

Cubs Help Neighbors And Project Expands

Webster — Each year as Christmas nears, Holy Trinity Cub Scouts, Pack 314, have donated and collected good

used toys and clothes for the less fortunate through the Come-Unity Center in Williamson.



Holy Trinity Cubs include, from left (front row), Mark Schictel, Patrick Quinn, Chris Jolliff, (back row) Steven Krenzer, Eric Zeman, Billy Ernst, Andy MacKenzie and Adam Schreiber.

This year Marie Forget, director of the Wayne County Rural Ministry/Come-Unity Center, told the pack that the demand was greater than the supplies on hand. The center not only supplies clothes and toys, but also provides emergency housing and food to the rural poor in Wayne County and surrounding areas.

The boys rose to the occasion by asking Sister Rosemary St. Peter, principal of Holy Trinity School, if they could expand their project by asking classmates for help.

Word spread through the school, and there has been a continuous collection and delivery of clothes, toys and food since early December. The student welfare subcommittee of the parish education committee has proposed to continue this effort and will provide specially marked boxes at the school's entrance.

On a recent delivery to the Come-Unity Center, Ms. Forget praised the boys for showing the true meaning of Christmas, and for living up to their motto: "A Cub Scout gives good will."

'Rejuvenation' Program Set

Maribeth Mancini will lead a "Junkie January Rejuvenation," an "evening of sharing for catechists in religious education programs," in the Southeast Region, 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 13, at St. John the Evangelist School parish center.

Ms. Mancini is consultant with the diocesan Office of Religious Education. The title of her talk is "The Shot in the Arm We Need at This Time of Year." A period of discussion will cover topics of interest to teachers of children at pre-school through senior high school level. The evening will conclude with prayer and a social hour.

The event is free. Reservations are made through one's parish religious education director.

Decorations Earn Prizes

Hornell — Winners of the St. James Mercy Hospital's fourth annual Christmas decorating contest have been announced. Winning departments received cakes.

The purchasing department had the best door decoration, "The General Store," and the nutrition department had the best floor decoration, "Candyland."

The best room decoration was done by the supply, process and distribution unit. The emergency room had the best mural.

The prettiest tree was the one decorated with handmade items in the Aquinas Center, while the personnel and educational services departments won the prize for the most original decoration.



Holiday Cheers!

Mary Kusmersik of the Monroe Developmental Center waves a cheery holiday greeting in the course of an annual Christmas party, thrown for the center's residents by the SPEVA volunteers. At right, Norbert Robach and Mike Berardi, both SPEVA volunteers, assist one of the center's Catholic clients, who had already attended Mass at St. Boniface Church, to the Thurston Road clubrooms of the Knights of Columbus for a pancake brunch and singing.



GALLERY EVENTS — A Memorial Art Gallery tour at 2 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 9. Free to gallery members, free to non-members with gallery admission: Janice Macisak, first violinist in the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, will perform at 3 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 9. Free.

SENIOR MATINEE — "H.M. Pulham, Esq."

starring Hedy Lamarr, Robert Young, 1:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 6, George Eastman House.

FISHER OFFERS — An Open House for persons thinking about returning to college, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., Monday, Jan. 10, Haffey Lounge on the Fisher campus, 3690 East Ave. For more information call the Office of Continuing Education at 586-4140, ext. 365.

CREATIVE WORKSHOP — The Memorial Art Gallery's studio arts school is accepting registrations for its Winter schedule of classes for children and adults.

Classes begin Saturday, Jan. 8, for children and Monday, Jan. 10, for adults, and will continue through April 1. For information call Emily Cassebeer at 275-4771.

ART — Forma Art Studio presents its 10th anniversary retrospective show, including current works and works from the past 10 years beginning with a champagne reception, 7-9 p.m., Friday, Jan. 7, lobby, Nazareth College Arts Center.

NFP SESSIONS — Sponsored by the Natural Family Planning Education, 7:30-9 p.m., Friday, Jan. 14, Rochester General Hospital.

Women's Club Sets Meeting

The Rochester Federation of Women's Clubs has scheduled its monthly meeting Thursday, Jan. 13, at Howard Johnson's, 12 Corners, Brighton.

