Msgr. C.B. 'Woody' Woodrich dies

By Charlene Scott
Register Staff

Denver's patron saint of the hungry and homeless and the city's most famous priest -- Msgr. Charles Bert Woodrich -- died Sunday, Nov. 10, at the age of 68 following a severe asthma attack at his apartment.

"Father Woody," as he was known throughout the state, was beloved by thousands as a "streetfighter for the poor" and the founder of Samaritan House shelter for the homeless in Denver.

He also was the former editor of the Denver Catholic Register and served for 17 years as Director of Communications for the Archdiocese of Denver.

A native of Buffalo, N.Y., Msgr. Woodrich was born May 5, 1923, the son of a Catholic mother and a Lutheran father who was a shoe salesman.

HIS SMILE was Father Woody's trademark.

At a young age, the boy Woody learned compassion for others. As a child, he stuttered and was taunted by classmates, who called him a "cross-eyed monkey." He endured three operations on his eyes before he learned to read.

Because of his disability, he took up drawing, painting and photography. Turned down for military service during World War II because of asthma, he put his art and photo abilities to work in advertising.

Woodrich left a lucrative public relations job to attend St. Thomas Seminary and was ordained for the Archdiocese of Denver in 1953. He also attended Regis College and St. Bonaventure University in Olean, N.Y.

He was assigned for 14 years to an inner-city parish, the Church of the Annunciation, and served two years as a hospital chaplain. He emerged as a blunt, tough talking, fearless defender of the downtrodden.

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'Father Woody' dead at age 68

From page 1

"The care of the poor is the foremost priority of the Church," he once said. "If this Church isn't the symbol of love and charity, then it is nothing!"

For 10 years, Msgr. Woodrich ran a sandwich line six days a week at Holy Ghost Church, feeding 20 at first, then long lines of 400 hungry homeless.

The priest received national fame after a bitter blizzard Christmas Eve in 1982, when temperatures were below zero and he opened the doors of Holy Ghost Catholic Church at 19th and California Streets to allow more than 60 homeless people to sleep in its pews.

That Christmas, there were 38,000 people in Denver out of work, 10,000 more than the year before.

The people the priest welcomed included aparaplegic in a wheelchair, a barefoot teenager whose feet were frostbitten and several elderly persons who fled their unheated apartments for the warmth of the church.

From the pulpit, Msgr. Woodrich told his parishioners: "You can't pray to the Lord and reject the ones he loved the most."

His parishioners and people all over the country responded with such generosity, that even Msgr. Woodrich marveled.

In its Nov. 29, 1982 issue, People Magazine featured him and his Samaritan Shelter that had expanded to the nearby unused Catholic Central High School.

The Denver Catholic archdiocese had remodeled the building to provide overnight lodging for 150 men, 30 women and 40 persons in a family section.

Msgr. Woodrich appeared on "ABC News Nightline" with host Ted Koppel, and was interviewed as a national media star by Time, Newsweek and USA Today and several other major newspapers.

At the dauntless priest's urging, the archdiocese purchased a block bounded by 23rd Street, Broadway and Lawrence and Larimer Streets. Thus began the first shelter in the United States constructed specifically for the homeless.

"I think it's shelters have saved an awful lot of lives," Msgr. Woodrich once said, relating how men with ice in their beards knocked at his door and how a man on crutches

"Two meals a year do not a full belly make," was one of his favorite sayings.

"Let us not kid ourselves that by an outpouring of charity during Thanksgiving and Christmas that we are really reaching out and meeting the needs of the poor," he wrote in the Denver Catholic Register one holiday season.

Msgr. Woodrich was named by Archbishop James V. Casey to the editorial of the Register in April, 1972, a post he held until 1983. When he took over, the Register had a weekly circulation of 23,000, which he boosted to more than 80,000, leading the Register to become the third largest newspaper in Colorado and the state's largest weekly.

