



An Artistic Win

Joseph Consiglio, St. Joseph's School in Penfield, displays his artwork that won him the Richard Hawver Creative Workshop Scholarship Award, given by the Memorial Art Gallery, in Sibley's 42 annual Scholastic Art Awards Show, Feb. 4-25. The Award entitles Joseph to a one course scholarship to The Creative Workshop summer session. Joseph also took a blue ribbon in the pastels, crayon, and charcoal category.

'Persevere,' Pontiff Tells Lithuanian Church

Vatican City (NC) — Pope John Paul II on Feb. 29 called for the church in Lithuania to "persevere in the faith" and announced plans to celebrate a Mass March 4 to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the death of Lithuania's patron, St. Casimir.

The pope spoke to 23,000 people during his weekly general audience, held in two phases at St. Peter's Basilica and the Paul VI auditorium.

Pope John Paul noted that St. Casimir, the son of a king of Poland, died at the age of 26 while on a visit to Lithuania.

The Mass, he said, would serve "to commemorate the anniversary and show the deep solidarity in the communion of faith and charity of the church of Rome with the church that is in Lithuania."

Representatives of European bishops conferences will

concelebrate the Mass, the pope said. He did not say whether church leaders from Lithuania, which is now part of the Soviet Union, would attend the ceremony.

"I ask everyone to pray to God for the Catholic Lithuanian people, so that they will know how to persevere in the faith towards the spiritual inheritance left by St. Casimir," the pope said.

Lithuania, once an independent nation bordering Poland, was annexed by the Soviet Union during World War II. Despite strict government control over religious activity, Lithuania is still estimated to be 80 percent Catholic.

Last April, Pope John Paul urged full religious freedom for Lithuanians during a talk to four Lithuanian bishops. It was the first time since 1938 that a Lithuanian bishop had been

allowed to visit the Holy See, and was considered a major step toward better relations between the Vatican and Moscow.

During his audience talk, Pope John Paul also said the sacrament of penance is not merely a "forgetting of the past," but provokes a radical change in the mind, heart and behavior of the person.

Following God means changing the way people live, the pope said.

"God, in fact, is a very kind friend, but also a very demanding friend," the pope said.

"A religion that only consoles is a fairy tale, shared only by those who have not yet experienced communion with God," the pope said. "Such communion offers deep gratification, but also offers the unending work of conversion."

MDC Marks Anniversary With Contest

As part of a year-long celebration marking its 10th anniversary, Monroe Developmental Center is sponsoring a song-writing contest, searching for an original verse and melody using the theme of "Friends Reaching Out."

The composition must be written for a vocalist, preferably with piano accompaniment. It is suggested that a standard "pop" song form be used.

The song must be submitted by Sept. 1, 1984, and will be premiered on Sunday, Nov. 18 at the Center's final celebration at the Eastman House. The Brighton Symphony will perform the music. \$100 will be awarded to the winning songwriter.

St. Agnes

Avon — A parish St. Patrick's Dance for St. Agnes Church will be held 9 p.m.-1 a.m., Saturday, March 17 in the Village Hall. The Gene Taylor Orchestra will provide music for the BYOB event. Tickets at \$5 per person are limited and are available from Bob and Polly Hayes,

DEATHS

Sister Mary Loyola, RSM

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated last Saturday at the Mercy Motherhouse for Sister Mary Loyola Taylor, 63, who died of a heart attack March 7.

Since 1981, she has done clerical work in the office of Our Lady of Mercy High School and has been in charge of textbooks and given music lessons there. She also worked one day a week in the Cenacle Renewal Center office.

Sister Mary Loyola has also served as recording secretary for the Diocesan Sisters Council for the past three years.

Prior to 1981, she was an elementary school music teacher for 37 years at St. Salome, St. Charles, St. Andrew, St. James, and Holy Family, Auburn.

At St. Salome, where she spent most of her teaching career (22 years), she was also part-time organist and choir director.

Sister Mary Loyola was born in Hornell on Feb. 8, 1921, and was a parishioner at St. Ignatius of Loyola Church there. In 1940, at the age of 19, she entered the congregation of the Sister of



SISTER MARY LOYOLA

Mercy of Rochester.

