



Above, Mrs. Stolp, Mrs. Ciolli, and Father Quinn at the moment the crowd breaks into applause over the teachers' awards. Below, Father Kinsky converses with Sister Pullman; Kristin McGrath displays her button.

Photos by John Dash



St. Stephen's School Lauds Its Teachers

By John Dash

Geneva — Two teachers at St. Stephen's School here had a bit more than they expected as the parish celebrated Catholic School's Week with an open house.

The two, Mrs. Madlyn Ciolli, a fourth grade teacher, and Mrs. Ellen Stolp, a fifth grade teacher, were singled out among the members of the faculty for recognition of their 25 years of service to the school.

The event, which included the presentation of corsages and plaques to the two women, caught them both off-guard and surprised, they both later admitted.

The presentation was engineered by Sister Patricia Pullman, principal of the school, and was performed by Father John Quinn, pastor, before a crowd of more than 200.

Also on hand for the

festivities were Catholic Schools Superintendent, Father Richard Kinsky, and Assistant Superintendent for Personnel, Grace Conway.

Just prior to the presentation ceremony, toddler Kristin McGrath wordlessly introduced herself to Father Kinsky by tugging a button from his rabat. The priest, delighted with the youngster's spontaneity, pinned the article on the child.

Fr. Joseph M. Champlin



Our Church Family

Daily Food, Even on Vacation

During World War II soldiers in tall, circular concrete towers constructed along the beaches of the Delaware coast kept watch by peering out into the Atlantic ocean for any signs of enemy landing craft.

The towers still stand on those sandy shores, silent and curious reminders of an ever dimming past. But today instead of a few lonely sentinels guarding the nation, the coastline is jammed during the summer months with thousands of vacationers basking in the sun and splashing in the same Atlantic's surf.

St. Anne's Church, in Bethany Beach near Ocean City, Del., serves many of those people who travel from the Eastern seaboard to this lovely spot for a holiday. The simple, functional, but attractive structure probably seats 1,000 persons and capacity congregations on weekends seem to be the pattern.

That is an encouraging expression of faith, but more remarkable are the substantial numbers who begin each day of their vacation with the 8:30 a.m. Mass. The more than 200 individuals who participate daily in those Eucharists indicate by their presence how they regard this liturgical celebration as the "center of the whole Christian life" and the "sacrament of sacraments."

No doubt for many of them Mass every day on vacation merely continues their custom at home.

In some ways, the spiritual vitality of a parish can be measured by the number of persons at weekday Masses, the care put into these liturgies by the priests and the way the Masses are celebrated.

A weekday Eucharist should neither be as long nor as solemn nor as heavy as the Sunday liturgy. We need to eat daily, but we really can't handle or appreciate a Sunday dinner or Thanksgiving feast served day after day.

Nevertheless, there are several measures which easily may be included, and still

have the celebration finish within 30 minutes.

A brief homily. Two or three minutes explaining the scriptures, describing the saint, or applying God's word to current events is all that the celebrant needs to offer.

Spontaneous general intercessions. In such a small group setting, the celebrant would do well to invite

participation in the prayer of the faithful.

Communion under both kinds. Our American bishops approved this practice for weekday Masses some years ago. I can testify both about the relative ease with which this can be done and the spiritual benefit for the participants.

Music. Even without organ or other instrumental accompaniment, it is surprising how well congregational singing can develop at these daily Masses. Less inhibited, the worshipers generally respond to an encouraging invitation from the leader with some gusto.

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Special Education Program Planned by North Region

The diocesan North Region is sponsoring the formation of a special program for religious education.

The program will take place from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Saturday mornings at St. Thomas the Apostle School in West Irondequoit, beginning Nov. 22.

It will include preparation for the reception of sacraments and is designed for

children from 6 to 18 who experience emotional, mental or learning disabilities. Interested parents are invited to contact Charles Prindle, 342-7114 (days) or Rose Marie Tischer, 467-5377 (evenings) for further information.



The Gathering

The ox-carts of Cambodian refugees assemble at Nong Chan, Thailand, on a recent morning, as families await the distribution of rice by international relief agencies. The families, twice a month, are given about 220 pounds of rice and simple gardening tools. Persons wishing to contribute to the relief work have been asked to send contributions to Cambodian Relief, 123 East Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14604. All monies collected will be forwarded to Catholic Relief Services.

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