

Insights  
In Liturgy

By John C. Herrmann



**Nuptial Insights, Part II**

In my first article I made a strong mention of the fact that the music at a nuptial Mass be chosen to reflect the readings and the concept of communal love. Music literature is rich with appropriate, dignified choral and instrumental compositions. An excellent reference for suggestions of wedding music is the "Handbook of Church Music for Weddings," Liturgy Training Program, Archdiocese of Chicago. It is available for review at the Liturgy Office. I have sent in a list which gives additional selections appropriate for

weddings. It, too, is on file at the Liturgy Office. If a couple wishes to use a "popular" or "Broadway" song, it should be approved only if their choice reflects an understanding of the liturgy itself, and of its ecclesial dimension.

Pastoral Musicians might well prepare an outline to be given to the couple preparing for marriage. The outline should clearly indicate possible options open to the couple. For example, will there be an entrance march with instrumental music only? Will the congregation sing a hymn for the entrance march? Will there be a vocal solo instead? As the couple realizes there are many options, they should plan to work out the

musical selections with the musician at least one or two months before the wedding. This enables them to fully participate in the planning and avoids the "last minute rush." It also gives the musician(s) ample time to practice the selections.

included (with copyright permission, of course!). This would enable the guests, who may not be familiar with the Holy, Holy sung at the church where the wedding is held, to fully participate in singing.

One final word about wedding music is that of congregational participation. The acclamations and responsorial psalm are of primary importance at weddings, as at any other Mass. Since there is not "universal setting" of say, the Holy, Holy, then perhaps the couple would consider having a program printed with the music

I have often found that a recessional hymn works extremely well. The guests (the community) are given an opportunity to joyously proclaim their thanks to God for all the gifts He has given to the couple, their family and friends. In a way, perhaps the congregation feels that their participation in the liturgy is their gift to the couple. And a truly great gift it is — the gift of self.

Centering on Service

Spanish Apostolate



The following is an interview with Italo Rodriguez, director of the Spanish Apostolate.

**Q** Italo, what is your background and how long have you been director of the Spanish Apostolate?

**A** I was born and raised in Argentina and obtained my degree there. I have been director of the Spanish Apostolate since 1976.

**Q** How many Hispanics are there in the diocese of Rochester?

**A** There are 50,000 Hispanics in the diocese, 90 percent of whom are Puerto Rican. The other 10 percent are made up of Cubans, people from the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Central and South America.

**Q** Where do most Hispanics live in the diocese?

**A** Mostly in the inner-city.

**Q** Are there any other people in your office?

**A** Yes. Father John Podsiadlo is a priest who works part time in the office and then we also have volunteer help.

**Q** What kinds of programs does the Spanish Apostolate carry on?

**A** The programs are many but we do not get into the area of social services. That is taken care of by others. Our main stress is on evangelization. We try to emphasize human dignity and help our people to have a sense of their own dignity.

**Q** Is there any particular area to which you give special attention?

**A** We concentrate in a very special way on farm workers. There are 11 farm worker camps in the diocese, three of them in Monroe County. We help to obtain jobs for the Hispanic people, relocate them when that is necessary, educate them in many ways and counsel them for new jobs. Father Podsiadlo also introduces them to sacramental programs so that they can have a direct connection with the Church.

**Q** Does your apostolate have a physical center?

**A** Yes. I would like to stress the idea that while we have an office in the Pastoral Center and intend on keeping it, we also now have a field office at 875 N. Clinton Ave. The field office helps us to show the Church's presence in the midst of our people, especially the poor.

**Q** What kinds of things do you do from that field office?

**A** We conduct Cursillo, hold prayer groups, have social activities, work with the police and crime prevention and do Pre-Cana.

**Q** Are there any other programs which are especially important to you?

**A** We have a program for the elderly which is a kind of reach-out program and is called Abulos — grandfathers and grandmothers. This organization is a base for evangelization of younger people. These elderly people have had a very strong faith and are very good at sharing it with the younger people. We visit the elderly every week through volunteers (there are 10-13). We try to help them in whatever ways they need help and to bring them into the mainstream of the community. Finally, I would also like to mention the fact that we have a specific jail ministry conducted through Father John who is part-time chaplain. We operate at the county jail to help Hispanic prisoners.

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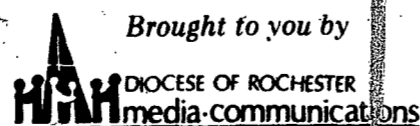
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