



### Oratorical Finalists

Forty-three diocesan boys and girls participated in the fourth annual Bishop Matthew H. Clark Oratoricals on Saturday, Dec. 10, at Bishop Kearney High School. David Cummings, far left, of St. Ambrose School, was the winner of the \$1,000 scholarship sponsored by the General Education Department of the diocese. The other finalists, pictured with Bishop Clark, center, are, from left, Kimberly Brennan of Holy Trinity, Webster; Cory Curtin of Our Lady of Lourdes/Queen of Peace; Laura Jacobovic of St. Francis deSales/St. Stephen, Geneva; Beth Kaleta of Good Shepherd/Guardian Angels; and Patricia Ratchford of St. Patrick, Elmira.

## A Special Christmas Gift: Find Shelter for Homeless

With this Christmas fast approaching, it's easy to be blinded by the joyous happenings the season brings. Children sing festive carols outside your door, and then there's all that holiday cooking to be ingested, and the 16-year-old who passes you on the street...crying.

That's right. Crying. She's carries her three-month-old bi-racial daughter tenderly through the light snowfall, the flakes collecting then melting slowly on the infant's long eyelashes.

This unfortunate youngster will suffer through the holidays, desperate in the fear of not finding appropriate housing for her child, insecure in the knowledge that she will be able to continue her studies at John Marshall High School.

Indeed, for the many homeless and transient it will

be just another cold, lonely, fearful day in their lives.

The Catholic Family Center homefinding program is, as always, burdened with pleas for resettlement, but especially around this time of year. The center requests your compassion and assistance in helping those needy solve their housing problems and get their lives back on track.

Foster homes are urgently needed, especially on a free basis -- for single pregnant girls -- Catholic and non-Catholic -- who need temporary housing until their child is born.

Other cases that deserve prompt attention include:

—Finding a city home for a 13-year-old white girl who is presently attending a city school. She is bright and attractive. Her mother is chronically ill.

—A home for a 16-year-

old pregnant white girl. She is a high school student with special emotional needs.

—A home for a 15-year-old white girl and her three-month-old son. A home in Henrietta is preferred.

—Homes for Asian Refugee Unaccompanied Minors, ages 12-17, especially a bright 16-year-old Vietnamese boy who needs to leave his present foster home. He has suffered the loss of his natural father and foster father and is now having to deal with the illness of his mother still in Vietnam.

Further information is available by calling Joyce Daley at the Catholic Family Center, 546-7220.

### Exhibits Scheduled

The Memorial Art Gallery Store has published its 1984 prospectus for three open-judging exhibitions which run consecutively beginning in February. The prospectus lists the exhibition schedule, explains entry requirements, the selection process.

The open-invitation exhibits are: "Painting and Sculpture," Feb. 7 through Feb. 26; "Prints/Drawings/Photographs," Feb. 28 through March 18, and "Crafts," March 20 through April 8. Each artist may submit up to two works for each exhibition; all shows are judged by the gallery's professional and curatorial staff. Receiving dates are Jan. 28 for "Painting and Sculpture," Feb. 18 for "Prints/Drawings/Photographs," and March 10 for "Crafts."

For more information, contact the Gallery Store, 275-4767.

### Parish Deadline

Parish correspondents are advised that the deadline for submissions to At Your Parish is noon on Thursday, preceding Wednesday publication. The Courier-Journal address is 114 S. Union St., Rochester, N.Y. 14607.

## Cardinal Bernardin Links Catholic 'Life' Teachings

New York (NC) — The Church's position on nuclear arms, abortion and capital punishment make up a "seamless garment" that Catholics should address together rather than separately, Cardinal Joseph L. Bernardin of Chicago said Dec. 6.

Speaking at Jesuit-run Fordham University in New York, Cardinal Bernardin stressed the importance of developing a "consistent ethic of life in our culture" and linked that ethic as well to the Church's positions on Central America and domestic poverty.

The Chicago prelate, who gained national attention for his chairmanship of the committee which developed the U.S. bishops' recent pastoral letter on war and peace, said he did not underestimate the intellectual, political, ecclesial and ecumenical difficulties of developing such a broad-based ethic of life.

"But I believe the Catholic moral tradition has something valuable to say in the face of the multiple threats to the sacredness of life today," he said, "and I am convinced that the Church is in a position to make a significant defense of life in a comprehensive and consistent manner."

Cardinal Bernardin's speech at Fordham expanded on a similar theme he had begun to develop during the U.S. bishops' annual general meeting in Washington three weeks earlier.

In a report to the bishops as the newly appointed head of the bishops' Committee for Pro-Life Activities, Cardinal Bernardin said then that the Catholic Church was in a unique position to bring together the issues of war and abortion because no other major institution was addressing the issues the way the U.S. bishops have.

