

Family Camp... With a Twist



Campers gather outside the dining hall before dinner.

Children running, swimming, laughing and playing... parents relaxing, participating in rap groups, swimming and sailing, unwinding... sounds like an average family camp?

This camp is a little different — it's a camp for single parents and their children, sponsored by the Ministry with Divorced, Separated, Remarried and Widowed Catholics of the Family Life Office.

"There's nothing like this camp anywhere else in the country," said Angela Gallo, director of the Ministry with Divorced, Separated, Remarried and Widowed Catholics. "It's a support system, and a growth process."

The camp, which ran from Sunday, Aug. 26 to Saturday, Sept. 1, used the facilities of Camp Stella Maris on Conesus Lake. Children and parents enjoyed swimming, boating, rap sessions, a talent show, a dance, and daily liturgy.

Campers were not only from the Rochester area — some came from Niagara Falls, Syracuse, Johnson City, and even Long Island. One hundred seventy-four people attended, including 71 adults, 37 teenagers, and 66 children 12 years old or younger.

Josephine Gioia traveled from St. Aidan's Parish in the Diocese of Rockville Centre on Long Island. "I'm here partly for selfish reasons," she said. "Because I'm a divorced and single parent; and partly to learn and bring back to Long Island knowledge of the camp. I'd really like to see one started down there. The camp is just marvelous...it's terrific!"

There are two co-chairs of the camp, Elaine Pape and Ruth Ranzenbach, who do most of the program planning. The two organized a theme around each day, including "Here I Am, Lord"; "What Are You Going to Do?"; "What Can I Do?"; "Acceptance"; and "Where Am I Going From Here?" Activities and rap sessions for each day revolve around a specific theme.

At daily liturgy, many of the roles were filled by campers, both adults and children — readers, Eucharistic ministers, bearers of the gifts, and even homilists.

Every day at camp began with organized activities according to age group; then, at 11 a.m., special time was set aside for families to do something together. The time, called Family Rap, was spent out walking, quietly talking, sailing, or playing.

"That's the special time for me and my son," said Mrs. Ranzenbach. "We really enjoy that time together." During the rest of the day, campers could swim from



Co-chairpersons of the camp Ruth Ranzenbach, left, and Elaine Pape, right, flank Angela Gallo, ministry director.

1-4:30 p.m.; the youngsters could enjoy Kids Korner activities at 3:30 p.m.; and liturgy was at 5 p.m., with dinner following. Evening event included movies, a talent show, a dance, an overnight camping trip, and parent-teen role playing.

"The camp is really about evangelization," Ms. Gallo said. "A lot of these people have been away from the Church and have come back as a result of camp. After camp they go back to their parishes and work on liturgies and become involved in parish work."

The camp does suffer from financial troubles, Ms. Gallo said. Many of the parents at camp are women who are head of households with lower-than-average incomes. "There's just no way of telling them no," Ms. Gallo said. "They call up and they're afraid to ask about aid and so I ask them, 'Do you need help in funding?'"

8 Receive Diplomas At Radiologic School

Elmira — Eight students received diplomas at the recent commencement exercises of St. Joseph's Hospital School of Radiologic Technology.

Members of the class are Colleen Ann Buck of Gillett, Pa.; Barbara Ann Devlin of Elmira; Kevin A. Gordon of Montour Falls; Philip J. Losito of Elmira; David M. McGrain of Gillett, Pa.; Dorothy Lynn Milford of Pine City, and Charles A. Wicks of Pine City.

Colleen Buck received the Radiologist Award for scholastic achievement and Barbara Ann Devlin the Malinckrodt Award for general performance.

Dr. Peter Nielsen, director

Class of '44

The Nazareth Academy graduating class of 1944 will hold an anniversary buffet 6:30 p.m., Sept. 21 at 111 East Ave. Further information is available from Elizabeth Schiller Creary, 244-4191.

Sometimes they pay me their grocery money for part of the fee."

According to Ms. Gallo, the camp ran \$4,000 in debt last year. She said the camp does receive aid from Catholic Charities. The camp also holds a fund raiser every year and receives donations from parishes. This money funds approximately one out of six families that come to camp.

The fee is kept as low as possible, Ms. Gallo said, adding that Ray Tette, executive director of the camp, keeps fees at cost.

