



To paraphrase George Bernard Shaw, by George, I think we've got it, says the look on Ray Shahin's face while he and Connie Cerame, piano accompanist for Kabaret, arrange a musical score for the show.

Kabaret: A Blend Of Musical Eras

Just when the winter blahs begin to take hold, the Bishop Kearney parents and music department, under the direction of Ray Shahin, produce some lively entertainment to chase away the blues. This year's Show of Shows will be on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 5-6, and will feature the music of the late composers Harry Warren ("You'll Never Know," "September in the Rain") and Hoagy Carmichael ("Star Dust," "Georgia on My Mind"). Both performances will be dinner shows starting at 6:30 p.m., with the curtain going up at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person and can be obtained by calling Peg Gillen, ticket chairman, at 342-4000.

Other parents serving on the show committee include: Florence Bianco, general chairman; Sister Joseliea, moderator; Anne Bonsignore and Joyce Shahin, assistant directors; Diane Oltorik, choreographer; and Rosemary Blickweide, publicity chairman.

Aside from tributes to the musical composers, cartoon characters will be on hand to highlight the themes from the Looney Tune and Terry Tune cartoons. Also featured will be some of the music the Marching Kings have played in their various performances over the years, including: "Ease on Down the Road" from "The Wiz," "Don't Cry for Me Argentina" from "Evita" and "What I Did for Love" from "Chorus Line."

Week of Prayer To Open on Jan. 28

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity opens in the diocese next week under the theme of "May All Find Their Home in You, O God."

According to Mrs. Margery Nurnberg, director of the Office of Ecumenism, there is no coordinated effort to observe the week, though a number of churches, both Protestant and Catholic have individually and as groups slated events around the theme.

She cited an address by James Smucker, chief executive of the New York Conference of the United Churches of Christ at 7:30 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 17, at St. Patrick's in Elmira, as an example of such events.

The week, promoted in the U.S. by the Graymoor Fathers whose founder, Father Paul Watson, started the celebration, is this year 75 years old.

The theme, based on Psalm 84, was chosen by the Christian churches in Kenya, Africa. According to the newsletter "Nova et Vetera," the theme means that "God has made his home among us

through the Incarnation of Jesus Christ and the presence of the Holy Spirit. Our earthly homes, as our creaturely lives, should reflect the peace, unity love, and justice of God's Reign, God's Home, towards which all created realities point and in which they will be ultimately be fulfilled."

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity always begins on Jan. 18 and concludes with the Feast of the conversion of St. Paul.

Mrs. Nurnberg said that plans are in the works for Bishop Matthew H. Clark to celebrate a unity service for the Hispanic community on Jan. 29.

In addition, at least one community of churches in Gates will observe the theme on Jan. 31 with an agape meal and a scripture service.

"There's just nothing coordinated," she said of the diocesan effort, and indicated that there "never has been."

She said her duties in this connection are to alert pastors to the availability of further information from Graymoor.

A Classic for Cooks

The Parents' Association of Our Lady of Mercy High School has published a cookbook containing recipes from alumnae, faculty, parents and students. The book contains more than just recipes. It also features pen and ink drawings done by the art classes of Sister Joan Hilbert and Sister Estelle Martin.

The book may be purchased with a check or money order for \$7 (\$6 for the book and \$1 for postage and handling) made out to the Mercy High Parents' Association and sent to Parents' Association Cookbook, 1437 Blossom Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14610.

Pregnancy Hearings Conclude

In the course of the past week members of the Coalition for Teenage Pregnancy sifted through the testimony of hundreds of concerned individuals to draw up the basic elements of what the community wants in a program for the problem of adolescent pregnancy.

The coalition will present its findings to the Monroe County Health Department and the Monroe County Board of Health today, Father Charles Mulligan said last week. Father Mulligan is a prime mover behind the coalition.

In addition, he said, the coalition will issue a report to the community on its findings, probably in February.

The testimony was taken in a number of hearings held across the county since the middle of December.

Those hearings concluded last Wednesday at three sites, New Bethel Church, St. Ambrose Church and Sacred

Heart Cathedral.

The coalition "found surprising convergence" on the point of respect for the role of the family in forming the attitudes of teens towards sexual behavior, Father Mulligan said.