In 1982, he was named the Colorado Publisher of the Year by the Colorado Press Association, and was elected to the board of directors of the Catholic Press Association in 1986.

He also was a recipient of the third annual Presbyteral Council Award and received an honorary degree of doctor of humane letters, honoris causa, from the University of Colorado in 1986 for his work with the poor and homeless.

"Msgr. Woodrich died on the Simday when we hear Jesus in the Gospel of the Mass praise the poor widow for giving so generously out of her poverty. In the name of Jesus Christ, Msgr. Woodrich taught us how to give praise to God for the hidden and surpassing gift of the very poor among us. He was their advocate, their voice, their inspiration and their friend."

"At the Samaritan House, during his 14 years as editor of the Denver Catholic Register, at Holy Ghost parish and in so many other priestly ministries, Father Woody was a living witness of the Catholic priest who has been called to serve and not to be served. For this reason, Msgr. Woodrich rightfully earned the respect and admiration of the many people who knew him. He was loved by them all and will be greatly missed."

"The entire Church of Denver gives thanks to God for Father Woody's life and ministry. His long struggle with illness is now ended. May he rest in the peace of Christ."

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Msgr. C.B. Woodrich

Archbishop Stafford's statement on Msgr. Woodrich

"I am shocked and deeply saddened by the untimely death of Msgr. Woodrich."

"Msgr. Woodrich died on the Sunday when we hear Jesus in the Gospel of the Mass praise the poor widow for giving so generously out of her poverty. In the name of Jesus Christ, Msgr. Woodrich taught us how to give praise to God for the hidden and surpassing gift of the very poor among us. He was their advocate, their voice, their inspiration and their friend."

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Father Woody's services

A vigil service for Msgr. C.B. Woodrich will be held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 13, at Holy Ghost Catholic Church, 19th and California, in Denver.

The funeral Mass of the Resurrection will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 14, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, East Colfax and Logan.

Archbishop J. Francis Stafford will be the celebrant, Father John Anderson the homilist. Burial will be at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Denver.

The regularly scheduled 5:10 p.m. Mass on Wednesday, Nov. 13, at Holy Ghost will be dedicated to the memory of Msgr. Woodrich. Jesuit Father Martin Whealen will be the celebrant.

Msgr. Woodrich will be honored at an open house at Samaritan House celebrating its fifth anniversary at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 17.
PRESS SPOKESMAN -- Msgr. C. B. Woodrich served as Director of Communications for the Archdiocese of Denver for 17 years until December, 1986.

TUCKING IN THE HOMELESS -- Msgr. C. B. Woodrich watches over the homeless sleeping on the pews of Holy Ghost Church in Denver in the winter of 1982. (NC Photo from UPI)

A RECIPIENT of the 1987 Presbyteral Council Service and Leadership Award, Msgr. Woodrich proudly holds his plaque, one of countless awards he received.

MSGR. WOODRICH AT WORK as editor of the Denver Catholic Register.
DISTRIBUTING $10 BILLS to the homeless was a favorite pasttime of Msgr. C. B. Woodrich at Christmas, shown here with Mayor Federico Pena in 1990. An anonymous donor gave Msgr. Woodrich $10,000 to distribute to the poor at Holy Ghost Church during the holiday season.

From the Jesuits—

THE IGNATIAN ANNIVERSARY PRAYER BOOK

Hello! I'm Father Gene Martens, S.J., Associate Director of the Development Office of the Jesuits of the Missouri Province.

Just recently we Jesuits completed the commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the birth of St. Ignatius of Loyola and the 450th anniversary of the founding of the Society of Jesus by St. Ignatius.

As part of the celebration we commissioned a special prayer book called THE IGNATIAN ANNIVERSARY PRAYER BOOK. This 350-page prayer book has a hard cover and easy-to-read type. It has morning and evening prayers for each day of the week, along with a special selection of Jesuit prayers.

