

# Team Work Pays Off at Mercy

When Our Lady of Mercy High School opened last September, a new concept of administration was introduced. For the first time in the 54-year history of the school, there were two assistant principals working with the principal. This administration team consists of Sister Mary Bonaventure Hall, RSM, principal; Miss Kathleen Wisner, assistant principal for Academic Concerns; and Sister Mary Alice O'Brien, RSM, assistant principal for Student Personnel.

The responsibility for the

“All of education is a team effort.”

overall program and operation of the school lies with the principal with the help of the assistant principals; thus the team concept. Sister Bonaventure is responsible for the overall educational program and sees that all school policies are ad-

ministered within the framework of the school philosophy and mission statement of the Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy.

Miss Wisner has the responsibility to encourage and oversee the academic growth and excellence of the school. She works closely with faculty and curricula. Sister Mary Alice has the responsibility to maintain an academic atmosphere in the school and an attitude of Christian respect among the Mercy family. She works primarily with students and the guidance department. The team meets regularly to discuss school affairs.

The team concept resulted from suggestions made by Richard Burke, a consultant hired by the Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy. After having discussed different models of management, the administration team approach seemed the best for Mercy

High. It was felt that the principal was burdened with too many duties. The new concept would help to relieve her of some administrative duties to give her more time to deal with parents, other principals, and alumnae. It also would allow the principal to have help in handling decisions and sharing the burden of responsibility. The whole concept was “innovative and challenging,” said Sister Jean Marie Kearse, Superior General of the Sisters of Mercy.

According to school sources, Sister Bonaventure is pleased with the new approach. She is free to do other things because there is no constant pressure for deadlines. In her opinion everyone ended up with jobs that were workable.

Miss Wisner, new to administration, found the team “very exhilarating and a challenge.” She feels a shared effort and responsibility. Sister Mary Alice, who had previously been part of the administration, has sensed a “more open line of communication” and feels the support of her teammates.

After having worked together for one semester the

team has been encouraged by the new approach and Sister Bonaventure stated that “the administration team adds positively to the quality of administration; it is a definite asset. No one principal can

contain within herself all the talents both professionally and personally to put together all the complex components of a secondary school in today's world. All of education is a team effort.”

Fr. Louis J. Hohman



The Open Window

## Biblical Reading Is Questioned

Dear Father Hohman:

As a Catholic woman I have become increasingly uncomfortable with some of the readings which appear as part of the celebration of the Mass. Last Sunday's reading (Jan. 31), from I Corinthians 7: 25-35, is typical of where my discomfort lies.

We do a disservice to our young people, both boys and girls, when we treat the valuable vocation of marriage and family life as a mere “distraction,” reinforced by reference to Biblical authority, i.e., St. Paul.

I truly believe that my vocation as wife and mother to six sons is a blessing which is no less a value than the vocation of a religious or single person and, may I dare say, much more difficult to fulfill. I also believe that in my ministry as a registered nurse I share my concern for the “things of the Lord” as a caretaker of his more dependent children.

I realize that reading from the bible is significant since it was inspired by God and when Paul wrote his letters they were probably quite relevant to the needs of the day but with all due respect I truly feel there are more appropriate readings to be shared during our celebrations at Mass, maybe some of the articles from the recent Vatican Councils. Our liturgical celebrations must be relevant and supportive of Christian ministry in whatever vocation our children may choose in order to perpetuate the continuum of their spiritual lives and their relationship with Our Lord. As Catholic men and women, we need to be reminded of the significance

of our ministry with our Lord's “concerns.”

(Signed) S.P.

Dear S.P.,

The case you point to is a perfect example of the pitfalls of taking a particular book from scripture and simply using sections of it consecutively over a number of Sundays. However, it is, as you point out, the word of God and therefore has a primary right to be in the celebration of the Liturgy of the Word. No matter what other documents we might find, regardless of their apparent relevance, they fade into insignificance by comparison. The fact that we have to work hard to obtain a relevant meaning for a particular passage should not deter us from using it.

The passage you refer to speaks to the idea of our need for detachment in terms of union with the Lord. The author was obviously under the impression that the world was coming to an end shortly and therefore the state of total concentration on the Lord was the best possible state. While that does not apply to our time nor does the seeming disparagement of marriage, nevertheless, it helps us to think in terms of priorities. Celibacy is a living witness to the priority of the Lord in our lives and therefore we should at least consider this from time to time. In other words, this passage can be useful even though we have to work at it.