This despite the "very different ethical, cultural, and religious responses to the question," he said. Last week he expected the coalition to call for the "integration of the family" in forming the values of teenagers.

Beyond establishing a program to deal with adolescent pregnancy, "clearly, something more has to be done, especially something in which (families) can feel comfortable," Father Mulligan said. He said that existing religious and cultural institutions will be called on to contribute in their own way to alleviating the problem.

Dr. Joel Nitzkin of the Health Department, and also a major force behind the

coalition, said that he agreed there was a "strong convergence" on the need for involvement of the family in approaching the problems surrounding adolescent pregnancy.

He said, however, that "it is too early to predict" what recommendations would be made by the coalition to the general public. He further said that anticipating the coalition's recommendations could "create an awkward situation" since the group was still working on its proposals.

The material presented to the health organizations will be "finalized" by the bodies, Father Mulligan said. It is they which will seek funding of a program from the Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation, he said.

Natural Family Planning got a strong boost at the St. Ambrose hearing last week in testimony given by Maribeth Galecki, community

education coordinator for the Rochester NFP organization.

"Today's teenagers receive many powerful messages from society," she said, "often urging society toward premarital sexual activity. Everyone agrees that the rising incidence of teen pregnancy is a serious problem. In our view, increased availability of artificial contraceptives will not solve anything. It may, in the short run, prevent pregnancy, but longer-term problems will result from the physical and psychological damages inflicted."

"Young people — actually, all of us — need to become aware of the power each person has to create life, and to learn to live responsibly with that power. This, in the long run, will give us more self-respect, deeper interpersonal relationships, and stronger families."

"Fertility awareness promotion and education must be an integral part of all human sexuality programs — and this proposal."



New Bishops Consecrated

Pope John Paul II stands in front of the main altar at St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican on Jan. 6 with nine new bishops — among them, two Americans — who had just been consecrated during a Solemn High Mass. More than 10,000 people, including 17 cardinals and 50 archbishops and bishops attended the celebration on the Feast of Epiphany. The two American bishops are Thomas J. O'Brien of Phoenix, Ariz., and Charles Milone, auxiliary of Omaha, Neb. (RNS)

Gun Unit Draws a Bead On Collection Plate

Bellevue, Wash. (RNS) — A Christmas "counterattack" on religious groups which have supported gun control was urged by the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms.

A committee publication, "Point Blank," said that instead of putting money on the collection plates of "anti-gun churches," gun-owners "should put in a message stating you're not giving any more until they renounce their anti-gun positions."

The publication included a suggested coupon that gun-owners could put in their collection envelopes. It states: "Millions for charity not one cent for gun-grabbing clergymen."

"It is high time for America's 60 million law-abiding firearms owners to counterattack — at the collection basket," the publication said.

"And what better time to

initiate that counterattack than on Christmas Day, when many of these churches expect the largest collections of the year? They depend for their financial existence on the goodwill of the very people they are trying to emasculate. It's time to hit them where they hurt."

The committee said that United Methodist Bishop James Armstrong of Indianapolis, president-elect of the National Council of Churches, and Archbishop John R. Roach of St. Paul-Minneapolis, president of the U.S. Catholic Conference, are "leading the clerical assault on the rights of tens of millions of law-abiding American citizens to own handguns."

It said that the National Coalition to Ban Handguns "was so elated with the support of Archbishop Roach that it included a special box on this support in its newsletter, News & Views, headlined 'U.S. Catholic

Conference Joins National Handgun Violence Week."

It also quoted the coalition's newsletter as saying that Archbishop Roach, "who has long supported handgun control legislation, noted that the (Catholic) Conference had come out in favor of such legislation but that the time has come for stronger action, including a concerted lobbying effort for new, effective laws."

Besides the U.S. Catholic Conference, the publication said handgun control is supported by units of the United Methodist Church, United Church of Christ, Church of the Brethren, Friends (Quaker) Committee, United Presbyterian Church, Unitarian Universalist Association and Jesuit Conference.

The Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms has national headquarters here and a lobbying office in Washington, D.C.



Cardinal Seper Dies At 75

Cardinal Franjo Seper, an important figure in the Vatican as prefect of the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, died on Dec. 30 in Rome. Cardinal Seper, 75, had given up his position only last month after having submitted a formal request for retirement. Pope John Paul II recently appointed Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger of Munich as his successor.