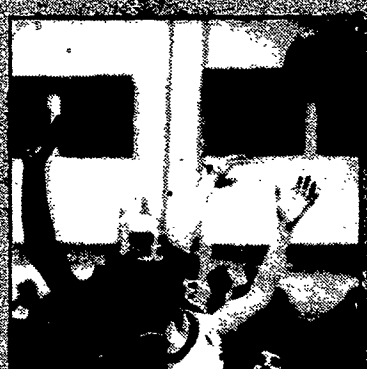




Alternative 'fare'

Circumvent the commercial side of Christmas with a handcrafted gift from the Peace and Justice Education Center's Alternative Celebration Fair. See page 8.



...the school kitchen all day long. What day? See page 10. ...the ingredients to ... See Page 10.

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World & Nation in Brief from NC News

World

Delegation seeks awareness

Undated — South African Archbishop Denis Hurley, head of the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference, is heading an ecumenical delegation visiting European cities to make Christians more aware of problems facing Namibia. Formerly called South West Africa, the nation has been illegally occupied by South Africa since 1966. The consultations were called by the Lutheran, Catholic and Anglican churches, the nation's three largest denominations. The delegation will end its trip with a Dec. 4 visit to Rome and a scheduled meeting with Pope John Paul II.

Bishops call for unity

Beirut, Lebanon — Lebanon's Catholic bishops have called on their nation's warring leaders to unite for the good of the nation. The bishops called the country's Moslem-Christian split "a crime against the nation and the citizens." "The fathers find themselves obliged to call on the leaders to give up such shameful attitudes that dishonor the nation and bring more misfortunes over the citizens," said the statement, released by the Beirut-based Catholic Center for Information.

Pope issues challenge

Vatican City — Pope John Paul II called on the world's young people to build a "civilization of love" by overcoming the threats of war, hunger, human rights abuses and "the scandalous disparities" between the rich and poor. In his annual message for the World Youth Day, the pope challenged youths to develop the "strong and persevering characters" needed to resist materialism and social divisions. The papal message addressed to "all the young people of the world" was released by the Vatican Nov. 29.

Nation

Outgoing governor praised

Washington — New Mexico Gov. Toney Anaya's decision to commute the death sentences of five killers has been praised by church leaders in Washington and in his home state. The governor, a Democrat and Catholic who is leaving office at the end of the year, announced Nov. 26 he was reducing the death sentences to life imprisonment. Two of the five — the only prisoners on death row in New Mexico — had been scheduled for execution in January. The governor said "capital punishment is inhumane, immoral, anti-God and incompatible to an enlightened society."

Celibacy, intimacy possible

Park City, Utah — Leading a celibate lifestyle need not prevent one from establishing intimate relationships nor require a denial of one's sexuality, Salt Lake Diocese priests were told. Sexuality is "more than copulation," said Jay Feierman, a consulting psychiatrist to the Servants of the Paracletes, during a fall convocation on sexuality in Park City. He called sexuality one aspect of an individual's personality. "We need to deal with our lives on all levels," Feierman said. "People have needs for intimate relationships on the non-genital level," he said.

Parents are appreciative of authors' aid in 'talking love'

By Teresa A. Parsons

By asking Bishop Matthew H. Clark to remove his imprimatur from the book "Parents Talk Love," the Vatican's Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith may in the long run lessen the book's credibility or increase its sales.

But so far, the Vatican decision has not had much impact on the opinions of local parents who attended workshops given by the book's authors, Susan Sullivan and Father Matthew Kawiak.

Relatively few area parents have read "Parents Talk Love," but 20-30 participated either in one of the workshops on which the book was based, or in the filming of a videotape based on the book. The authors only presented three workshops within the diocese and haven't done any at all since 1984.

"It was very well received by those who did attend it," Sylvia Wesolowski recalled of a workshop at Resurrection Parish in Fairport. "As far as I was concerned, there was nothing offensive or controversial at all. Father Matt did go through the history of Catholic tradition and teaching, but it wasn't meant to sit you down and say 'Now this is the way you are going to teach your children.' It was meant to help you find the best way of passing your values on to your children."

At Resurrection, the "Parents Talk Love" workshop was part of a year-long focus on parent education in the area of sexuality. Parish organizers had to look long and hard for books and speakers that integrated Catholic values and solid facts about sexual development.

