been baptized into Christ, have clothed yourselves with him.

## Insights in Liturgy

### A July 4th Liturgy?

By Father Robert J. Kennedy

When the new Order of the Mass was promulgated in 1970, it was permitted that national conferences of bishops develop celebrations that were appropriate to the culture of the people. So the U.S. Catholic Conference of bishops provided a Votive Mass for Thanksgiving Day and obligatory memorials of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Saints Francis Xavier Cabrini, Elizabeth Anne Seton and John Neumann. Also included in the Sacramentary was a Mass for Independence Day (and for "Other Civic Observances").

One can easily understand the celebration of the saints associated with the Catholic faith in the Americas and the commemoration of a "holy day" like Thanksgiving. But July 4th!

If one is brought up short by the idea of a Mass which "celebrates American independence," one should be! Now I am not unpatriotic, but if a parish chooses to celebrate this Mass on July 4, the planners should proceed carefully.

First, it is the nature of the liturgy, and the Eucharist in particular, to be truly catholic — that is, universal. It is not confined by any political or social philosophy; still less is it

identified with any such philosophy. Each and every liturgical celebration transcends all human systems of thought, government, policy or behavior, and proclaims the Lordship of Jesus Christ over all and the living of the Gospel as the supreme law.

Second, liturgical planners for July 4 need to pay careful attention to what the texts of this special Mass really say. It is perhaps best summed up in the invitation to prayer: "Let us pray for peace and justice and truth here and in every land."

If special readings are selected for this observance, they are to be chosen from the Lectionary readings under the heading "For Justice and Peace." The prayer texts also reflect this concern that Christ's own peace and justice and the truth of the Gospel will fill the whole earth: "Open our hearts to the truth of his gospel, that your peace may rule in our hearts, and your justice guide our lives" (Opening Prayer A), "Teach us the wisdom of the gospel which leads to true justice and lasting peace" (Prayer Over the Gifts B). And it is not just for the United States alone: "Let national boundaries not set limits on our concern" (Opening Prayer B); "Grant that the boundaries of nations will not set limits on our love" (Opening Prayer C).

The universalism is also reflected in the ways God is addressed in these prayers: "Father of us all," "Father of

manual is currently being used by local units as well as many units throughout the diocese and beyond.

Scahill is Active at the St.

Joseph House of Hospitality, where he is a charter member on the Board of Directors. He is employed at the Board of Education where he is personnel director.

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Decorator cakes, whipped cream & strawberry, lemon, pineapple, custard filling, 1/4 sheet, \$6.00; 1/2 sheet, \$9.00; full sheet, \$16.00.  
Decorator cakes, butter cream frostings, half sheet \$8.00, full sheet \$14.

**THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER**

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Grief, experienced alone, can be one of life's most painful emotions. The nearly overwhelming sadness, loneliness, disbelief and feelings of desertion are natural emotions at the time of death — but they can be lessened by the presence of friends and loved ones. This is the reason your attendance at the funeral is so important. To the family, your presence shows that the life of their loved one was important to others — and will be missed by many people. The love and support you offer them at this time will be appreciated and remembered more than you realize — even though they may be unable to tell you at the time.

The funeral is, and always has been, for the living. It exists to help the survivors face the fact of death — and allows them, with friends and loved ones, to pay a final tribute to the deceased.

There is much information available on dealing with death. Please call or stop by at your convenience.

Use our lending library of books concerning death, dying, bereavement, and related subjects.

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