Brother Patrick O'Dea, OSST, and his parents at the ceremony of his final profession, April 4.

Rochester Man Professes Vows

Hyattsville, Md. — A former Rochester diocesan whose parents are members of Rochester's St. Andrew's Parish, has made solemn profession in a religious community and will shortly be ordained a deacon.

Brother Patrick O'Dea, son of Mr. and Mrs. James O'Dea of Mitchell Street in Rochester, professed his vows in the Order of the Most Holy Trinity (Trinitarians) April 4 in Riverdale, Md., near St. John De Matha Monastery here.

About 30 Rochesterians witnessed the rites for the Irish immigrant and former student at Corpus Christi School and Monroe Community College.

Brother Patrick will be ordained a deacon for his order May 9, at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Brother Patrick's major ministry is to the handicapped, specifically the deaf.

Sarah Child

All in the Family

A Hotel Room Is Definitely Not a Home

One of the very best things about going away — no matter how exotic the vacation nor how good a time you have — is coming home.

Never did my own kitchen look so good following our Easter vacation. Two weeks of waiting every morning for the rest of our party to be up and dressed before we could go to the dining room for that first cup of coffee had taken its toll in family relations.

"Don't you dare wake us up before 7:30 and don't you dare go to breakfast without us," was usually the last thing I heard at night.

I tried both tactics, to my regret. If there is anything worse than three grumbling children at your own breakfast table, it is three such darlings in a public place in another country.

Fortunately, one cup of cioccolato and a lightly buttered croissant or panino was usually enough to dispel the miseries, although one miscreant demanded and got American cereal one morning resulting in the dour waiter to regularly ask each day hence, "Cornflakes for the bambina?"

Two weeks of dormitory living in four different hotels (one room for the "girls" and one for the "boys") had also taken its toll.

Seventeen years with the same considerate roommate had not prepared me for the "grand central station" environment of such an arrangement. Everything from lingerie to loose change was fair game for my temporary roomies.

Even worse, a quick catnap between touring cathedrals was likely to end with unpleasant sensation of all too familiar faces hovering over "the body" and the plaintive voice of one or more burbling, "Is she going to sleep forever?" or the accusatory, "If she'd stay in bed past 5 a.m., she wouldn't have to conk out in the middle of the day."

Once out of the hotel, new problems arose as three youthful travelers pushed for personal (and widely divergent) attractions. The oldest was torn between frequenting churchly repositories for tombs (Machiavelli, Michelangelo and Galileo) and visiting sidewalk cafes crowded with dark-eyed, appreciative young men.

Her brother, who could detect a hole-in-the-wall pizza establishment from three blocks away, set new records regularly eschewing only one variety — anchovy.

And the youngest alternated between using four flights of marble stairs to daily set new track records and searching out the most flamboyant sidewalk artist for a definitive (exotic) portrait of herself, the only souvenir she wanted.

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