

Education Recognizes Diocesan School Leader

By Joan M. Smith

It was awards night at Barry's Restaurant last Thursday evening, Jan. 21. The Rochester Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa, an international education fraternity, held its annual award banquet during which Sister Edwardine Weaver, RSM, superintendent of the Rochester Diocesan Schools, received a leadership award. Sister Rosemary St. Peter, principal of Holy Trinity School, Webster, was on hand to deliver the honor.

According to Alan Whiting, principal of the Iroquois School in Irondequoit, Sister Edwardine was selected because her position as superintendent of the Catholic schools is one of leadership in the Rochester area.

Sister Edwardine has taught every grade level except for kindergarten and third grade. She was vice principal of St. Charles, principal at St. James, and assistant superintendent for

curriculum. She has been in education for 25 years and in assessing the primary goal of education in general said, "It should help young people to become all that they are capable of becoming." She went on to say that with Catholic education in particular this is done within the faith community with service to the Church and then service to the community at large.

Others selected for awards by the Phi Delta Kappa committee, headed this year by Mrs. Joan Lennert from the Brockport Central School District, were: Mrs. Mildred Neff, principal of School No. 12 and president elect of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, who also received a leadership award; Leonard Zwick, superintendent of the Rochester School for the Deaf, who received the Educational Award; Herbert Ginsberg, Ph.D., University of Rochester, Research Award; Alfred Valvanio,

former director of Secondary School Education in Rochester; Donald Johnson, Ph.D., associate professor of the University College of Brockport; Norman Gross, E.E.D., director of Urban-Suburban Interdistrict Transfer Program — all three men received service awards.

Whiting estimated that the Phi Delta Kappa awards have been in existence for some 10 years and are given to those whom the organization considers as having made outstanding contributions to education.

Evangelization Film Festival Slated Feb. 2, 9

An Evangelization Film Festival will run from 7:30 to 10 p.m., Feb. 2 and 9, at Good Shepherd Parish, 3288, East Henrietta Road, Henrietta.

The program includes four films and discussion, and is sponsored by the diocesan Pastoral Council Task Force on Evangelization. The films to be shown are "What Is Catholic Evangelization Today?" "Who Is Enriched by Evangelization?" "Basic Principles to Help You Design Still More Effective Programs of Evangelization," and "Evangelization Ideas to Stimulate Your Thinking."

All the films were sponsored national bishops' Committee on Evangelization, headed by Father Alvin Illig, CSP.

Further information is available by calling Mike and Colleen Cooper, (716) 265-2765.

Nun Featured In Conant Lecture Series

Sister Mary Sullivan, dean of the College of General Studies at Rochester Institute of Technology, and Dr. Jill Raitt of the University of Missouri-Columbia, will deliver the second in the series of Conant Lectures, "Herstory in the Christian Church," at 5 and 7:15 p.m., tonight, Jan. 27, at Colgate Rochester-Bexley Hall-Crozer Divinity School.

Sister Mary's talk, "The Life and Service of St. Teresa of Avila," will open the program at 5 p.m. Dr. Raitt's talk, "The Difference She Makes," will begin at 7:15 p.m. in the auditorium of the divinity school.

The Conant Lectures are made possible through a grant from the Board for Theological Education of the Episcopal Church.

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donations from grassroots people. She has whimsy, and remarked, "Most people don't think we are going to make it. After all, 12 cloistered nuns in television. It sounds kind of fake." Yet, she presents entertainment, music, stories for children, talks by priests and Sisters and laity. Her apostolate has a sincere touch of the charismatic, and helps many people.

Do you think our diocese is utilizing TV enough?

TV is terribly expensive. This is a suggestion which has been proposed: TV producers often present fine programs which are inspiring and instructive; why spend a fortune which we don't have when producers sometimes produce superior things for us?

For example, just before Christmas, one station presented Pavarotti's Christmas Concert from Notre Dame Basilica in Montreal. It was superlative, yet few people knew either of the program or of its quality. I frequently meet teenagers and the members of the younger set who know nothing of Lourdes and Fatima, even though the movies, "The Song of Bernadette," and "Our Lady of Fatima," are on TV. I should like to see a committee, not another diocesan bureau, which could be tied in with our present Department of Religious Education, or perhaps a group of competent persons coordinating with the Courier-Journal to find out ahead of time when good shows are going to be presented, and give the dates and synopses in the Courier.

Mother Teresa is frequently presented, not as a Catholic event, but as a public interest event — professionally presented — at no cost to us.

Fr. Paul J. Cuddy



On the Right Side

Television Pros and Otherwise

Are you hooked on TV?

No. But there is always the danger. I remember a funny remark by Jesuit Father Basset in one of his retreat conferences: "A Weekend with Cardinal Newman." With puckish delight he said, "I think Johnny Carson is responsible for a lot of breakdown in marriage. Couples don't go to bed and get their rest but stay up and watch him — and their marriages fall apart. I even know a contemplative nun who was up at 3 a.m. watching Carson. She might better have been saying her prayers."

I do think TV viewing needs a lot of discipline, and not many people exercise that discipline either for themselves or for their charges. Studies show that children spend 30 hours a week watching TV. How much time do you think they spend on the study of their religion?

Don't you think most TV is wasteland?

I should hesitate to say that. What is "wasteland"? Much of TV is given to athletics, and this can be quite good. There are game shows which are a recreation for many. There are good public affairs programs. There are some good religious programs, like the Sunday Mass in our own diocese. And there are some dreadful ones, especially by evangelists who shamelessly pitch for money — and get it! However, the very first Catholic TV satellite station was introduced last Aug. 15 by a Poor Clare nun, Mother Angela of Birmingham, Ala., with no financial help except small

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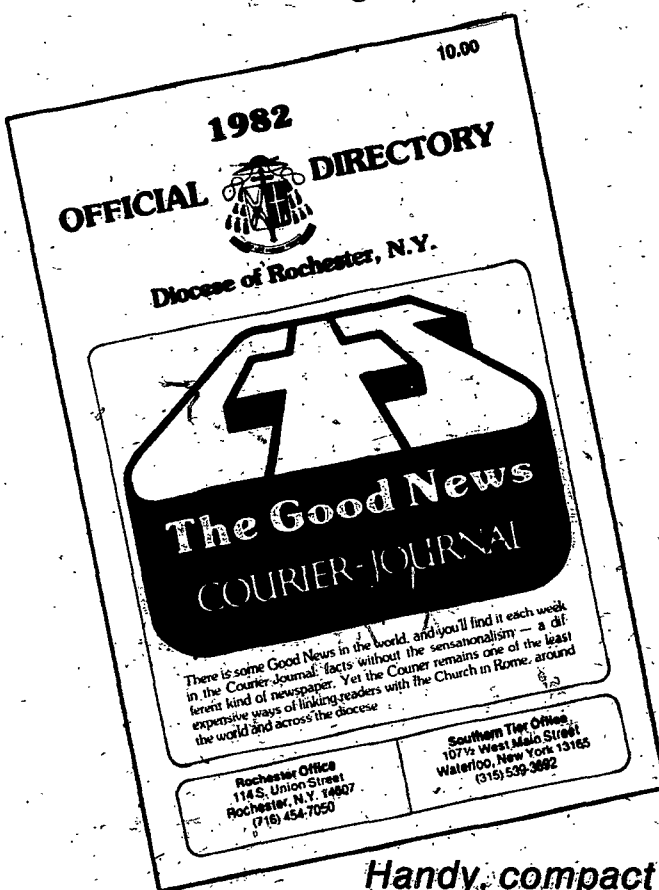
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