Faith lessons

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through sixth grade and an effective juniorand senior-high program.

Our sacramental-preparation programs provide rich opportunities for children and parents to learn together. A healthy process for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is in place. Our exciting youth ministry includes young adults and parents of teens. We provide a variety of adulteducation possibilities, including a training program for our religious education teachers.

This program, directed by Sister Janice Morgan, SSJ, takes seriously Bishop Matthew H. Clark's call to be involved in "an effective catechetical process that fosters the faith lives of adults, adolescents, and children" (address to pastors and catechetical leaders, Sept. 28, 1987).

Our pastor, Father John Norris, continually challenges our staff to improve our programs as well as our cooperation with all parish committees. We try to work together with all our parishioners to provide the well-integrated catechetical plan which will touch the lives of all our people.

This inclusive approach to religious education gives a unique priority to adultreligious education. It is the parents and other adults of the parish who have the primary responsibility of passing on the faith to our children. Therefore, the parish needs to provide a variety of opportunities for adults to find answers to their questions. In our catechetical plan all people children and adults — have the opportunity to study their Catholic faith. We read, watch videotapes and join discussion groups. We pray together at Mass, in prayer groups, in families, in religiouseducation classes, in RCIA groups and in youth groups. We search Scripture and listen to the Word of God. We become community through prayer, worship, and social events. We share our faith in evangelization and service.

As a child I learned the importance of a common dream in uniting a faith community. Today we have a new dream. We dare

scream," he said, referring to the innova-

tive Mass. "The committee said, 'We

Liberal and conservative approaches to

living out the church's teachings some-

times come into conflict at meetings of the

parish's social ministry committee, accord-

ing to Lombard's husband, a deacon who

"Some of us would like to make an issue

about many things," Deacon Richard

Lombard said. "There are also people who

believe that once the church has spoken on

an issue there is no point in further discus-

sion." The deacon said he would like to

invite pro-choice advocates to discuss abor-

serves as staff liaison to the committee.

don't want to be too flip for the bishop,"

Frederickson recalled with a smile.

'Vatican II'

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to dream bigger now than we did when I was a child. We don't dream alone. We don't create the dream. We share God's dream. We believe in educating our Catholic people to take their place along side other Christians. We learn to strive together to fulfill the mission of Jesus that the world may be one, that divisions cease, that justice is done, that life is held sacred and that God be found everywhere in everyone.

t cetera

EDITOR'S NOTE: Batterman is adulteducation coordinator at Assumption of Our Lady Church, Fairport.

. . .

tion with parishioners, for example, but said the parish "isn't ready for it.

"I'm firmly in the church's camp on the abortion issue," Deacon Lombard said. "But I think we should get out there and talk to people on the other side. I think out of dialogue we can get something." He added that pro-choice advocates "are not devils."

Despite occasional differences of opinion in the parish, issue discussions are always marked by a tone of respect, Deacon Lombard said, noting: "It's a good parish because there are people in this parish from all points of view, from extreme right to extreme left. I think that we all realize that we need the liberals to keep moving and the conservatives so we don't go falling off and ending up throwing the baby out with the bath water."

Courier

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efficient and cost-effective business operation."

Franz said she plans to give priority to the development of a business plan that will encompass all aspects of the newspaper.

"In the coming year we are planning to make a major effort to improve our services to parishes, which are, of course, the major source of our circulation," she said.

Since Franz's appointment as editor-inchief, the *Courier* has won a number of awards from both the national Catholic Press Association and the New York Press Association. These awards have honored the newspaper's staff for excellence in writing, photography and graphic design.

For their efforts during the first nine months of Franz's tenure with the paper, in 1985 the staff of the then-*Courier Journal* won the Catholic Press Association's firstplace award for general excellence.

Under the reorganization plan, Bishop Clark said the following would continue as department heads: Mary Bittner as office manager; Bernard Puglisi as advertising manager; Jeanne Morin as circulation coordinator; and Lorraine Hennessey as production manager/graphic designer.

Bishop Hickey, who continues as general manager of the newspaper, said, "The *Catholic Courier* is blessed to have a person of Karen Franz's knowledge of all facets of producing a newspaper. Her proven experience gives every reason to anticipate the *Courier* reaching new heights in the Catholic communications field."



Catholic Courier

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