

Plans in Motion For Youth Day

Time is drawing nearer for the second annual Bishop's Day with Youth scheduled Sunday, March 3, at Bishop Kearney High School.

There will be 33 workshops for participants to attend. These workshops include a wide range of topics -- among them, communication, racism, peace and justice, acceptance, stress, prayer, reconciliation, sexuality, sisterhood, the economic pastoral, women in the Church, brotherhood, chemical dependency,

Hispanic ministry and priesthood.

These workshops will be offered in one time slot and groups will be encouraged to split up so that individual members can get to as many topics as possible.

Maggie Wilson Brown, executive director of the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry, will deliver the keynote address entitled, "Youth: The Peace Connection."

Many groups have already responded to attend. The parishes that attend as groups are encouraged to



Committee members discuss the program for the second annual Bishop's Day with Youth. From left, Paul Swiatek, Barb Casper, Sister Sheila Stevenson, Father Thomas Valenti, Jacqueline Dobson, Brother Raymond Powers and Sister Clare Ehmann.

make a banner reflecting their group. All banners the theme of "Youth and Peace," also identifying will be displayed throughout the day.

Forum Speaker

Father Silvano M. Tomasi CS, director of Pastoral Care for Migrants and Refugees for the United States Catholic Conference, will be a featured speaker at the St. Thomas More Lawyers Guild forum on immigration and "sanctuary," 8 p.m., Feb. 21 at St. Bernard's Institute. Also speaking at the event will be Wade Henderson of the American Civil Liberties Union.



Fr. Paul J. Cuddy



On the Right Side

Mexican Missioners

Not until Father Paul Freemesser returned from a month's tour at our diocesan mission in Mexico, supplying in the absence of Father Neil Miller, who has returned to the diocese, did I realize that my knowledge of our Mexican mission as almost zero.

After listening to Father Freemesser for half an hour, I think the facts are close: that our mission is at the city of Tacotalpa, Tobasco, Mexico. This is a city of perhaps 10,000 persons, poor by American standards, but comfortable by Mexican. That is: there is running water and there is electricity, plumbing and even some paved roads. An American priest is in charge, and he has been assisted by an assortment of helpers: sisters, lay persons, natives and foreigners. They serve 11 small villages. What struck me especially is the fact that there are two Americans who are pledged to two years of missionary service, even as the Mormons do. So I decided to write a note of appreciation to them -- though mail to outer Mexico is a questionable thing as far as delivery is concerned.

TO: Mr. Mark Kavanagh and Miss Valerie Smith,

"Greetings: "Recently I had lunch with Father Freemesser at Sacred Heart in Auburn. he gave me an edifying, if thunderous account of the work at your mission, with a special praise for you two. I doubt that they are sufficiently appreciated for the good work they do. So much emphasis is on priests and sisters. The laity are at the bottom of the ladder."

"I confess I knew so little about the Mexican mission that I did not know you two existed. For years I have belly-ached to the world that the Mormons, Witnesses, Adventists -- and recently a plethora of Bible Baptists -- have so great a zest and zeal among their young people; and ours, who have the genuine revelation of God, tend to be apathetic and materialistic.

"Two years ago I met and had lunch with Gregory Bonfiglio. (Isn't that a

beautiful name!) He was about 23-years-old, a graduate from a Jesuit university in California, and was one of a foursome who came to Rochester as Jesuit Volunteers. I was greatly impressed by him and wondered: "Why is our own diocese not producing enthusiastic evangelists like the Mormons, especially with seven Catholic high schools: Kearney, Mooney, Mercy, McQuaid, Notre Dame in Elmira and DeSales in Geneva? Plus many going to Catholic colleges?"

"I suppose the answer comes from a holy Jesuit who wrote to me: 'You do not seem to comprehend that we are dealing with youths who are pagans and materialistic; and they come from homes that are pagan and materialistic, despite a veneer of Catholicism.' "More than 50 years ago, a somber Augustinian, Father Walker, said to us seminarians at St. Bernard's Seminary (There were more than 200 of us seminarians, all in uniform cassocks, uniform ideals, and striving not to get tossed out of the seminary, but to be ordained to serve God and His Church): 'Gentlemen, don't wait until a person is dead to praise him. Everyone gets discouraged at times. Everyone needs a bit of encouragement.' Because of his counsel I am writing to you to express my thanks.