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DOCTOR WOODY — Msgr. C. B. Woodrich was awarded an honorary degree of humane letters by President C. Gordon Gee of the University of Colorado.

THE PHOTOGRAPHER Msgr. C.B. Woodrich was featured on the cover of the 1987-88 calendar of the Denver Junior Symphony Guild. Photo by Michael Pech

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Mt. Olivet Cemetery approaching centenary

By Colleen Smith Mason

Mt. Olivet Cemetery, having been consecrated by Bishop Nicholas C. Matz in 1892, will mark 100 years of caring for Colorado Catholics in 1992.

Plans to observe the centennial year include the creation of a cemetery walking tour, and also a special centenary will culminate with a celebration on Memorial Day, 1992.

Mt. Olivet is inaugurating the centennial celebration with the introduction of a recently completed new logo.

"I saw our centennial as an ideal opportunity to update our identity," said Jan Parsons, director of Mt. Olivet Cemetery. "I wanted to change our logo, but only subtly. This logo blends the best of our past with our promising future."

Parsons pointed out the olive branch that was added to the logo to tie in with both the cemetery’s name and to symbolize the ideal of resting in peace.

"Cemeteries," Parsons said, "provide a connection to the deceased, gone in body but remaining in spirit through the communion of saints."

EACH GRAVE A PRIORITY

Whether marked by elaborate mausoleums, simple headstones or crypts, each grave at Mt. Olivet receives due reverence and care by the groundskeepers. The cemetery grounds crew numbers 36 in summer, 16 in winter. On-site security ensures protection of Mt. Olivet cemetery.


The cemetery setting, Parsons said, is important for more than aesthetical reasons. "The peace and beauty of the resurrection can be symbolized in the peace and beauty of a cemetery," she said.

Parsons has spearheaded a full-scale cemetery beautification plan that includes restoring older sections by pouring foundations for and straightening memorials.

The staff also has been removing dead trees, sculpting shrubbery, restoring a pump house, repairing roofs, adding flower beds and removing algae from the six cemetery lakes.

IDEAL CEMETERY SETTING

Such maintenance of the expansive grounds of Mt. Olivet Cemetery comes at great expense. To assure the funding to maintain the pastoral setting that characterizes Mt. Olivet Cemetery, 15 percent of each grave and crypt sale is deposited into an endowment, the earnings of which are used for cemetery upkeep.

The grounds crew works under the direction of the cemetery's assistant director Vic Vigil. Parsons said that among cemeteryers from across the nation who have visited, Mt. Olivet has a reputation as one of the nation's most attractive cemeteries.

"With the mountains in the distance, the different grades of land, the waterfalls and fountains, the walls built from rocks unearthed when digging graves, the lakes and the swans--it's just a beautiful, consecrated place between the hurry and the scurry," Parsons said.

The cemetery staff is rounded out by a sales team of six. For Catholics, preparing well for death is one of life's most important tasks--a task that requires spiritual and practical preparation.

To assist Catholics with the psychological and financial burden of burying the dead, Mount Olivet Cemetery offers pre-need interment arrangements.

In a fireproof vault at Mt. Olivet Cemetery is an oversized ledger in which the first burial entry was noted in 1892. The ledger is still used today. The deceased's name, age, mortician, and place of burial are noted in careful penmanship.

CEMETARY AS ARCHIVES

"The record-keeping is phenomenal, right from the start in 1892," Parsons said. "We have a lot of people come in for genealogical reasons."

The ledger's earliest entries, made with fountain pens, include causes of death such as cholera infections. A mother and her six children are noted as having been "killed by Indians" in 1868. Six members of another family were "killed in snowslide" in 1884.

The history of Mt. Olivet is a history that includes each of Denver's former bishops and archbishops. The acquisition of the cemetery property dates back to the 1860's, when Bishop Joseph P. Machebeuf, Denver's first resident bishop, purchased and later donated to the Denver diocese a 440-acre farm near the foothills west of Denver. Bishop Machebeuf and Denver's subsequent bishops and archbishops are entombed in Gallagher Chapel at Mt. Olivet.

