

**Division of Urban Ministry
1984-85**

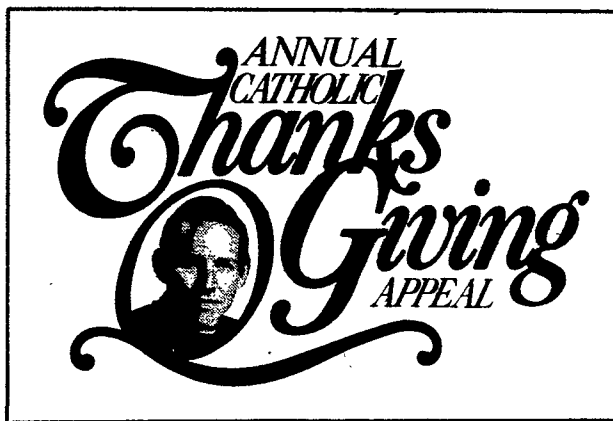
For people out of work or in need of a friend, Assisi House outreach center means warmth -- a warm, comfortable place to sit with a hot cup of coffee, buy winter clothes inexpensively, and enjoy the warmth of friendship.

Assisi House, at 231 Lyell Ave., is the parish outreach of St. Francis of Assisi parish.

"I look at it as a hospitality kind of service. If people have problems, we talk; we just meet needs as they come along," said Assisi House Coordinator Maxie Venuti Bartolotta.

Assisi House serves a variety of needs. Clothing is sold, with prices ranging from 25 cents to \$1. A hot cup of coffee is always available. But the work of Assisi House goes much beyond material needs.

"People really know us here and know that they can come in here and feel like it's home, especially



Maxie Venuti Bartolotta, coordinator of Assisi House.

people who are out of work," Maxie said. "I deal with people on public assistance who have questions about their services and benefits. Many of them are intimidated and afraid to call these places to ask questions or get help. I try to link them up with appropriate services."

The center is staffed by parish volunteers. A tutoring program is coordinated by Sister Marie Therese Warth SSJ. As coordinator, Maxie is a paid part-time professional.

Maxie also coordinates training sessions for her staff, to talk about church social teachings, and some of the issues encountered at Assisi House,

such as alcoholism and mental health problems. The center serves people regardless of religious affiliation. "Our purpose is to keep the door open to all; there's no active evangelization," said Maxie.

Funded in part by the Division of Urban Services, Assisi House benefits from the Thanks Giving Appeal.

Visitor John Kellogg appreciates the services of Assisi House. "The center gives people a chance to come in out of the cold, and have a little coffee and chat if you're a lonely person," he said. "I'm on a set income; I don't have a lot of money but I can get good warm clothes here. It really serves the people of the community."

Maxie sees the services of Assisi House as closely tied to the mission of the Catholic church. "Church is not just Sunday worship and simply meeting the bills of the parish; it's much more," she said. "It's imitating Christ's life by always being among the people, and bringing justice to those unjustly treated."

"Even though Assisi House can be seen as a band-aid approach," she added, "it's the best vision of church I can think of."



John Kellogg



Visitors to Assisi House enjoying the October open house.

AT YOUR PARISH

St. Mark

The Rosary Society and the Men's Club of St. Mark's Church, yesterday, Dec. 11, celebrated their annual Christmas covered-dish supper. A highlight of the evening was an auction of Christmas decorations. Proceeds of the auction were presented to Girlie Goodwin for her Sonyea Christmas project.



St. Agnes

Avon — The Home-School Association of St. Agnes Parish will hold a craft and baked food sale after each Mass on the weekend of Dec. 15 and 16. Donations of goods will be accepted. Patronage is invited.

Perpetual Help

John Petrone of Rochester Gas & Electric, explains to Janson McNair and Tania Stepnowski, eighth grade students of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, the principles of economics, and business procedures as the Junior Achievement program draws to a close for the year.

Old St. Mary

"Lessons and Carols" will be observed at Old St. Mary's Church downtown, 3:30 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 16. The church's choir, along with brass and handbell players will present Christmas music.

ning with dancing until early morning. Music will be provided by Rhythm and Swing Music Inc, with Robert Graham as disc-jockey. Tickets, at \$15 per person, must be reserved before Dec. 15 by calling Erie Sheila Storath, 436-7323.

St. Michael

Newark — The Queen of Angels Praesidium of the Legion of Mary of St. Michael's Church recently celebrated 25 years of service to the parish with a Mass and breakfast. Guests included about 60 auxiliary members and representatives from the praesidia of Clyde and Marion. Father Joseph McDonnell, pastor emeritus, who has been spiritual director of the praesidium since its inception, presided at the Mass and breakfast.

Business in Diocese

Diane V. Dugan of Rochester has been recently appointed assistant to the director of the Graduate School of Management at St. John Fisher College.

Ms. Dugan is responsible for the recruiting of students and coordinating the advertising and promotion of the college's MBA program.

Prior to her appointment, she was employed at Gleason Works as a marketing research and financial analyst.

Ms. Dugan received her MBA from the University of Michigan and a BA in economics from Potsdam State.

Lady of Lourdes

Elmira — Parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes Church were advised last week that the hours of the gift shop of the Dominican Nuns on West Church Street are 6:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. The shop is featuring Christmas decorations and items suitable for gifts.

Immaculate

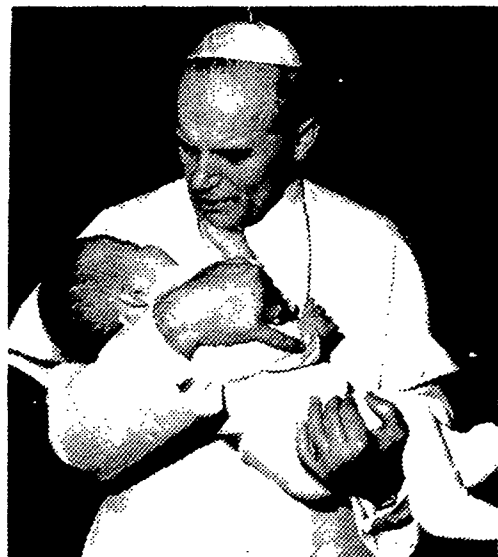
Ithaca — The Immaculate Conception Centennial Committee is preparing to publish a centennial souvenir booklet with pictures of all graduating classes from 1090-1983. Persons with such pictures are asked to contact Cookie or Rudy Paolangeli, (607) 273-5773.

St. Ambrose

St. Ambrose parishioners were advised last week that the Catholic Daughters of the Americas will meet Dec. 12 at Margaret Schum's house to roll bandages for the missions.

St. Augustine

The public has been invited to the St. Augustine's annual New Year's Eve Party, beginning with a buffet dinner at 9 p.m., and conti-



"Anyone who welcomes a little child like this in My name, welcomes Me."

Mt. 18:5

Christ is born once again today in the poor of the world. And the mission Church is there to welcome Him, in serving them.

You are there, giving comfort and hope, when you support the Church's worldwide mission effort through the Propagation of the Faith.

Yes! I want to help the mission Church bring comfort and hope to the world's poor. Enclosed is my gift:

\$ _____ \$10 \$30 \$100 My special sacrifice \$ _____

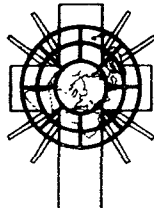
Please tell me how I can join your monthly donor program.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please ask the missionaries to remember these intentions at Mass: _____



THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH

Supporting the Church's worldwide mission work.

Please send to: Father Robert C. Bradler
123 East Avenue
Rochester, New York 14604
(716) 454-2926

12/84