"It gladdens my soul to hear about you and your generosity. It may be that it is not widely acclaimed, but at least let me send you my thanks. There may be many others involved in the apostleship and evangelization in the diocese, but I am not aware much of it.

"With the whirlwind of Father Freemesser, the tranquility of Father Tomasso, the charisma of Father Callen, all descending on your mission these past three months, I think you will find Father P.J. Ryan a combination of the three. Prepare a fire department for him, so he can acclimatize himself to his new life for souls.

"May Our Lord and His Mother make you instruments to inspire other young Catholics to give part of their lives as a special service of God and His Church."

'Back To Basics' Is Renewal Theme

"Back to the Basics" is the theme of the Lenten Renewal Retreat, March 4-8 for St. Theodore's Parish. The community at large has been invited to participate in the program, which includes discussion of such topics as the Bible, the rosary, Confession, sacraments, sacramentals, Vespers, the Stations, care for the world's hungry, the Beatitudes, and the Mass.

The evening sessions begin at 7 p.m., except for Thursday, March 7, when a Mass will be celebrated at 5:30 p.m., followed by a special supper. Each session will be interpreted for the hearing-impaired, and will be followed by refreshments in the school hall.

In addition, prayers in Italian will precede the sessions, 6:30 p.m., except for 5 p.m., Thursday.

Sister Mary Lourdes McCarthy will speak on "The Bible, Inspiration and Inspirational," March 4; Father James Connolly SJ, and Mrs. Ellen Coffey, "Reconciliation and Inner Peace," March 5.

A Lenten Penance Service, including the opportunity for individual confession will follow the second presentation.

Boston is Next Stop for BK Kings

The Bishop Kearney High School Marching Kings Band, under the direction of Arthur Rietman, is preparing for its first appearance, Sunday Mar. 17, in the Patriot's Day Parade in Boston. The band will leave for Boston on Thursday, Mar. 14 and will return to Rochester Monday, Mar. 18. Limited reservations are available for family, friends and the general public to accompany the Kings. For further information or to make reservations contact Arthur Rietman or Andrew Korts at 342-4000.

To defray trip expenses the band will present its first International Festival, featuring an evening of international foods, beverages, music and dancing, 7 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 16 in the Bishop Kearney cafeteria. Music will be provided by "Masterbrass". Tickets are available from band members, calling the school, or at the door.

During the past year the Marching Kings earned first place honors in the Small Band Division of the New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade. In November they placed among the top five bands in the New York State Class AA Field Band Championships in Syracuse, and were chosen as the Honor Band to perform on-stage during the appearance in

'Rapunzel' Set

Theatreworks of New York City will present a musical version of "Rapunzel", 4 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 23 in the Rochester Museum & Science Center's Eisenhart Auditorium. Tickets are \$4, and \$3 for RMSC members and can be purchased at Eisenhart box office beginning at 2 p.m. the day of program.

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Executive Director

The Rochester Catholic is looking for an Executive Director at the Southern Tier Office of Social Ministry.

In accord with the Social Teachings of the Roman Catholic this provides leadership and directs the Southern Tier Office of Social Ministry to insure objectives, as specified by the Board of Directors and the Diocese of Rochester, are accomplished in accordance with prescribed priorities, time limitations and funding.

Requirements are: Master's Degree in related field or equivalent experience, 3 yrs. in an administrative capacity, preferably in a social agency and a working knowledge of Church Ministry and its role in social justice.

Qualified individuals send resumes by February 19, 1985 to:

Rev. John Firpo
c/o Southern Tier Office of Social Ministry
160 High St.
Elmira N.Y. 14901

EOE

Visit St. Jude Shrine in Baltimore during Lent.

Thousands visit this Shrine during Lent to seek St. Jude's powerful intercession. They trust that St. Jude will help them overcome their various problems. Take your problems to St. Jude, the patron saint for hopeless causes--attend Solemn Novena Services in his honor starting on Ash Wednesday, February 20 (7:45 a.m., 12 Noon, 5:45 p.m., 7:45 p.m.) and on Sunday, February 24 (7:45 a.m., 9:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.). Visit the Shrine by yourself or with others as a group. Group bus trips are welcome. Write or call for your free St. Jude Novena Prayer Booklet.



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