

Kearney fetes Founder's Day with planting

Sophomores at Bishop Kearney High School celebrated Founder's Day May 31 with a tree-planting ceremony as a permanent tribute to Brother Edmund Ignatius Rice, the Congregation of Christian Brothers' founder who recently secured the final step to beatification and sainthood. During an ensuing liturgy with Bishop Matthew H. Clark, the Christian Brothers' community at Bishop Kearney renewed their vows and commitment to the school.



S. John Wilkin/Staff photographer

Festivity marks catechetical gathering

By Mike Latona
Staff writer

GENEVA — Although 127 catechetical employees were assembled in one place, this was not the time for shop talk.

Instead, it was song, prayer and laughter filling the air at Belhurst Castle, where diocesan religious-education coordinators, faith-formation directors and youth ministers convened for an annual day of celebration Wednesday, May 24.

"The most important part of the day is the spirit. They come together and feel good about what they've done for the year," said Maribeth Mancini, diocesan director of evangelization and catechesis.

Serving as guest host for the event was Bob Donius, parish minister at St. Jude's Parish Center in Alfred, Diocese of Buffalo. He encouraged small groups to share various reflections with each other, such as something special that happened in their lives in the past year.

Sister Lucille Lenhard, RSM, religious-education coordinator at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Brighton, recalled her efforts with the parish's first Communion program.

For the first time this year, she appointed parents to direct the preparatory stages — "and that was a risk."

"Some parents said, 'I don't have the time,' but in the long run, the evaluations I received were positive. It got the parents and children to talk on deeper levels about their feelings and God," Sister Lenhard said.

Later on during the May 24 program, participants shared what they perceived to be their special gift.

"I have the gift of gentle listening, because it allows me to serve others," said Mary Ellen FitzGibbons, diocesan audiovisual librarian.

"I think I have the gift of honesty — nobody ever told me I had the gift of being gentle!" Mancini joked.

"Joy — sharing the good news," said Barbara Carroll, diocesan coordinator for sacramental life.

"Insight," commented Mary Britton, quadrant consultant for diocesan evangelization and catechesis.

"The ability to touch people's hearts," said Alice Leistman, youth minister and associate religious-education director at St. Anne's Church in Rochester.

Yet Donius noted that along with their gifts, leaders are also vulnerable to human weakness and should seek each other's support during trying times.

Using the example of Jesus, Donius noted that "He didn't hang out with one person; He hung out with a group. He said, 'You're going to need each other.'"

Donius added that love should always be the guiding force behind the work of those at the gathering.

"In the end love never fails ... the image is love. So when we love, we are imaging God," Donius said.

Four Nazareth students awarded Fulbright

ROCHESTER — Four Nazareth College students have been selected to receive grants for Fulbright scholarships and related awards.

Seniors Danielle Ehrlich, Dana Quante, Michael Sterling and Ryan Williams all were approved for grants by the J. William Fulbright Board of Foreign Scholarships.

Nazareth officials noted that for four

such winners to have come from a school of Nazareth's size was impressive.

Nazareth's four grant recipients will travel to the Far East, Australia and Europe on teaching and research assignments.

Ehrlich received a Fulbright Teaching Assistantship to Korea, where she will teach English.

Quante will travel to Sri Lanka, where

she will study Buddhism and economics.

Sterling plans to use his Fulbright to study environmental policies in Australia.

Williams received a Padagogischer Austauschdienst Teaching Assistantship through the Fulbright competition and will teach high school English in Germany next fall.

Obituary

Vinnie Ferrari, 19; volunteer work touched many

The phrase "giving back to society" is normally reserved for adults who have become successful and wish to show their gratitude.

Somehow, Vinnie Ferrari must have known long ago that he wouldn't have that kind of time.

So he didn't wait to receive before he began giving.

"He would go out of his way for anyone in need of love or attention," said Bill Gurney, scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 70 (St. Andrew's Church), where Vinnie was an Eagle Scout.

