

Serenity And Enthusiasm Are Nun's Trademarks

By BETTY MASSON

A nun whose serenity reflects itself in her face has just returned from a trip to Europe with a group of teenagers, and she is still serene.

She is Sister Mary Ignatius, head of the art department in Farmington's Our Lady of Mercy High School. Along with Sister Edna Marie of the school's music department, she was responsible for 17 girl students and four boys on a trip to Europe under the Foreign Study League auspices.

No jaded traveler here, her enthusiasm is contagious. She does not even regret about the trip—because of bad weather they were unable to cross the English Channel in a hovercraft. They had to use a more conventional boat.

THE MERCY STUDENTS and the boys joined a group of 172 students and 31 counselors who left Detroit early in July for six weeks of study abroad.

Their first stop was England, the Sisters' first visit to that country, and they quickly settled into the routine that made up the tour.

In the morning, the students spent some four hours in visiting the history and culture of the country they were visiting, and in the afternoon they went out to see some of the things they had been talking about.

Called a Comparative Culture and Government program, particular attention was paid to the music and art of each country they visited.

Sister Ignatius' comments reflect her enthusiasm for the trip.

Of England, "The English countryside was beyond my expectations... the marvelous freshness and glory of the flowers, the glossiness of the ivy and the laurel, and the great variety of flowers and plants. There were flowers everywhere no matter how humble the cottage."

Of Paris, "We arrived in Paris in the evening of Bastille Day, so we went right to the fireworks display at the Eiffel Tower. It was a most beautiful thing."

This is her 22nd year of teaching at Mercy High School, her sixth at the Farmington location.

ASKED HOW she deals with teenagers, she said, "I supplant what could have been a problem with a creative challenge."

I am firmly convinced that being constructively busy with what children need right now. She emphasized the work "constructive" using "child-zen can also be busy getting into a lot of mischief."

Although she has a great and unquestioning faith, "belonging to God makes me happy."

"Knowledge and education are important... every field is becoming more and more competitive, and people who are not busy studying now are going to regret it."

But, she pointed out, children can only absorb knowledge to the degree that they are mature, and maturity takes time although it can be helped with responsibility and challenges.

EDUCATION HAS PUSHED FORWARD rapidly with the idea of giving children independence, but the problem is that their growth has not speeded up and cannot keep pace, according to Sister Ignatius.

"Instead of independence, you get children unable to cope with the complexities of adult life... and they seek to escape by doing nothing or by getting into mischief."

The talented Sister evidently lives by her own precepts. With the help of other Mercy nuns, Sister Benedicta Mary, she is responsible for about 200 art students, who each year turn out outstanding work.

Student art lines the halls at Mercy, and the Sister is looking forward to the day when every work of art in the building is the work of a student.

Each year each Senior leaves her one of her works, so there will be a day when the dream will be a reality.

One husband, who said that his wife ran their home by the principles taught to her by Sister Ignatius, expressed his gratitude. "Is there anything I can do for you?" he said.

She said she was a little regretful that the church was already built and decorated when Mercy High moved out to 11 Mile from the Mercy College Campus. She would have liked to have done some work to decorate her Protestant neighbors' church.

In the future she is hoping to be able to conduct some adult classes next summer, and she speaks of this with the same enthusiasm as she spoke of this summer's trip to Europe.

Her philosophy is refreshingly simple in a complex world. "To the degree that people are virtuous, they are happy." Her sparkling blue eyes speak for her.



SISTER MARY IGNATIUS and one of her own wood carvings. Her recent trip to Europe included trips to famous art galleries. (Ever photo)

CYO Leadership Program Aids Inner-City Kids

Detroit college and high school leaders-in-training are making things happen for hundreds of inner-city children this summer. It's all part of the CYO Youth Leadership Training Program.

The program is a cooperative venture supported jointly by the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO), the Detroit Board of Education, In-School Neighborhood Youth Corps, Wayne State and Michigan State Universities, and five Catholic parishes — St. Agnes, St. Cecilia, Madonna, Santa Maria and St. Theresa's.

"THIS IS THE trailer concept in leadership development," says CYO staffer Maria Massagu. "Twelve Michigan State students took a special one-week course under Roger Babcock, of Wayne's Department of Conferences and Institutes, to learn how to direct the program. CYO staff assisted in the training."

The colligians are now supervising and guiding 45 high school students in running the program, which provides recreation and cultural enrichment for 450 children from eight through 13 years of age.

