

Worship should be welcoming to all

EDITORS' NOTE: Through July the Catholic Courier is publishing the diocesan document, "The Centrality of Sunday Eucharist: Guidelines for Parish Planning," in place of Bishop Matthew H. Clark's column. The bishop's column will return in August.

The Role of the Assembly

We, the Church of Rochester, believe that through our baptismal priesthood, the members of the Body of Christ are called to "full, conscious, and active participation" in the memorial of Christ's sacrifice through which we remember the life, death and resurrection of Christ and take on that dying and rising in our own lives. We further affirm that the liturgical assembly is called to celebrate the Eucharist with sensitivity to issues of culture, language and inclusivity. (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, #14, 19, 30).

Therefore, the Church of Rochester, in all its parishes and faith communities, affirms that the liturgical assembly:

- is the primary minister of the Eucharist acting as a unified priestly people in worship of God.
- participates, according to each one's giftedness and with proper training, in the liturgical ministries open to them. Regardless of age or gender, members of the assembly serve at every Sunday celebration as rectors, ministers of communion, ministers of hospi-



- ality, ministers of music, servers and sacristans.
- participates musically in every Sunday celebration (especially the liturgical acclamations) and is well prepared to do so.
- is invited to partake of communion under both forms at every celebration of the Eucharist.
- has the Word of God proclaimed clearly and well and broken open with careful preparation and sensi-

tivity to the world and culture that surround the assembly, and is called to live that Word in all moments and at all places. Special attention should be given to children in this regard.

- is welcomed into a worship environment that is accessible to all and utilizes all appropriate technologies to facilitate the assembly's worship (e.g., sound system, hearing assistance, lighting, ramps, etc.)
- gathers in an environment appropriately decorated according to the liturgical season.
- enjoys a sufficient time frame for the celebration, neither rushed nor unnecessarily prolonged and enters into appropriate times of silence in each celebration of the Eucharist.
- acknowledges the centrality of the Sunday Eucharist with an explicit commitment towards providing for the necessary time, talent and treasure to insure quality celebrations according to the existing liturgical norms.

We ask that the Office of Liturgy (which included the Office Staff, the Diocesan Liturgical Commission and its committees on music, environment and art, and multicultural liturgies), the Diocesan Building Commission and St. Bernard's Institute collaborate with parishes to enable the above to be the norm in the diocese.

Next: *The Role of the Presider*

Kids' Answers

from page 12

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To help build your relationship, you receive a picture of your child (updated yearly), information about your child's family and country, letters from your child and the CFCA newsletter. But, *most important*, you'll receive the satisfaction of helping a poor child.

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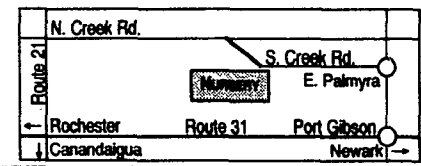
Little Corina lives in a small mountain town in Honduras. Her mother is blind and her father abandoned them. Your concern can make a difference in the lives of children like Corina.

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Volunteers must be healthy, post-menopausal women between the ages of 40 and 65. After a physical examination, women will be randomized to one of 8 treatment groups and receive various combinations of an FDA-approved estrogen and/or progestin, or placebo.

During this one-year study, volunteers are seen every three months. Benefits to volunteers include free Pap smears and lab tests, free mammogram, and possible relief of menopausal symptoms based on the medication(s) they receive. Compensation of \$450 is available. Women who have had a hysterectomy are not eligible.

Women interested in participating can call Wanda Rivers at 275-7891.

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