She graduated from St. Ann's Grammar School, Hornell; Hornell High School; and Nazareth College with a B.S. in Music in 1950. She also attended the Catholic University in Washington, D.C.

She is survived by one brother, J. LaMonte Taylor of LeRoy; two sisters, Mary Ost of Greece, and Louise Wizeman of Colorado Springs; and several nieces and nephews, including Sister Virginia Taylor, RSM.

Theologian Questions 'Catholic' Alternative to In Vitro Fertilization

Dayton, Ohio (NC) — A leading Catholic moral theologian has endorsed "in vitro" fertilization and questioned Catholic enthusiasm for the experimental "low tubal ovum transfer," or LTOT, as a "Catholic" alternative.

LTOT is suspect because it is still experimental, said Jesuit Father Richard McCormick, Rose F. Kennedy professor of ethics at the Kennedy Institute of Ethics in Washington, in a talk Feb. 16 at the Marianist-run University of Dayton.

He also challenged the view of Catholic moralists who have hailed LTOT while rejecting "in vitro" fertilization ("test tube" babies). Even if LTOT should prove workable, it would not be morally superior to the "in vitro" approach, the priest said.

LTOT is being pioneered at St. Elizabeth's Medical Center, a Catholic hospital in Dayton. The idea has received backing from the local bishop, Archbishop Daniel Pilarczyk of Cincinnati, and officials connected with the Catholic Health Association. Another facility in Dayton, Miami Valley Hospital, plans to begin an "in vitro" fertilization program in March.

Both procedures are efforts to help infertile couples have a child.

In "in vitro" fertilization a human egg and sperm are joined in a laboratory, and the developing embryo is transferred to the woman's womb after about two weeks.

LTOT, like the "in vitro" method, involves surgically extracting an egg from a woman's ovary, but the rest of the process is different. Instead of being placed in an artificial growth medium, the egg is simply transferred to the bottom of the woman's fallopian tube — hence the name, "low tubal ovum transfer."

Sexual intercourse follows, with the hope that a pregnancy will result. In "in vitro" fertilization, sexual intercourse is separated from the process.

Father McCormick said he had no moral objections to LTOT in principle, but he said the procedure must still be labeled experimental because it has had little testing in either animals or humans. He questioned the ethics of charging couples to be subjects of an experiment.

Barbara Becker, wife and office manager of Dr. David McLaughlin, head of the LTOT team at St. Elizabeth's, disagreed. The procedure simply combines individual steps, each of which has already been proven in research, she said.

"This is applied clinical research rather than experimentation," she said. Although their program has had no successes so far, she said, the technique has worked in Czechoslovakia and Great Britain when an egg was extracted from one woman and placed in the fallopian tube of another woman.

Catholic moralists who object to the "in vitro" method cite paragraph 21 of the U.S. bishops' norms for medical ethics, which says

that "the ultimate personal expression of conjugal love in the marital act is viewed as the only fitting context for the human sharing of the divine act of creation."

They do not have the same objection to LTOT, since it relies on the marital act.

Last August, Archbishop Pilarczyk wrote that LTOT is "quite different from 'in vitro' fertilization" and is "in accord with the church's teaching."

Father Donald McCarthy, director of education at the Pope John XXIII Medical-Moral Research and Education Center in St. Louis, an institute founded by the Catholic Health Association, told NC News in a telephone interview that if LTOT proves workable it will be "a genuine alternative to technological reproduction." It

overcomes the moral objections to "in vitro" fertilization, he said.

Challenging those objections to the "in vitro" approach, Father McCormick said that an act is moral if it "promotes the person."

He said that "in vitro" fertilization must meet certain other norms to be morally acceptable. It must be safe, involve only the eggs and sperm of the married couple and exclude surrogate mothers, he said. In addition all fertilized eggs must be implanted, and the possibility of abortion must not be part of the contract, he said.

But if all those conditions are met, he said, there is no reason to consider "in vitro" fertilization less acceptable than LTOT.

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