

Sarah Child



All in the Family

### A Terrorist At 4, He's Near Manhood

It is one of those weeks in which I cannot think of a thing to write. No, that is not true. It is a week in which there are so many items cluttering my brain that I cannot focus on just one.

To wit:

● The oldest leaves in a couple of days for her first year of college. I have been worrying about the Empty Nest Syndrome for 18 years. Now, will I be 1. Devastated? 2. Relieved? 3. Philosophical about the fact the family circle is going to be bent if not broken?

● Our son turns sixteen this week. Approaching six feet, he towers over me and it is hard to reconcile this child with the roly-poly infant he was.

This boy-man whom the law says is now old enough for a driver's permit is the one I remember climbing onto the dining room table at 18 months to swing on the chandelier.

It is the same kid who terrorized a platoon of babysitters, who brought in the hose and watered down the living room carpet, who dumped

buckets of water on the baby in her playpen to "give her a shower." This all before he was four.

At six he immortalized himself by singing bawdy Christmas carols from the front pew during the children's Mass on Christmas Eve.

And at about the same time he scandalized a school counselor who was giving him a psychological test. He stuck the mother in the toy house in the play toilet.

Ten years later he has quieted down. Is it ridiculous to say I miss the miscreant?

● And finally another letter of rejection arrived last week, this one the most demoralizing of all since the publisher had shown more than a little interest.

During these dog days of summer I am suspended in limbo certain that the only way to get through them is to encourage a state of numbness.

A line by noted essayist Thomas Lewis flits through my mind. Lewis, a doctor, points out that all physicians' families know that most ailments get better by morning all by themselves without medical intervention. I think I'll go to bed.

## Three Teachers Participate in Seminar

Three diocesan high school social studies teachers were among a group of 20 that participated this Summer in an intensive, two-week seminar on economics at the State University. College at Brockport.

Sister Marlene McQueeney of Cardinal Mooney High School, Margaret Barron of Bishop Kearney High School and Barbara Tomasso of Nazareth Academy were the diocesan representatives at the program.

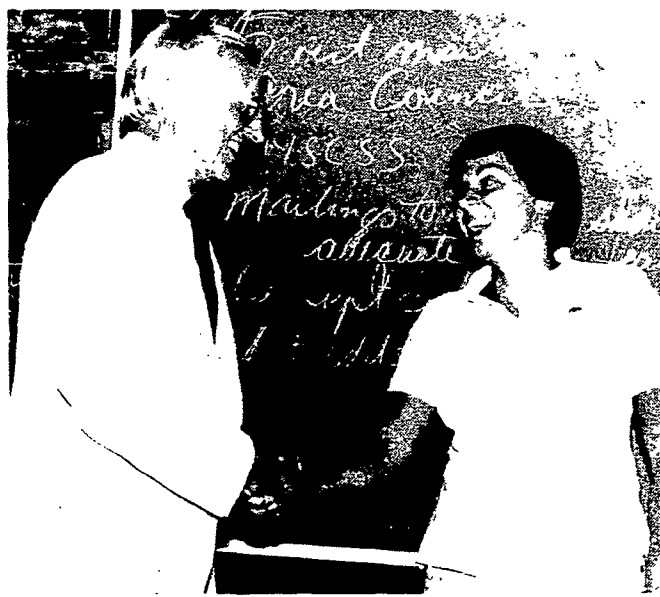
The seminar was sponsored jointly by SUC Brockport and the National Endowment for the Humanities, and focused on "Economic Theory/Economic Reality: The American Experience."

Richard Fenton, assistant professor of economics at

Brockport, and Owen S. Ireland, chairman of the Brockport history department, were co-directors of the seminar.

According to a press release from the college, the program was designed "to enrich teacher background in both history and economic theory, and to strengthen the participants' abilities to deal with complex questions in existing social studies courses or to create additional elective courses."

The seminar consisted of a series of lectures by Fenton, extensive reading and discussion, and the production of practical teaching units under the direction of Edward Grozewski of the Spencerport Central School District, who also served as a consultant to the seminar.



Barbara Tomasso, Nazareth Academy teacher, receives congratulations from SUC Brockport President John E. Van de Wetering at a ceremony marking the end of the two-week seminar on economics for secondary school teachers.

## St. Theodore Pastor Announces Census

Father Gerald Dunn, pastor of St. Theodore's Church, announced this week that a comprehensive parish census would be taken of his parish during the last two weeks of September.

Father Dunn said that planning and organizational work had been underway for the past few months, and that he is confident of the census' success.

He noted that the census would provide, in addition to the number of family units, a great deal of information for long-term planning for school and religious education programs; and that it would identify for the parish staff those parishioners who need special services.

In the latter category he hopes to identify shut-ins, those who may need special English language assistance or special sacramental attention among parishioner needs.

Father Dunn noted that all information obtained through the census will be computerized, thus readily making it available to parish staff — though only to parish staff. All information, he said, will be treated with the strictest confidentiality. "We see this as a tremendous step forward

enabling us to serve our parishioners more effectively.