Yet the camp is upbeat and presents a time for growth. "The other day our topic was 'acceptance,'" said Mrs. Pape, "and afterward a woman came up to me and said, 'Acceptance is hard...but I want you to know that I'm growing.' To hear something like that is wonderful."

of radiology, conferred the diplomas. He was assisted by Joann Treat, director of the School of Radiologic Technology, and Patricia Loew, instructor.

Father Timothy McGough, OCD, offered the benediction.



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Fr. Paul J. Cuddy



On the Right Side

The Fine Art of Shopping

From escorting groups of people on tours around the world, I have learned many things. One of the most vivid is the passion women have for shopping. It seems a psychological compulsion which is rarely in the male species.

Once I took a group to the Holy Land and was thunderstruck by this. We were making the Via Dolorosa, stopping at each "station" which is usually a chapel or church in a traditional spot on the way to Calvary, when I noticed around the seventh station we had lost some of our ladies.

"Where could they be?" I wondered, until I saw a bazaar, a group of colorful open stores across the road from the station. Piety had given way to shopping: for handbags, scarves, souvenirs, jewelry.

Personally I hate to shop, but I think I understand this female compulsion. Women, because of their loving hearts which makes them so loveable, have their mind's eye on several persons back home whom they want to remember with gifts: children, grandchildren, friends, co-workers, some sister or priest.

And they have an instinct as true as the instinct of homing pigeons which makes them able to match a particular gift with each particular person. "This creche Roselma will like. This belt Brendan will like. These beads will be lovely on my god-daughter, Renata." I suppose the female psyche particularizes while men tend to generalize.

This leads up to a Christmas gift suggestion. I have 21 nieces and nephews, and 84 grand-nieces and nephews. Some

woman said, "Impossible!", and she said it so positively I began to wonder if I might not be mistaken. So I took a count again, and there are 84, not counting several great-great-nieces and nephews who have been appearing the past few years.

I realized years ago that I would never be able to be an Uncle Warbucks to such a crowd, and have settled for a modest Christmas gift for the dozens who are old enough. In October I make out a list of nieces and nephews, grand-nieces and nephews, correct the addresses which often change, and order a subscription each from: Catholic Digest, St. Paul Square, Des Moines, Iowa, 50381.

The Digest sends a handsome Christmas card announcing the gift to each; and every month a memento from Uncle comes to relatives who range from Molly, who is 10, to Eileen, who is 60. Besides the relatives, I like to add a few friends who have been kind to me. I have treasured this letter from a dear friend whom I have esteemed for years: "Dear Father Cuddy,

"Thank you for the renewed subscription to the Catholic Digest. I have enjoyed it for several years, thanks to your thoughtfulness, and I remember you especially each month when it arrives. In fact I always smile remembering that you send it as a loving gift but also as a bit of evangelization. You never miss a chance, do you! So again, sincere thanks for the gift and your years of faithful friendship."

Another gift which many people away from the diocese value is a subscription to the Courier. As one woman wrote me: "About the only contact I have with the diocese, in which I was one time so active, is the Courier-Journal. It means a lot to me."

CYO Plans Youth Day

The Catholic Youth Organization has again scheduled "Youth Day: A Celebration" Saturday, Nov. 3, at St. Monica's School, 841 Genesee St.

Teenagers, youth groups and interested adults are invited to participate in a day of workshops, songs and ecumenical worship. Registration and information is available from the CYO, 50 Chestnut St., Rochester, N.Y. 14604, telephone (716) 454-2030.

Information Offered on NFP

Elmira — A Natural Family Planning informational meeting will take place at 7 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 23, in the first floor board room at St. Joseph's Hospital.

The meeting is for information only. Certified educators from Natural Family Planning Education of the Southern Tier will conduct the session. Further information is available from Sister Dorothy Mulcahy at (607) 733-6541, ext. 429.

Guild Meets

The Cardinal Mooney Guild for men and women will have its first dinner meeting of the new school year, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 25. Featured will be a steamship round. The cost is \$7.50 per person. Freshmen parents and new parents will be specially honored on the occasion. Reservations are made by calling Donna Lucchese, 254-2781, or Rose DiBella, 225-0328, before Sept. 20.

CDA Invites

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas meet 7:30 p.m., every third Tuesday of the month at St. Philip Neri School hall. The October meeting will be open to the public and will feature information for prospective members. Further information is available from Jane Crews, 482-8020 or Barbara Zaso, 334-8968.

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