

Sr. Remigia McHenry, SSJ



Viewpoint: Sisters Reflect

**Sister's Role In Health Field**

The role of the Sister in the health field can be closely associated with the basic teaching of our Lord when He said, "Whatever you do to the least of My people, you do unto Me." The goal of the Sister is to protect, develop and intensify the life of the mystical body of the church in the patient she serves. Human life is sacred because we believe that God created people to His own likeness. We care for the whole person — body, mind and soul. Thus, ministering to the sick should be life-centered wherein the Sisters must be attuned to holistic health care which includes the right to life from conception until death. Ministry in the health field is an ever expanding dedication to this concept.

Sisters are engaged in many types of work in the hospital, such as administration, nursing, education, research, dietary, clerical, social service, pastoral care, purchasing, laboratory, x-ray, housekeeping and rehabilitation. These are by no means an exhaustive list of the Christ-bearing paths built around the principle or philosophy of serving the sick.

Just as the Sister gives total care to the sick, she uses all her potential in extending that care. She utilizes her mind in making judgments, her heart in compassion and her will to do all in her power to sustain human life and prepare for the eternal one. Her total being with its sensory power is utilized in her ministry whereby she observes,

listens, feels and even tastes the sweetness and bitterness in health, illness and death.

Total care of a patient includes prophylactic, therapeutic, rehabilitative and supportive aspects. Beyond these professional components, the Sister through her baptismal and religious commitment gives witness to Christ by her spiritual growth and prayer life. She is called to be an instrument of God's healing to each person.

Through the vow of poverty, the Sister enriches the life of the mystical body by being free to spend herself in the service of the sick.

Through the vow of chastity, the Sister permeates the life of the mystical body by embracing all souls in her role of spiritual motherhood.

Through the vow of obedience, the Sister contributes to the life of the mystical body by the willing acceptance of and creative dealing with her assignment in the care of the sick, whatever or wherever it may be. In the faithful performance of her duty, she gives witness to Christ, who was obedient even unto death. Love is very closely linked with charity, for an act of obedience is actually an act of love on the part of the religious who is following Christ's words, "Behold I come to do Your will, O God."

The hospital is a sacred place in which to be born, to be sustained and to die. For the Sister ministering to these needs, her zeal and charity knows no bounds.

Sister Remigia is director of the St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing in Elmira.

**Fisher Plans March 3 Seminar**

A day-long symposium dealing with prejudicial and discriminating stereotypes is scheduled on Tuesday, March 3 at St. John Fisher College's Kearney Auditorium.

The symposium, which will deal "with the self validating circle of prejudice and discrimination which leads to stereotypes," will include "seven respected community

members" giving presentations on the subject, according to a release.

Since attendance will be limited interested persons are asked to register early. For further information those interested in the symposium may call St. John Fisher, 586-4140 ext. 24, or the Urban, Suburban Interdistrict Transfer Program, 544-8602.



**Winetasting**

Marge Danner, Bob Fess, and Barbara Deming are the planners for the upcoming "Winetasting" event sponsored by the Bishop Kearney Hockey Parents, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20, in the high school cafeteria. A wide selection of wine types will be featured. Tickets are available at the school office, 324-4000, or through any parent of a school hockey player.



**Year of Disabled**

Priscilla, left, 16-year-old leukemia patient of Ohio, and Pauline, 17, of Kentucky, who has Ewings Sarcoma, chat and watch television as they receive chemotherapy at St. Jude's Children's Research Center in Memphis, Tenn. The United Nations has designated 1981 the International Year of Disabled Persons. (RNS)

**Boike To Speak**

Dennis Boike, Ph.D., will be guest lecturer at St. Margaret Mary Parish, at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 12 in the school.

Boike will discuss "Encouragement of Your Child and Building Self-Esteem." The discussion is sponsored by the parish Home School

Association, and the public is invited.

**Deadline**

The deadline for submitting news to the Courier-Journal is noon on Thursday preceding the following Wednesday's publication.

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