



Joseph Crisafulli, associate director of religious education for the Syracuse diocese, discusses television production to some of the participants at the communications conference at Ithaca College last week.

## Communication Conference Draws 30 to Ithaca College

By Terrance J. Brennan  
**Ithaca** — More than 30 people from across the Northeast United States and Canada attended a four-day communications seminar last Sunday through Wednesday, June 12-15 at Ithaca College.

The title of the conference was "The Churches and Media: Helping the Church Communicator" and was sponsored by the School of Communications at the college.

Among the organizers of the seminar was Father Lewis Brown, associate pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Ithaca, and former director of the Department of Religious Education for the diocese.

Other organizers of the conference were Thomas Bohn, Dean of the School of Communications at Ithaca College, and Charles Vance, assistant professor at the School of Communications.

The purpose of the confer-

ence was to discuss the various methods and techniques involved in media production, distribution and awareness for the church-related audience.

Workshops offered dealt with various themes such as "Church Utilization of New and Old Technologies," discussing the uses of computers, cable television, and various non-broadcast media; "The Electronic Church"; and "Format Selection and Production Techniques," dealing with actual use of the afore discussed types of media — print, radio and television.

"We were trying to reach the grassroots parish communicators with this conference," said Father Brown, "but we were pleasantly surprised by the kinds of people we did attract."

"One is a retired gentleman who had no previous connection with media or communications, but now he

wishes to begin writing so he attended the seminar."

Among others that attended, according to Father Brown, were two Sisters who are the communications officers for their respective orders, one man who holds the same post for an Episcopal diocese in this state, a pastor from Cleveland, a newsletter producer from Toronto, two radio producers, a diocesan audio-visual coordinator from New York City, and various other religious and laypeople.

"We are quite happy that it turned out to be such an ecumenical affair," added Father Brown.

The program began Sunday with check-in during the afternoon and a picnic sponsored by the college that evening. Actual workshops began Monday morning and continued through Wednesday morning, with the conference culminating at a luncheon that afternoon.

### Field Mass June 26 at Holy Sepulchre

The annual Field Mass at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery will be celebrated by Auxiliary Bishop Dennis W. Hickey at 10:30 a.m., Sunday, June 26, in front of All Souls Chapel on the east side of Lake Avenue.

Following the Mass, Bishop Hickey will rededicate the statue of Bishop McQuaid recently moved from St. Bernard's Seminary property. The bishop will be escorted by uniformed Knights of St. John and members of auxiliary.

A motorcade will proceed to Resurrection Garden Mausoleum for the blessing of two recent additions.

The Mass and ceremonies are open to all.

### Garage Sale

Birthright Guild will hold its first annual garage sale, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Friday and Saturday, June 24, 25, and 1-4 p.m., Sunday, June 26, at 153 Mosley Road, Greece. Mosley is one street south of Britton, off both Dewey and Mt. Read. Featured items at the sale include toys, household items, books, and furniture. Further information is available through Linda Travers, 458-1726.

Russell Razzmatazz, WXXI P.O. Box 21, Rochester, N.Y. 14601.

**FRIENDS OF MENTALLY ILL** — Families and friends of the mentally ill and emotionally disturbed meeting 7:30 p.m., Monday, June 27, Reformation Church, 111 N. Chestnut St. (formerly Grove Street). Free and open to public.

**CANCER TALK** — Dr. Steven E. Sallan, Harvard Medical School and director, Clinical Pediatric Oncology Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, will discuss childhood cancer, 7:30 p.m., June 28, Y-4 Conference Room, Fourth Floor, Strong Memorial Hospital. Sponsored by the Cure Childhood Cancer Association and open to the public.

**WW I POSTERS** — Exhibit opening July 8 at Memorial Art Gallery, 490 University Ave., Rochester, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday; 1 to 5 p.m., Sunday; closed Monday and Tuesday.

**OUTDOOR CONCERT** — Free outdoor concert at St. Joseph's Park, downtown Rochester. Kevin Morse and DFanny Fitzgerald on classical guitar and vibraphone. Noon, Tuesday, June 28.



