



Gail Biemiller, teacher at Holy Childhood, encourages Jimmy VanderLinden in a reading readiness activity.

At School of the Holy Childhood:

The Hammers Are Quiet, But Real Work Continues

Drills and hammers are quiet, the fresh paint has dried and boxes no longer fill the hallways. A brand-new sign graces the front lawn of the former elementary school at 100 Groton Pkwy. in Henrietta: "School of the Holy Childhood... A Special Place for Special People."

On Sept. 5, Holy Childhood opened the doors of its new location, a building set on 12 acres of land in Henrietta. The new facility has twice the square footage of the agency's former location in the Diocese of Rochester building on Buffalo Road.

In existence for 38 years, the school is a non-denominational, not-for-profit agency offering three major programs for mentally retarded residents of Monroe County:

A Children's Program, with an enrollment of 102 children between 5 and 21, offers instruction in reading, writing, mathematics and prevocational skills, woodworking, cooking, sewing, independent living skills training and adapted physical education.

An Adult Day Training Program serves 45 mentally retarded adults 18 and older. It operates on a year-round basis, preparing clients for vocational programs, long-term sheltered employment or selected job placement. Modules are offered in woodworking, food service, facilities maintenance, community awareness and self-help skills. The program includes a certified Work Activities Center and a Mobility Training Program.

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A Clinic Treatment Program offers diagnostic and treatment services to clients in either of the agency's other programs. Medical services, speech therapy and mental health services supplement the education and training offered by the children's and adult's programs. Clinic services not offered are provided through referral to other community agencies.

The school is in the middle of a capital fund drive entitled "Focus on the Future," aimed at raising \$1,500,000 to buy the building now housing the school.

To date, almost 100 workers have succeeded in raising \$1,350,000.

Persons interested in the campaign have been asked to contact Mrs. Gill Dechario at the school, 359-3710.

Sarah Child



All in the Family

Eating As Pius XII, FDR Looked On

We were finishing our pie and coffee and I gazed about the dining room thinking I had spent more Thanksgiving dinners in this spot than any other. Still, it is the dining rooms of my childhood that I remember with particular clarity as if they were more real than the here and now.

Grandma Costa's dining room was small, its arched entrance to the adjoining living room draped with crocheted lace, its walls covered with photos of Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Pope Pius XII and plaster of parish plaques of fruit and the Blessed Mother.

We children were always served first, eating at the lace-covered table and not relegated to the kitchen. From the living room, the voices of the adults rose and fell and I recall the clink of glasses as my grandfather would uncork the crystal decanter of homemade wine to serve neighbors who had dropped in for a moment. None of his four sons would have so much as a drop, the reason for which I am still not clear about today.

Grandma Borelli's dining room was quite different. It featured a many windowed alcove in which stood her Singer sewing machine with the foot-powered treadle. A huge ivy completely encircled the alcove and the dining room was light and airy because of the windows.

Chicken, gravy and baking powder biscuits

which were split and covered with gravy, as were the mashed potatoes, was the first course. Homemade noodles, rolled out on the kitchen table and hung to dry near the wood stove were next.

My favorite meal at this table was not a meal at all, but the snack Gram would have waiting for us when we drove late Saturday night from Austin to Conrad on dirt, rutted roads.

From the high road that brought us into the hamlet we would peer eagerly down into the valley to see the faint glimmer of light which was all the kerosene lamps provided. It was enough.

A moment or so later, we were crossing the wooden bridge, stilling the peepers if it was spring, and there in the doorway would be my grandparents and same-age-aunt Louise with arms open.

The dining room was redolent with freshly-made, still warm fried cakes, some plain, some dipped in granulated sugar, some in powdered sugar. And a huge pot of coffee whose aroma filled the house. Nothing quite matched the fragrance of that dining room, particularly on winter nights when we came in from the cold.

Every house we lived in had a dining room, no matter how small the overall structure. In them, we celebrated holidays, birthdays, anniversaries and other special occasions. Yet everyday suppers were always served in the kitchen — warm, cozy and providing an altogether different experience. Looking back, I'm glad I had both.

