

Retreats Offer Experience of Christ

The Teen Retreat program of the Diocese of Rochester was begun about 16 years ago by the Redemptorist Fathers. Today, this initial inspiration has grown into a network of diocese-wide and parish-based retreats, numbering about 60 a year.

Each of the retreats is designed to give teenagers a chance to experience Catholic Christianity in their own language, a feat sometimes difficult for them within the diversity of the average parish.

The major retreats (i.e., diocese-wide) are held at Notre Dame Retreat House in Canandaigua. They usually last two days and two nights, with a staff of at least one priest, several adults and a few teenagers who have already attended the retreats.

Also available to parishes and special groups are

retreats for Confirmation classes and youth groups. These retreats are conducted wherever their sponsors arrange them.

Of the retreats conducted at Notre Dame, the one for ninth graders is called "Jeremiah." Younger teens often have a poor self-image, especially with regard to their role as religious persons. Jeremiah focuses on the Scriptures in which the teen discovers that God, at least, has a very high regard for teenagers. God called several teens to carry out important roles in the history of salvation: Jeremiah, David, Mary, Timothy and John, to name a few. If teens are important to God — right now, as teens — then the teens ought to feel important to themselves.

"Genesis" is for tenth graders. This retreat recognizes that teens are beginning to get serious about their future — in-

cluding their religious/faith future. Genesis gives the teens a change to experience the beginnings of the religious dimensions of this awareness.

"Teen Seminar," for 11th and 12th graders, is a retreat which centers around the sacramental life of the Church, especially the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Reconciliation, with reference to the sacraments of adult commitment.

"Antioch" is a weekend retreat for the post-high school, 18- to 25-year-old crowd. This is a peer-given

retreat, roughly along the lines of Cursillo. It is offered four times a year.

The above-mentioned retreats, along with a variety of options offered to parishes to complement their various Confirmation and other programs, serve annually more than 3,000 teenagers throughout the 12-county diocese.

Further information about applications for the Teen Retreats are obtained from parish religious education staff, high school chaplains' offices, or by calling Father Dave Mura at the Pastoral Office.

LEGAL NOTICE

Nondiscriminatory Policy

It is the policy of the elementary and secondary schools of the Diocese of Rochester not to discriminate on the basis of sex in the educational programs or activities which it operates.

The diocese is required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and the implementing regulations not to discriminate on the basis of sex. This requirement extends to employment by the diocese and its elementary and secondary schools.

Inquiries concerning the application of Title IX and the implementing regulations to the diocese may be referred to Sister Edwardine Weaver who has been designated by the Diocesan General Education Office at Title IX compliance officer. (Sister Edwardine's office is at 1150 Buffalo Road, telephone 328-3210.)



Holy Ghost

Joseph Entress, one of the early graduates and builder of the present Holy Ghost School, embraces Pamela Cordaro and Michael Enright, Class of 1990. Entress' father was a teacher and sexton of Holy Ghost in 1890. With the trio are Scott Cordaro, Erin Donoghue and Bobby Enright, a June graduate and part-time employee at the school.

Enrollment Up At Waverly School

Waverly — St. James School will open its doors to 125 students this September, a substantial increase over last year's enrollment for grades K-6. Pre-school enrollment is not yet completed. The increase is an indicator of growing confidence in the quality education offered at St. James.

Pre-school classes, which have proven to be a plus for both the school and the community, will begin a second year. There are two-, three- and five-day sessions for children three and four years of age. The COPE program is used to instruct the preschooler and has helped to draw new people to the school.

A new math series, Heath, is to be used this year for K-6. The series is correlated with state math guidelines, and will

help improve computational skills, problem solving, metric measurement and other necessary skills for daily living.

The Lippincott Language Arts Program, previously used in Grades K-2, will be expanded to include third grade this year. The goal for next year is to use this program throughout all grades. There has been a noted increase in the reading achievement scores in grades K-2 since using this program. The teachers regularly attend workshops to help them teach this program effectively.

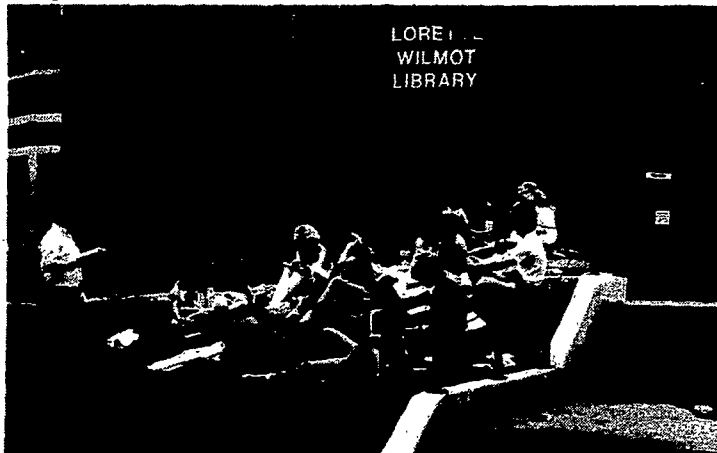
Arrangements are under way to improve the gym classes this school year. A new teacher has been hired, who will be instructing according to state curriculum and programs.

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