The Executive Board will meet at 11 a.m.; luncheon will be at 12:15 p.m. and a general business meeting at 1 p.m. Anne T. Briggs will speak on "Making Our Dollars Work for Us."

Hostess clubs are Monroe County Council of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Monroe County Federation of Women's Republican Clubs. Reservations may be made with Joan Weiss, 225-3145.

Focus Rites

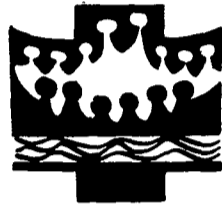
Focus on the Eucharist devotions begin 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 6, at St. Nicholas Melkite Catholic Church, Leo and Remington streets. Father Salem Fadoul, pastor, will celebrate the Mass of the Theophany (Epiphany). The group meets monthly to give special honor to the Blessed Lord in the Eucharist, in reparation for the offenses committed against Him in this sacrament of love, said Mrs. Joan M. Rand, promoter of the group.



Yuletide Party

Santa (John Birmingham) assists Marguerite Schmoker, right, during a Christmas tree decorating party last month on her floor in St. Ann's Home. In the background are an elf (James Bircher) and Mrs. Santa (Irma Bircher). Tree trimming parties were the custom on each floor of the Home and in the main lobby of The Heritage. During the events, residents sang carols and enjoyed refreshments served by staff and volunteers.

Insights In Liturgy



By Sister Nancy Burkin, SSJ

The Homily

Homilies became part of the early Christian celebration of the Eucharist as naturally as did the scripture readings. The first Christians, accustomed to hearing explanations of the readings in the Temple, readily adopted the practice to their Sunday celebration of the Eucharist.

Over the centuries following, the content, role, occurrence and deliverer of homilies changed considerably. Originally the homily explained God's word heard in the scriptures. However, during the Middle Ages, though there was much enthusiasm for preaching, the focus of the homily shifted from the living application of God's word to articles of faith, right living and explanations of the Creed. Preaching of this type is rightly called a sermon or catechetics rather than a homily, and as such was not seen as part of the celebration of the Eucharist but as extrinsic to it. The sermon began and concluded with the sign of the cross, bracketing this experience from what went before and what was to follow. Many of us can remember the sermons of the pre-Vatican II Church, opening with a scripture quote which usually was not a part of or related to the scriptures of the day. In fact, the scripture quoted had very little, if anything, to do with what followed as the sermon! These sermons urged us to live better lives or helped us to understand what we professed to believe but did little to help us see ourselves in the Word of God that was proclaimed.

There is evidence in the early Church that only the bishop was allowed to homilize. Scandal was caused in the third century because Origen preached as a presbyter and at the end of the fourth century the people complained because their bishop had delegated the homily to Augustine.

Eventually, priest, deacon and others were accepted as those who could preach. It was not until the 13th century, as a result of heretical movements, that lay people were prohibited from preaching.

In its renewal and emphasis on the use of Scripture in liturgical celebrations, Vatican II brings us back to the real meaning and role of the homily. Homilies are not to be omitted on Sundays or holydays of obligation and are recommended on other days (c.f. Articles 41-42, General Instruction). A homily is "to explain the readings and make them relevant to the present day." (Article Two, Third Instruction) Though the presiding celebrant of the Mass should give the homily, the Directory for Masses with Children and the Rite of Baptism of Children allow for one other than the ordained to homilize and seem to point out that the breaking open of the Word itself is more important than the one who speaks.

Though there is need for catechetical and moralizing sermons, the relation of Word to Eucharist assures us that it is the homily, not the sermon, that belongs to liturgical celebrations, particularly the Eucharist. The Word of God proclaimed in the midst of the assembly is like a mirror; the homily simply points out who's who in the mirror and helps us to see ourselves clearly in the reflection. The homily shows how the scripture readings and particularly the Gospel of the day are happening today, here and now, in our midst and it should move us to a disposition of praise as we see God with us. All this should not take longer than seven minutes and should be a heart-to-heart, rather than a brain-to-brain sharing. The Liturgy of the Eucharist, then, is a response in praise of God's people together with Jesus, to our God who works, walks and is among us now and forever.