Arrests in Haiti Alarm Amnesty International

Urgent Action has issued an alert that Amnesty International has legal concerns and fear of torture for the following Haitians: Pierre Andre Guerrier, agronomist; Francois Severin, agronomist; Robert Cassagnol, agronomist; Harry Jean, agronomist; Jean-Paul Duperval, agronomist; Edouard Laroche, businessman; Maurice Philippe, Herbert Saint-Louis, agronomist; M. Mirtilien, agronomist; Esteve Rene, agronomist; Fred Joseph, agronomist; Dr. Delpire; Pastor Antoine Leroy; Henri Claude Innocent, engineer.

The alert stated: "Amnesty International is concerned about reports of a number of arrests in Haiti, among them several agronomists and a Protestant church worker. A number of those arrested are thought to have been working on rural aid or education projects helpin the poor."

"Pierre Andre Guerrier, who works with the Institut D'Education de L'Adulte, is reported to have been arrested without warrant at his home in Limbe, northern Haiti on Nov. 5 by military personnel in civilian clothing. It is believed that he was first taken to the military barracks in Limbe, then transferred two hours later to Cap Haitien. The same afternoon he is reported to have been transferred to the Casernes Dessalines Military Barracks in Port-au-Prince, the capital. There has since been no news of his whereabouts."

"Also on Nov. 5 at 7 p.m., Herbert Saint-Louis is reported to have been arrested in Grande Riviere du Nord, Northern Haiti, and taken to the military barracks there. Pastor Antoine Leroy, a Protestant church worker who is also believed to be the director of the Centre D'Education des Adultes, is believed to have been arrested Nov. 11 when he returned to Port-au-Prince from Miami, U.S.A."

"M. Mirtilien is reported to have been arrested in Port-de-Paix, Northern Haiti; Fred Joseph in Cap Haitien, Northern Haiti; Francois Severin in Les Cayes, Southern Haiti; Edouard Laroche, Jean-Paul Duperval, Maurice Philippe and Henri Claude Innocent are reported to have been arrested in Port-au-Prince between Nov. 4 and 12, but Amnesty International does not yet have details of the circumstances of their arrests. Robert Cassagnol, Esteve Rene, Harry Jean and Dr. Delpire were also reported to have been arrested during the same period, but exact details of the date and places of arrests are not yet known."

"It is not known where these men are currently being

held or why they have been arrested, but it is thought that the arrests may be politically motivated.

"Amnesty International is concerned that these men are being held in unacknowledged, uncommunicado detention, and that they were not brought before a judge within 48 hours of their arrest, as required by Article 25 of the Haitian Constitution. Amnesty International also fears that they may be tortured or subjected to other forms of ill-treatment while held in incommunicado detention.

"In March 1984 President Duvalier gave directions to the armed forces and the police prohibiting torture and ill-treatment and asking them to respect the articles of the constitution which require that, except in cases of flagrante delicto, individuals are arrested with a warrant, and also that individuals be brought before a judge within 48 hours of arrest. In spite of these directives, Amnesty International continues to receive reports of individuals arrested without warrant and held for several weeks in unacknowledged incommunicado detention without charge."

In this matter, AI recommends interested persons send telegrams and airmail letters: requesting information about the reasons for the

arrests of these men, and about their current places of detention; urging that they be immediately brought before a judge and either charged or released; urging that they be humanely treated while in detention.

Such appeals should be sent to:

Son Excellence Dr. Roger Lafontant
Ministre D'Etat de L'Interieur et de la Defense Nationale
Palais des Ministeres
Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

CWU Christmas

Church Women United's annual Christmas celebration will begin with a program "Christmas in Art," led by Mary Virginia Brandon, 11 a.m., Friday, Dec. 7 at St. Thomas Episcopal Church. Following a bag lunch, the CWU Choir will present its Christmas concert and a tea will follow.

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