**NFP** — Information sessions scheduled from 7:30 to 9 p.m., July 8, at Main Conference Room, Rochester General Hospital; July 11, Kearney Building, St. Mary's Hospital, and July 29, Lakeside Memorial Hospital, Brockport.

**ITHACA NFP** — Information sessions scheduled at 7:30 p.m., June 22, 24, at Immaculate Conception School, Buffalo Street entrance. Further information, 272-5516.

**ARTS CENTER** — "Snoopy!!!" Broadway musical based on Charles Schultz's comic strip "Peanuts," 8 p.m., July 1, 2, 8, 9; 2 p.m., July 2, 3, 7 and 9; 10:30 a.m., July 6.

**SATIRIST** — Political satirist Mark Russell, 8 p.m., Wednesday, July 13, Nazareth Arts Center. Benefit of public broadcasting. Tickets \$12.50 for WXXI members; \$15 for non-members. Reservations, Judith Van Patten (716) 325-7500 or send check or money order to

Fr. John Reedy

Looking for the Lord

### Protests Can Be Civil

Sometimes you're more embarrassed by the people who are on your side than by those you oppose.

That's the way I feel about the recent action of the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights in demanding the ouster of a university chancellor.

The hassle concerns an art exhibit at the University of Illinois, Chicago Circle Campus. While I didn't see the display of paintings by Douglas Van Dyke, I assume the accuracy of the general judgment: In subject matter and treatment, the exhibit was seen as a crude manifestation of anti-Catholic bigotry.

It attracted attention; it provoked protests. A particular focus of the complaints had to do with the use of publicly-funded facilities for the display of paintings which were deeply offensive, which manifested an insulting form of religious bigotry.

Some of the protestors wanted the university to close down the exhibit; instead, the administration allowed the paintings to remain on display until the scheduled closing at the end of May.

Now I don't like bigots of any variety. And I particularly dislike those whose bigotry is directed against religious beliefs, values and images which are part of my own response to God.

I have no doubt that someone at the university made a mistake in scheduling the exhibit, though I suspect that the chancellor had no idea of what was on display until the protests began.

University faculties tend to be paranoid about any pressure which suggests restraint on academic freedom. While an exhibit of bigoted art seems to be a fuzzy focus for an argument over academic freedom, I have no doubt that the cancellation of the exhibit would have provoked some noisy protests from faculty members and students.

Given the situation, I'm not surprised that the chancellor decided to ride out the protests and hope that the fiasco would be quickly forgotten after the paintings were returned to the artist. (I would be very surprised, though, if there were not some blunt, heart-to-heart conversations between the chancellor and the people who actually scheduled the exhibit.)

It's completely appropriate for Catholics and other people who oppose religious bigotry to express their judgments to university officials and to the public. This, too, is part of our freedom of speech.

But to call for the firing of the chancellor over this kind of a blunder is an embarrassing over-reaction.

In calling for the correction of an offense, we should be sensitive to the problems and pressures which might arise from such a correction.

The university and its chancellor wound up with egg on their faces because of this incident. The protest received far more public attention than the exhibit would have attracted. The point was made.

Yes, I know the usual arguments. If this exhibit had been a manifestation

of anti-semitism, the Anti-Defamation League would have been all over the university. If it were an expression of racial bigotry, a number of black leaders would have applied a blowtorch to the posteriors of the chancellor and any other university officials responsible for the display.

That may be true. But the situation of Catholics in this country is not the same as that of Blacks. The recent history of Catholics is not the same as that of Jews.

The reality is that this exhibit was offensive and insulting, but it was not threatening.

What reasonable Catholics want, what reasonable Catholics have a right to expect is greater sensitivity, a deeper awareness of religious sensibility.

I think that all who were involved in scheduling this exhibit have gotten that message.

For that purpose, we really don't have to have the head of the chancellor of the university. Even protests can be handled with civility.

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