Additionally, the cemetery has interred Colorado pioneers, veterans, and priests and sisters who have served the archdiocese.

In 1950, the remains of approximately 7,000 people were moved to Mount Olivet from Mount Calvary, the former Catholic cemetery once located where the Denver Botanic Gardens now stand.

With land to develop, it is doubtful that the Catholic cemetery ever again will be moved. During the next century, as during the last, Mt. Olivet Cemetery will continue to be a place of communion for living and dead Catholics.
The 10 greatest setbacks for hungry people in 1991

(Editor's note: this is the second of a series of articles on world hunger.)

A variety of successful strategies are needed to address the crisis of world hunger.

"Government policies that are humane and just are needed, as well as a combination of individual, corporate and organizational efforts," said David Beckmann, president of Bread for the World.

"Lowering the interest rate on Third World debt by 1 percent could help hungry people as much as holding dozens of Live Aid concerts."

According to Hunger 1992, hunger worsened in a number of areas of the world during the past year. The authors of the report identified the 10 greatest setbacks for hungry people in 1991:

1. The Persian Gulf War, which severely affected not only Iraq and the surrounding region, but much of Asia and Africa as foreign workers lost their jobs and returned home.
2. The current global recession, which led to a record Food Stamp enrollment of over 23 million people in the United States and increased poverty in other industrialized countries.
3. Continued economic decline in most of Africa and much of Latin America.
4. War, refugees, drought and political turmoil in the Horn of Africa, which placed over 22 million people at risk of starvation.
5. Civil wars in Liberia, Angola, Mozambique, Sri Lanka, El Salvador, Cambodia, Afghanistan and the Philippines, which are affecting tens of millions of people.
6. Floods in China and Cambodia.
7. Cyclone, austerity measures and political turmoil in Bangladesh. The cyclone alone rendered 10 million people homeless.
8. Cholera, poor crops, economic deterioration and guerrilla warfare in Peru. Twelve million Peruvians -- 32 percent of the population -- live in poverty.
9. Political and economic changes in Eastern Europe, the U.S.S.R., Mongolia and Nicaragua. In the Soviet Union alone, 80 million people live in poverty and are vulnerable to hunger as old systems of food distribution and social welfare are collapsing and new systems are not yet in place.

"We are again seeing that militarization, poor economic and political decisions, natural disasters, and great inequalities of wealth and power are the primary causes of hunger," said Marc Cohen, research director of Bread for the World Institute on Hunger and Development and editor of the report, "Not Population Growth or the Lack of Food."

"We know what causes hunger. We also know what ideas work to reduce hunger. The challenge is for people to step forward and help put more of these ideas into action," said Don Reeves, director of Bread for the World Institute on Hunger and Development.

Hunger 1992 is the second in a series of annual reports on global hunger prepared by Bread for the World Institute on Hunger and Development.

The report is co-sponsored by Christian Children's Fund and supported by Catholic Relief Services, Adventist Development and Relief Agency International, CARE, Church World Service, Coordination in Development (CODEL), Heifer Project International, Lutheran World Relief, Mennonite Central Committee, The Trull Foundation, and World Vision.

The Hunger Report is released each year on World Food Day, Oct. 16. World Food Day was established in 1979 by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as a day to raise public awareness on hunger, malnutrition, poverty and development issues.

Here is a list of the local Catholic agencies involved in addressing hunger:

- Food Bank Coalition - Barbara Adons, provides local agencies assisting area indigent population.
- Emergency Assistance Centers - Mary Drey, provides food, clothing and other types of direct emergency assistance to indigent population.
- Catholic Charities - Jim Mauck, handles natural disaster relief in the United States.
- Catholic Relief Services - Denise Madden, allocates 25 percent of the Lenten Operation Rice Bowl collection to local agencies offering emergency food assistance. The remaining 75 percent is used to assist world development and relief efforts internationally.

