

Pope

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guide their children's whole lives in accordance with the demands of the Christian vocation. Each particular vocation is, in fact, a great gift of God which comes into their home.

Finally, the entire Christian community, with authentic missionary fervor, should recognize the seeds of vocation which the Holy Spirit never ceases to sow in human hearts, and it should strive to create, especially by unremitting and trusting prayer, a climate which will help adolescents and young people to hear God's voice and respond to it with generosity and courage.

"O Jesus, good shepherd of the church, we entrust our catechists to you. Under the

guidance of the bishops and priests, may they help those entrusted to them to discover the true meaning of the Christian life as a vocation, so that, open and attentive to your voice, they may follow you generously.

"Bless our parishes. Make them living communities where prayer and liturgical life, attentive and faith-filled hearing of your word and generous and fruitful charity may become the fertile field for an abundant harvest of vocations.

"O Mary, queen of the apostles, bless our young people. Help them to share in your own openness to God's voice. Help them to imitate you in saying their own generous and unconditional 'yes' to the mystery of love and divine election to which the Lord calls them."

Shared life

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three months, and declined their generous offer.

But I still needed to answer their probing questions. No, I won't miss sex, but I will miss making love and carrying the fruits of that love through children. The vocations of single people and married couples are both calls to respond to God's love. Chastity is not a rejection of loving, but a call to love deeply and to love freely in a different way. It draws our hearts into a union with God alone, so that we can give ourselves in service to others.

As Sisters of Mercy, we take a fourth vow of service. Foundress Catherine

McAuley began our congregation in response to the poor, especially poor women. Her desire was for us to go out to the needy and suffering and welcome them into our hearts. This experience changes us. To be able to accompany another person is one of the greatest privileges and

gifts of this life. It is an experience of seeing the face of Jesus over and over again, and then "responding boldly both to the victims and causes of injustice and oppression present in our society" (from the mission statement of the congregation).

Today, eight years after entering the Sisters of Mercy, I look for the balance that will enable me fully to live out the richness of this life with great joy. I give thanks for the blessing of God's tender fidelity.

Bishop's day

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posed of 32 members who range in age from 12 to 17. According to McDermott, the fledgling group — which has only been together for four months — attempts to bring contemporary styles of Christian music into worship services.

The group dresses in colorful African robes and uses base guitars, drums, synthesizers, organs and a piano during its pieces. Although McDermott said that some people are taken aback over the group's style of music, he said he has received many positive reactions about its performances.

Fox invited the group to Bishop's Day after the young singers asked if they could perform during the Mass with Bishop Clark. The youth group had wanted to be a

part of the day ever since meeting the bishop during a visit to St. Mary's two weeks ago.

"The choir thought their personalities meshed with his (Bishop Clark's) very beautifully and they were very moved by his style," said McDermott. "They wanted to worship with him again."

One group member, Kari Dougherty of St. Mary's, said it was an honor for the group to be invited to Bishop's Day.

"It is fun spreading the news and I think it should be spread more," said Dougherty.

Fox said he was pleased with this year's Bishop Day, which focused on the positive accomplishments of today's youths.

"I think their energy is the grace that young people are to the church today," Fox said.

Next year's Bishop's Day with Youth is tentatively scheduled for May 3, 1992.



Jason Augustine (left) comforts Jennifer Overbeck during Mass at Bishop's Day. Both attend Assumption Church in Fairport.

Synod

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ceiving multiple copies of the the mailing.

According to Marcella Holtz, assistant director of the synod, mailing difficulties now are being addressed in an effort to ensure that all Catholics receive survey forms.

Because the surveys are anonymous, Father Hart added, individuals need not worry about their comments becoming known. Nor will any other diocesan groups be able to contact respondents for other reasons, he said.

Thus far, the synod office has received approximately 10,000 completed surveys, Father Hart reported. He said the commission expected to receive 60-70,000 responses by the April 26 deadline.

— Lee Strong

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SUMMER 1991 COURSE OFFERINGS

Session I—Five Weeks (May 13-June 14)

A424	Prophecy in Ancient Israel (Premnath)	
	M, F, 9:00-12:30p.m.	
A455	Passion & Resurrection Narratives (Falcone)	
	M, T, Th 7:00-9:45p.m.	
B/D315	Christian Architecture: A Faith Experience (Martin)	
	M, T, Th 7:00-9:45p.m.	
C/D352	Classics of Christian Spirituality (Hart)	
	M, T, Th 7:00-9:45p.m.	
C390	Living Well: Ethics & Law in World Religions (Donlin-Smith)	
	T, Th, 8:30-12:00 noon	
D402	Liturgical Preaching (Kennedy)	
	M, W, F 9:00-11:45a.m.	
D434	Christian Conflict Management (Ramerman)	
	(Joint Offering) SBI-DS T, Th 9-12:30p.m.	
D465	Advanced Pastoral Counseling (Karaban)	
	T, W, Th 7:00-9:45p.m.	
Session II — Four Weeks (July 1-July 26)		
A333	Old Testament Themes (Premnath)	
	T, W, Th 7:00-9:45p.m.	
C365	Christian Sexuality & Marriage (Sullivan)	
	M, W, Th 7:00-9:45p.m.	
C460	Theology of Social Ministry (Schoelles)	
	M, W, F 9:00-11:45a.m.	
D419	To Preach of God in the Absence of God (Graff)	
	T, Th 9:00a.m.-1:00p.m.	
C/D449	Thomas Merton: Contemplative & Social Critic (Schannon & Bochen)	
	M, T, Th 9:00-11:45a.m.	
D470	Advanced Spiritual Direction (Hill)	
	T, Th 9:00a.m.-1:00p.m.	
C442	Sacraments of Christian Faith (La Delfa)	
	M, W, Th 7:00-9:45p.m.	

For information contact: The Registrar, St. Bernard's Institute,
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