"There was not too much else available," said Wesolowski, a parent of three children and then chairwoman of the parish religious education committee. "This was the only actual workshop where parents could sit down and explore their own values. Instead of a lecture format, they used discussions and exercises. It was an entirely different approach."

Pastoral assistant Nancy DeRycke also



Jeff Goulding/Courier Journal

ANNIVERSARY GREETING — As Sister Elizabeth Anne LeValley looks on, Bishop Matthew H. Clark greets Sister Emmerita Hagerty during celebrations marking the 25th anniversary of the St. Joseph Convent and Infirmary.

helped organize Resurrection's parent-education program. Despite the removal of the book's imprimatur, she doesn't regret choosing the "Parents Talk Love" workshop.

"It's our obligation to know what the Vatican is saying and to take a serious look at the book, but I think it would be wrong to totally disregard it (the book) because it does have so many good things in it," she said.

In spite of or perhaps because of society's openness in regard to sex, many parents become uncomfortable just thinking about the need to explain their sexual values to their children.

For Patricia Culhane, a mother of seven

children between the ages of eight months and 12 years, the "Parents Talk Love" workshop provided a relaxed atmosphere in which to share her anxieties with other parents. She was relieved to learn that she wasn't the only one afraid of saying the wrong thing or of not knowing "all the answers."

"Afterward, I found that I was able to talk with my kids about things that would have been uncomfortable for me before," she said. "Whenever the kids do ask me a question now, the first thing that comes into my mind is Father Matt (Kawiak) and Susan (Sullivan), and then I just go ahead and

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CHRISTMAS FUND
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ROCHESTER NY 14624



26 Mrs. W is a mother with 3 young children. Her husband has recently abandoned her. Mr. W. sold all their household items, left town and did not share any money with her. Mrs. W. is struggling to gain emotional control. She is trying to find work but has no job skills. Catholic Family Center is providing crisis counseling and will assist her in eventually becoming able to support herself and her family. In the meantime, she needs to know people care enough to make Christmas a happier time for her.

27 Mrs. D.D. is a mother of four children, ages 18, 17, 2 and 1. She also cares for two of her sister's children, ages 5 and 4. She is on a limited income and would appreciate any kind of assistance during Christmastime.

28 P.J. is the mother of three children, a 13 year old and a 9-year-old twins. She is concerned that her children be provided with clothing and books at Christmastime.

29 Mrs. B.B., who is the sole support of her family, recently learned she has sugar diabetes. Mrs. B.B. will soon have to stop working. She has lost most of her vision and many times is unable to read can labels in order to cook. Christmas will be very hard for her family unless she receives some special help at Christmastime.

30 Mrs. J., a working mother with two children, is unable to get public assistance of any kind, until court settlement on her separation is settled. Because of legal fees, car repairs and old medical bills, a bleak holiday faces her and her children.

31 Ms. T., a working single mother of seven children (one of whom is in treatment for Hodgkin's disease), is trying to care for her family. Two of the children lack adequate winter clothing. Any assistance would be appreciated, to help her get through this holiday season without despair.

32 Ms. K. is a working single parent with a pregnant teenaged daughter and two other children. The family lives in a trailer; the furnace is broken and in need of replacement before the really cold weather sets in.

33 John A., who has been hospitalized for lung and abdominal cancer, still re-

ceives chemotherapy. John has no immediate family. He has no unemployment benefits and has recently been evicted. He is now on welfare, and his housing and other basic needs must be met.

34 Mike D., who is totally deaf and partially blind, works at a sheltered workshop. He communicates by writing on large sheets of paper in block letters. Mike is lonely, but is very shy and feels that he doesn't belong with either the deaf or the blind. Mike needs help with costs of socialization and recreation activities.

35 Because of her cerebral palsy and behavior problems, Jenny S. spent most of her childhood and teenage years in a state institution. After some time in a group home, she now has her own apartment. Jenny has received instruction in homemaking from local agencies, but needs help with the cost of transportation to her physician's office and her daily programs.

36 Mrs. T. is Russian and Mr. T. is Ethiopian. They met and married while he was a student in Russia. Their dream was to leave Russia and come to the United States, where they would be free of communist

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