By Elizabeth McMillan, RSM,Ph.D

The miracles and wonders wrought by modern medicine are impressive: sophisticated imaging technology, laser surgery, transplantation of vital organs, replacement of hips and knees, drugs that enable people with serious chronic illnesses to live relatively normal lives.

Yet, the healthcare system is in trouble. The growing number of people without access to healthcare in the U.S. stubbornly reminds us that something is seriously wrong. There are more than 37 million of them. Twelve million are children.

Meanwhile, those who pay for healthcare -- employers, insurance companies, and government -- are complaining about costs.

The healthcare inflation rate of 12 percent outstrips the overall inflation rate, causing some to say that cost containment is our most urgent healthcare problem.

Even as the nation grows more impatient with rising costs and inadequate coverage of the population, some of its citizens are beginning to complain more loudly about the quality of healthcare services.

They are unhappy about inadequate support for the frail elderly, the chronically ill and the dying -- and especially about the inappropriate use of certain technologies and medical procedures.

The health status of the U.S. population also raises questions about the quality of the current system when it is measured by such standard indicators of quality as the infant mortality rate.

HIGH INFANT MORTALITY

The U.S. infant mortality rate is one of the highest in the industrialized world. Child immunization programs, and child health generally are poorly organized and chronically underfunded in the United States.

These interrelated problems of cost, quality, and access have brought forth calls for the reform of the U.S. healthcare system that are becoming more numerous and more insistent.

The Catholic Health Association of the United States (CHA) and Network, the Catholic Justice Lobby in Washington, DC, have both made reform of the healthcare system a priority. Both enter the national health policy debate with a vision shaped by the gospel and Catholic principles of social justice.

CHA's concept for reform is further inspired by the biblical vision of "jubilee," which calls for "setting relationships aright."

In developing a reform proposal, CHA is looking to "reinvent" the healthcare delivery system from the ground up -- from the perspective of the people who are to be served by the system.

That perspective also provides a framework for the goals of Network's efforts:

1. "to provide adequate and affordable healthcare for all members of society."

2. "to develop an integrated healthcare model that includes health promotion, disease prevention, acute and long-term care, and rehabilitation."

While Network, CHA, and others are active in the public policy arena at the national level, still others try to change health policy at the state and local level.

Creative and committed people have decided to "just do it." They are working for a more just society by creating new models of healthcare delivery.

There are coalitions to care for people with AIDS and their parish nurse programs. Groups of Catholic healthcare providers in some cities are working together to assess the range of health needs in their communities.

In a midwestern city, healthcare, housing, and social services for low-income people have been integrated into a single program.

In Washington and in Arizona, Catholic healthcare providers are changing the way they deliver care to make better use of meager federal dollars -- to serve more people better.

In other areas, new programs for the elderly give them the support they need to remain at home.

These local initiatives are signs of hope that people care about those in need. They also show that in a society pervaded by self-interest, people can work together to build caring communities.

These efforts to bring about structural change in the delivery of healthcare have the potential to encourage others to get involved as well.

The moral, political, and economic obstacles to changing the U.S. healthcare system are formidable. The pain and suffering of individuals, the burdens of families, unhealthy and unsafe communities, and a dysfunctional healthcare system are with us.

But the power of the Spirit to heal and reconcile is stronger still when people moved by the Spirit get involved.

(Editor's note: Elizabeth McMillan is a senior associate for Corporate and Social Ethics with the Catholic Health Association of the United States.)
Colorado bishops support educational choice for parents

(Editor's note: The Roman Catholic bishops of Colorado have issued a statement of support for parental rights with regards to choosing educational opportunities for their children.

Citing a long standing teaching of the Catholic Church that parents are the primary educators of their children, the bishops encouraged parents to exercise their rights as citizen taxpayers to "develop or support legislation which enables them to procure the most effective education possible for their children."