That love was reflected by the crowd

which packed Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church Thursday, June 1. They came to bid farewell to Vinnie, who died May 30 at his home in Greece after a four-month battle with brain cancer.

Although he only lived 19 years, Vinnie touched several lives through activities such as service projects with senior citizens and volunteer work through Our Lady of Perpetual Help and Troop 70.

When Vinnie was diagnosed with an inoperable tumor in early January, a widespread community effort known as "Love for Vinnie" was begun to help offset his medical expenses. (This campaign

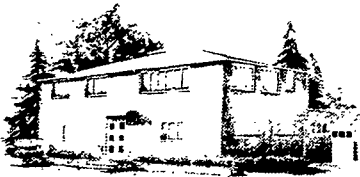
was detailed in the Feb. 16, 1995, edition of the *Catholic Courier*.)

Vinnie is survived by his parents, Vincent and Emily Ferrari; his sisters, Michelle Mann and Paula Ferrari; grandparents, George and Setada Webster and Rose Ferrari; as well as several aunts, uncles, cousins, godchildren and friends.

Donations in Vinnie's memory may be made to Our Lady of Perpetual Help or St. Andrew's churches; the Boy Scout Otetiana Council Campership Fund; the Aquinas volleyball program; or the CURE Childhood Cancer Association.

— Mike Latona

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Courier wins 10 awards at CPA meeting

LOS ANGELES — The *Catholic Courier* won 10 awards, including three first-place honors and a second for General Excellence, in the 1995 Catholic Press Association newspaper awards.

The awards were announced June 2 at the annual Catholic Press Association convention, held in Los Angeles.

The second-place finish in General Excellence was among the largest diocesan newspapers in the country (circulations of 40,001 or more).

In addition to that award, the *Courier's* staff earned first-place honors in the following categories:

Best Front Page for tabloids using two or three colors. Judges said the front pages "maintain consistency" and use "very creative composition that ties in local story with graphics."

Best Sports Journalism for staff writer Mike Latona's story titled, "Heavyweights Lighten Ex-Boxer's Heavy Heart." The judges noted that Latona "writes with sensitivity without compromising journalistic principles," and created a lead paragraph that "really draws the reader into a touching story which doesn't pull any punches."

Best Media Kit for "News for Today's Catholics," the paper's media kit provided to potential advertisers. The text was written by Ray Frey, advertising director. It was designed by Lorraine Hennessey, graphics manager.

Judges said the *Courier* had produced the "quintessential media kit."

The staff placed second in the following categories:

Best News Report on Local or State Matter for Mike Latona's story titled "Bingo: A Fun Fundraiser or Basic Exploitation?"

"We found objective reporting that might have rankled some supporters of bingo just because it was published," judges said.

Judges also praised the story's art and design by Hennessey and S. John Wilkin, staff photographer.

Best Single Ad Originating with the Paper for the *Courier's* full-page ad directed at potential advertisers titled, "Where You Advertise is as Important as What You Say."

Written by Frey and designed by Hennessey, the advertisement featured "good layout and composition," judges said.

The following entries placed third:

Best Investigative Reporting for Rob Cullivan's story titled, "School of Assassins?," which concerned the U.S. Army's role in training Latin American soldiers reportedly involved in the harassment and murder of Catholic clergy, religious and lay people.

Best Portrait Photo for S. John Wilkin's photo of a Polish Holocaust survivor. Wilkin's shot "is made more powerful by adding the small identification photos that show him in his prisoner's uniform," judges said.

Best Regular Family Life Column for "Kids' Chronicle," written by Joe Sarnicola and edited by Lee Strong, senior staff writer. The page is illustrated by Kathy Welsh, assistant advertising manager and classified director, and designed by Hennessey.

"The evangelizing is easily done and so written that kids can immerse themselves into it," judges commented.

The paper also received an honorable mention for **Best Analysis/Background/Round-up Reporting** for Lee Strong's front-page story on "Papal Infallibility."

"This subject is not dealt with frequently and Catholics are not very much aware of what infallibility is. The story contains very valuable information," the judges said.