Three days a week the youthful leaders plan a wide range of activities for the children. The kids are discovering things they never knew before — the fun of a day at

Kensington Park, the fascination of a trip to the zoo, the unimagined resources of the downtown library, the enchantment of the Art Museum.

The Michigan State students are in charge of the actual operation of the program. The high school students were recruited from center-city high schools to assist them.

THESE YOUNG PEOPLE operate the program. They take the responsibility. They make the decisions. They are doing the job.

10th Annual

The annual ox roast sponsored by the Garden City Presbyterian Church Men's Club is scheduled Saturday, Sept. 12, in the Garden City Park Pavilion, Middle Belt and Cherry Hill.

The event, which actually serves charcoal barbecued beef rather than ox, includes a clown's appearance and helicopter rides, now is its 10th year.

Paul Winslow is general chairman and Jack Gibbs co-chairman. Tickets are priced at \$2 for adults and 85 cents for children, and may be purchased at the office of the church, 1841 Middle Belt, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and from 1 to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Church Has Reception

The Augsburg Lutheran Church, 24801 West Chicago, Redford Township, will honor its pastor, the Rev. I.A. Swan, with a reception from 6 to 10 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 30, in Sokol Hall, Warren and Telegraph, Dearborn.

Rev. Swan is retiring after 19 years at Augsburg Church and 38 years in the ministry.

18th Festival Set In Romulus

The 18th annual homecoming festival of St. Aloysius Catholic Church of Romulus will be held on the parish grounds, 11280 Ozga Road, from Saturday, Sept. 5 to Monday, Sept. 7.

Special features will be a magic show by Mr. Whoodini of CLKI-TV and a western performance by Buck Buchanan. Chicken, ham and spaghetti dinners will be served.

WE'RE MOVING!

Kenwood Church of Christ Welcomes You to Services at a New Location 20200 MERRIMAN ROAD, LIVONIA

Beginning Sunday, September 6

Bible School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday Evening 7:30 p.m.
Interim Services with Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile Road, Livonia. 474-084



Attend Church This Sunday At The Church of Your Choice With Your Family

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of Garden City 6443 Marimran Road Phone: 421-8628

NARDIN PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Farmington 11771 474-8660 29887 West 11 Mile Road

CLARENCEVILLE METHODIST CHURCH 20300 Middlebelt, Livonia GR 4-5563

ALDRGATE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 10000 Beech-Daly Road (Between Plymouth and West Chicago) 379-7005

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 30900 Six Mile Road 422-6038

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 30450 Farmington Road Between 13 and 14 Mile MA 6-8320

FRENCH'S FLOWERS Sometimes flowers are the only way you can say "I love you."

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE Wednesday Testimonial Meetings at 8 p.m.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE You are cordially invited to attend Sunday School as listed below. Sunday schools are conducted by all churches, and are provided for children of pre-Sunday School age.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE Wednesday Testimonial Meetings at 8 p.m. Hours of Service

FOURTH CHURCH, Detroit 11 a.m. 24400 W. Seven Mile near Telegraph

FIRST CHURCH, Garden City 11 a.m. 33111 Ford Road

FIRST CHURCH, Plymouth 10:30 a.m. 1100 West Ann Arbor Trail

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 36500 Ann Arbor Trail Livonia 422-0149

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of Plymouth 680 Church Street 453-5280

CLARENCEVILLE METHODIST CHURCH 20300 Middlebelt, Livonia GR 4-5563

ST. LUKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 39851 Five Mile Ernest L. Otter, Minister

ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 30450 Farmington Road Between 13 and 14 Mile MA 6-8320

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of Farmington 33113 Grand Blvd. GR 4-8373

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PRESBYTERIAN St. Mark's Presbyterian Church 26701 Joy Road

ST. PAUL'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 27475 Five Mile Road GA 2-1470

ST. TIMOTHY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 16700 Newburg Road Sunday 10 a.m.

ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Hubbard at West Chicago

NORTHWEST CHURCH Christian and Missionary Alliance 28111 West Ten Mile Road 476-7673

RIVERSIDE PARK CHURCH OF GOD 11771 Newburg Road

EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH 24331 W. Eight Mile Road

CHURCH OF CHRIST 1659 Middlebelt Road

CHURCH OF CHRIST 25516 Parkdale

MEMORIAL CHURCH OF CHRIST 35475 Five Mile Livonia

UNITY OF WEST SUBURBIA 30025 Curtis Road 421-1760

"PUBLISHERS OF DAILY WORD" Daily-Prayer 261-2440

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH WELCOMES YOU Saint John's, Westland

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