The bishops also encouraged parishes to provide assistance to groups wishing to promote parental rights in education by allowing them to collect signatures or hold public forums on these issues.

The bishops of Colorado -- Most Reverend J. Francis Stafford, Archbishop of Denver; Most Reverend Arthur N. Tafoya, Bishop of Pueblo; and Most Reverend Richard C. Hanifen, Bishop of Colorado Springs -- meet regularly to review public policy issues.)

The complete statement of the Roman Catholic bishops of Colorado is as follows:

In the current political climate of our country, parents' rights with regard to the education of their children are receiving increased attention. Many feel that this will have positive impact on education as a whole. We, as the Roman Catholic bishops of Colorado, are often asked what our position is with regard to this concept.

It has been long standing Catholic teaching that parents are the primary educators of their children. Therefore, parents have the right to seek the best educational opportunities for their children. As the Roman Catholic bishops of Colorado, we wish to be clear that we are supporting parental rights with regard to education. The effectiveness of particular proposed legislation must be judged on its merits by the electorate.

In light of our stated support, we encourage our parishes to provide assistance to groups wishing to promote parental rights in choosing educational opportunities for their children. If these groups collect signatures or hold public forums in our facilities regarding these educational issues, they are welcome to do so after appropriate arrangements are made with the pastor.

'Choices' discussion at St. Louis Parish

St. Louis Parish will host a "choices" discussion on euthanasia and durable power of attorney Sunday, Nov. 17, from 12:45 to 2:30 p.m. in the church.

The presentation will be given by Michael Gaimara, an attorney, and Mimi Eckstein, Director of the Archdiocesan Respect Life Office. Eckstein will present the moral views of the Catholic Church on these subjects.

St. Louis Parish is at 3310 S. Sherman in Englewood.

Head Start party

Denver Head Start will celebrate its 26th anniversary with "Family Fitness Frenzy," a birthday party for young and old, Saturday, Nov. 17, from 3 to 7 p.m. at the Ice House, 1801 Wynkoop St. in Denver.

Proceeds will help Head Start purchase a permanent downtown home at 2500 Curtis St., allowing expansion of its child care services by more than 60 percent.


- Metropolitan Organization for People (MOP)
- Farmworker Power Project
- Center for Third World Organizing

LOCAL CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT GRANTS - September, 1991

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- Denver Kateri Circle
- Western Slope Hispanic Community
- Expansion of the Colorado Legislative NETWORK
- Migrant Farmworker Program
- CHARG Resource Center

Please give generously to the Campaign in your parish.

COLLECTION SUNDAY: NOVEMBER 24
All are called equally to serve as missionaries

"Each of us is called separately and yet equally to serve as missionaries."

This was the message shared by Denise Madden, the director for the Archdiocesan Mission Office during the Fall Mission Discernment Program Oct. 18-20 at Benet Pines.

The program offers those interested in learning more about home and foreign missions an opportunity to explore the many aspects of missionary work with others who share the same desire.

Offered twice each year in the spring and fall, the class usually meets one evening a week for six weeks and concludes with a retreat weekend centered on the theme "Mission Spirituality."

To make the class more accessible to people living outside the Denver area, the sessions were combined into a weekend long program conducted by Madden and Marianne Dunne, Montera Mission Coordinator, who indicated they were pleased with the weekend and the success of the class.

"This was our first experience giving the Mission Discernment class over a weekend," said Dunne.

"I think it was a positive experience for all and definitely a model that the Mission Office can use in offering the class to people on the eastern plains, Fort Collins, the Western Slope and even, in Pueblo."

Barbara Klava, one of 11 to attend the weekend program, already had begun the application process.

Klava is a recent graduate of Whitworth College in Spokane, Washington where she studied sociology, political science and Spanish.