P.S. In all honesty I guess if I had been choosing the passages for the Sunday readings, I wouldn't have chosen that one either.

## RAISE MONEY

ATTENTION Principals, Athletic Directors, Band Leaders, PTA, Scout Leaders, Pastors, Bingo Co-ordinators —  
A NEW METHOD OF RAISING MONEY  
Call for Appointment

**Fountain HOME PRODUCTS**

350 Seneca Ave., Roch.

338-2975

## Easter Basket Headquarters



**Fanny Farmer CANDIES**  
An American Tradition

## THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER



**EDWIN SULEWSKI FUNERAL DIRECTOR**

What can we do when an infant dies at birth?

Include the mother in all plans! It is a common mistake to try to spare a mother by removing the baby immediately. Mothers have known their child for nine months and are extremely attached. Mothers and fathers should take the opportunity to be with their child and, if possible, hold the child. Following the mother's release from the hospital a ceremony with the baby present should be held with burial or cremation to follow. If for some reason the mother cannot leave the hospital consider having the ceremony in the hospital chapel. Friends should visit and allow the grieving parents to discuss their disappointment and grief.

**SCHAUMAN FUNERAL HOME**

2100 St. Paul St.

HOME

342-3400

for 80 years it's been

**LIPANI'S**

Enjoy OVEN FRESH

If it's Lipani's — it's quality!



SINCE 1902

OLD FASHIONED SPECIALTY BAKERS  
RETAIL & WHOLESALE

**EASTER BREAD**

APRIL 8, 9, 10, 11

**LIPANI'S**

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

532 PLYMOUTH AVE. N. AT JAY STREET

Weekdays, 7 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat., Sun., 8-2

546-8548

**BUSINESSES YOU CAN TRUST**

**HOME IMPROVEMENT**

**State-wide Home Improvement**

- Roofing
- Siding
- Insulation
- Gutters
- Additions

Painting — Interior and Exterior  
Free Estimates — Fully Insured

Senior Citizens Discounts of 10-15%

We Take Pride At State-wide **716-458-6388**

**ATTORNEYS**

**KENNETH GALLANT**  
Attorney

- Family Problems
- Traffic Court — Criminal
- Real Estate — Wills
- Bankruptcy — Wage Plans — Debt Relief

25 Main Street • Rochester  
Evenings & Weekends call 342-9194  
232-7580

**HEATING**

**Carrier**

Heating & Cooling Service & Installations

Gas & Oil Furnace  
Central Air & Heat Pumps  
Electronic Air Cleaners

**JOHN BETLEM INC.**  
CALL PAUL  
271-8888  
898 Clinton Ave. So.

**CANDY/CRAFTS**

**MARTHA'S**  
Cake Decorating

Largest selection of chocolate molds and supplies. NAF chocolate, safe for hyper-active children wholesale/retail/ free demos.

Perinton Mall 1726 Long Pond Road  
223-8733 225-8770

**MINIATURES**

Dollhouse Miniatures Accessories

Sensibly Priced Handcrafted Large Selection

For illustrated catalog send \$1

Refundable on first order

Petite Boutique  
Box 90797 CJ  
Rochester, N.Y. 14609

Learn to Make Delicious Candy in Your Own Kitchen

**Chocolates Unlimited**  
FREE CLASSES

Now at Two Convenient Locations  
75 Main St. 425 Stone Rd.  
Webster Greece  
872-0535 621-5707

**JEWELERS**

Diamonds, watches, rings, gold chains, crystal accessories.

**Trio Jewelers**  
Culver Ridge Plaza  
266-1755

**MUSIC**

**Pargos Organ Co.**

1122 MONROE ROAD  
ROCHESTER, N.Y. 14618  
586-0383

PIPE & ELECTRONIC ORGAN SERVICES

Maintenance New Organs Restoration

**INTERIOR DESIGNER**

3350 Monroe Avenue  
Rochester, N.Y. 14618  
Manny Teascher  
Interior Designer 716-586-2580

To Advertise in This Section  
Call  
Courier Journal Ad Dept.  
454-7050