Larry Wehner is chairperson of the program which involves some 400 volunteers from the parish. Section leaders are James Kaseman, Wayne Warren, Robert Kwarta, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Caruso, and Thomas Monaghan.

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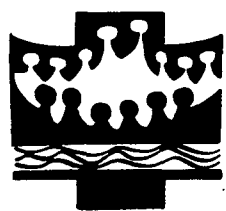
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### Insights In Liturgy



By Father Thomas Nellis

### Liturgists Gathering Nationally

Sept. 6 through 9 are the dates and New Orleans is the place for the annual convention of the FDLC, which stands for Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions. It is, as its name implies, a national network giving unity and focus to the work of the diocesan liturgical commissions which the Second Vatican Council mandated to help the bishops renew the Church's worship life.

The FDLC is a semi-official body in the American Catholic Church working in conjunction with the Bishops Committee on the Liturgy of the U.S. bishops' conference to keep the liturgical movement alive and in touch with the worship needs of the people.

After several years of experience the national conventions are now finely tuned, well-run forums where aspects of liturgical life are examined by competent scholars, discussed by diocesan representatives and made the subject of resolutions voted upon by the assembled delegates. Those resolutions often call upon the FDLC, the BCL or the local liturgy offices and commissions to initiate an educational

campaign and/or modification in liturgical practice within a specified length of time.

The topic this year is the Church year. Numerous proposals have already been discussed at regional meetings which took place last April. For example, Region 2 (the New York State dioceses) have proposed a resolution concerning the proper observance of the Easter season. Another proposal (submitted by Region 6, Ohio) calls diocesan liturgy offices and commissions to continue to affirm and support the integrity of the Sunday Liturgy and of the Sunday cycle of readings as set forth in the Roman Lectionary. This proposal includes the request that the National Conference of Catholic Bishops with the BCL take the steps necessary to preserve this integrity.

These resolutions are usually modified by lively floor debate and then either accepted or rejected by the delegates. When adopted, FDLC resolutions mandate diocesan offices and commissions to follow a particular plan of action of development. When directed to the official policymakers of the Church: the local bishop, the national episcopal conference, and ultimately the Holy See, they stand as guides and legitimate expressions of informal opinion.

## Principals Named

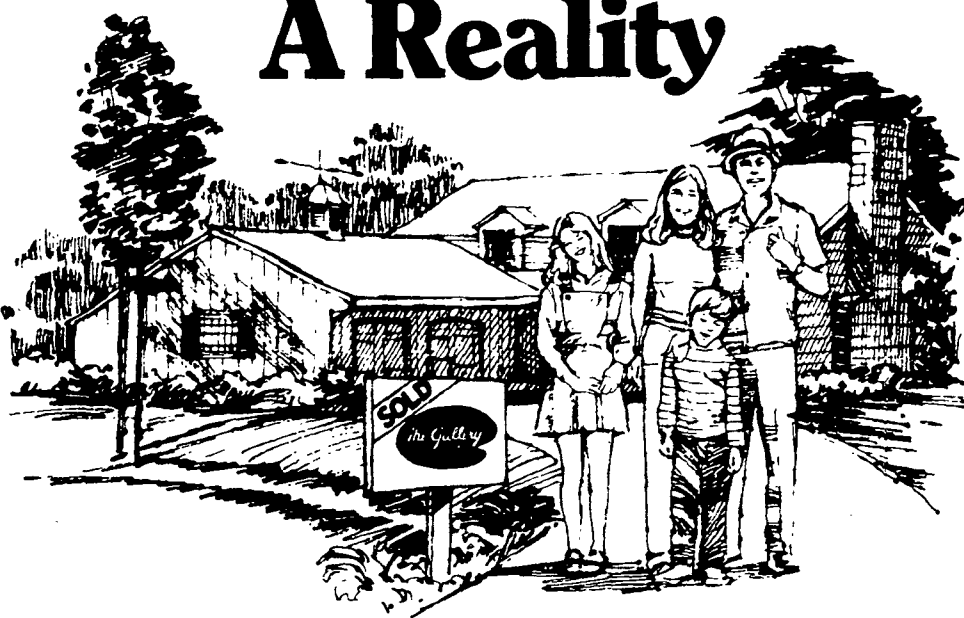
Three new principals have been named for diocesan schools. Sister M. Felicia Szymanowski, FSSJ, will be principal of St. Hyacinth, Auburn; Sister Mary Ellen Bossack, SSJ, of the Corning Catholic School System, and Sister Raymond Mary Davis, SSJ, of St. Patrick in Seneca Falls.

### King Inspiration

Washington — The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was with the U.S. bishops as they debated their pastoral letter on war and peace, according to Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Francis of Newark, N.J.

In a brief address to the 20th Anniversary March on Washington for Jobs, Peace and Freedom, Aug. 27, Bishop Francis said, "Dr. King was very much with us when we debated the pastoral."

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