He noted that the pastoral on war and peace had linked the two concerns under the broader theme of the sanctity of life but said that the linkage had received little public attention and that there is "much more depth in joining the two issues" than the pastoral was able to explore.

At Fordham Cardinal Bernardin again noted the unique role the Church could play in linking the issues and said one of his purposes in the Fordham speech was to "argue the case for linkage" in a way the pastoral was unable to do.

The cardinal, citing both modern warfare and modern medicine, said new technology is a "dominant cultural fact" that induces "a sharper awareness of the fragility of human life."

In such a technology, he said, deciding what society ought to do or what it morally never should do are key questions.

"I would, however, highlight a basic issue: the need for an attitude or atmosphere in society which is the precondition for sustaining a consistent ethic of life."

He continued, "The development of such an atmosphere has been the primary concern of the 'Respect Life' program of the American bishops. We intend our opposition to abortion and our opposition to nuclear war to be seen as specific applications of this broader attitude."

He added that the bishops

have been opposed to the death penalty "because we do not think its use cultivates an attitude of respect for life in society."

On Central America Cardinal Bernardin said the Reagan administration's policy there "relies predominantly on the threat and the use of force, which is increasingly distancing itself from a concern for human rights in El Salvador and which fails to grasp the opportunity of a diplomatic solution to the Central American conflict."

He also said a consistent ethic of life means that arguments for the right to life must also extend to the quality of life.

"Those who defend the right to life of the weakest among us must be equally visible in support of the quality of life of the powerless among us: the old and the young, the hungry and the homeless, the undocumented immigrant and the unemployed worker," he said.

"Consistency means we cannot have it both ways: we cannot urge a compassionate society and vigorous public

policy to protect the rights of the unborn and then argue that compassion and significant public programs on behalf of the needy undermine the moral fiber of the society or are beyond the proper scope of governmental responsibility."

While conceding that Catholics often are divided in their view of issues such as war and abortion, Cardinal Bernardin said the Church's pro-life positions on each should be promoted together rather than as separate causes.

Citing the Church principle which prohibits the directly intended taking of innocent human life, Cardinal Bernardin said the principle needs to be upheld in regard to both war and abortion. "It cannot be successfully sustained on one count and simultaneously eroded in a similar situation."

Cardinal Bernardin was at Fordham to give the seventh semiannual Gannon Lecture, a series established in 1980 by Fordham's graduate school of arts and sciences in memory of Jesuit Father Robert I. Gannon, Fordham president from 1936 to 1949.

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### Last Film

The late Princess Grace of Monaco, poses with Father Patrick Peyton for a publicity photograph advertising her last movie appearance, "The Nativity," an award-winning show which also features Cary Grant and Placido Domingo, slated for broadcast 9 p.m., Christmas Day on WUHF, Channel 31. According to a release from Father Peyton's Family Theater Productions, the show "is warm, inspiring and done with class." The program won the Southern California Motion Picture Council's "Golden Halo," and Religion in Media's "Award of Excellence."

## Pope Speaks To Pilgrims

Vatican City (NC) — Here is the Vatican text of Pope John Paul II's remarks in English at his weekly general audience Nov. 30.

Dear brothers and sisters, I offer a very cordial welcome to all the English-speaking visitors who are present at the audience today.

We have only recently begun the holy season of Advent, the special time given us by the Church to help us prepare for the celebration of the birth of our savior. Through the word of God and the sacred liturgy, the Lord stirs up within us a new awareness of our need for salvation. We feel in a deeper way the desires and longings of the human heart. At the same time, the Church directs our attention to the infinite mercy of God, inviting us to meditate on the merciful love of our redeemer. Together with all humanity, we wait in faith and hope for the coming of Christ our savior.

I wish to extend a special word of welcome to the members of the holy year pilgrimage from the Diocese of Rapid City, and I offer warm greetings to the groups of pilgrims from the Philippines and from Japan. As you visit Rome during this Jubilee Year of the Redemption, may God renew your minds and hearts in the love of Christ our Lord. May the Lord be with you all.



### RIT Honor

Sister (Dr.) Mary Sullivan, dean of the College of Liberal Arts at Rochester Institute of Technology, has been named RIT's 1983-84 institute dean. She was designated for the honor position for "significant contributions to RIT beyond outstanding leadership in the College of Liberal Arts," said Dr. Thomas R. Plough, vice president for Academic Affairs. As institute dean, Sister Sullivan will represent the institute within the RIT community and beyond the institute. A member of the Sisters of Mercy since 1950, Sister Sullivan was president of Catherine McAuley College, a three-year college conducted by the Mercy congregation that closed in 1968. She joined RIT in 1969 as assistant professor of language and literature. She holds professor status in the College of Fine Arts and teaches a course in literature and religion.