As part of her studies in Spanish, Klava was required to live for a few months in a Spanish-speaking country. Her professor recommended Spain but she chose instead to learn among the people of the Third World countries of Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

Her five-month experience with the people of Central America remained with Klava long after her return to the states and this is the beginning of her call to mission.

"You read about them (the Third World countries) in the newspapers, but when you're down there people become real to you," said Klava.

"When I came back, and even down there, I carried their burden with me and I really felt their love for life and their deep faith. Ever since I've been back, I just don't feel as fulfilled as I did down there."

Klava contacted Dunne and began the application process. After completing her studies last spring, Klava began serving as Youth Coordinator with Our Lady Mother of the Church in Commerce City, where the experience she is receiving will come in handy.

"I'm definitely learning a lot about what goes on in a parish and about the responsibilities of a pastoral staff. It's wonderful. In Central America, people are struggling to meet as a parish. Here, there are so many other things competing. Our freedom to worship over here is taken for granted."

If all goes well, Klava will spend from early August to late November attending the Latin American Program at MACC - Mexican American Culture Center in San Antonio, Tex., be commissioned and leave for Monteria in January of 1993.

She will take with her the love and support of friends and family that includes two brothers and a sister and her parents, Gary and Joyce, who are involved in a different aspect of mission discernment - that of L'Arche, a program that involves community living with handicapped adults.

"I think this weekend some aspect of mission."

said Klava. "It really awakened my desire to serve as missionaries."

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That's '30,' Father Woodrich

People. That's what Father Woodrich was all about. People: the poor, his parishioners, the Register staff, his fellow priests and Religious. But especially the poor -- whether they were in a Guatemala earthquake or on the streets of Denver.

He wanted to help people so much. You could tell he enjoyed giving money away to the poor. Giving money away to those in need was so much a part of Father Woodrich. Probably few of those who gave Father Woodrich gifts knew those gifts were turned over to someone else.

His office at The Denver Catholic Register almost daily saw a regular stream of people looking for money or some kind of help. And he gave it.

The Samaritan Shelter probably started one freezing winter day several years ago when the priest could see the snow whipping around the streets from his Register office. "Those poor people out there in the streets without shelter will be freezing to death," he shouted. "By God, I have to do something. I'm going to open the church and let them in."

He got a lot of publicity for that. He was a "natural" public relations man and was gifted at being able to use the media. But he was not out to get publicity for himself. His sole purpose was to get good PR for the Church. He wanted to show the world that the Church cares, that it loves people -- all people, especially the poor. He was the Church's best PR man.

There were not a few who accused him of wanting simply to gather the poor around the Pastoral Center and then shower them with all the Church's money from the roof.

He was -- to a great extent -- a simple person, a naive person. He trusted practically everyone: those who kept coming to him again and again for a handout, those with some kind of scheme or gimmick. There were many, of course, who took advantage of his generosity, who abused it. But Father Woodrich never seemed to mind. He saw all of them as people who must learn that there are those who really do care about others.

What Father Woodrich had was enthusiasm. He was so enthusiastic about his faith, about being a priest, about wanting to help people. And that enthusiasm was infectious.

The veneration of relics

By Father John Dietzen

Q. Could you give us some information about the church's position on relics of the saints. I am puzzled why we do not encourage the veneration of relics. I believe they are special gifts from God.

A. As most Catholics know, veneration of the bodies of the saints, especially martyrs, goes back to the very early church. Sometimes the blood of the martyr was collected on a cloth to be kept as a reminder to the Christian community of that individual's fidelity and courage in professing the faith.

Later the Eucharist was celebrated and churches were built over their tombs.

By the 800s and 900s, however, problems began to surface. Buying and selling, even stealing bodies or parts of bodies of saints became common. Transfer of relics became a major international business.

Some carefully controlled options for veneration of relics which were offered in former church law are not even mentioned in the present Code of Canon Law.

The church's current norms and grants for indulgences do not include any prayers or actions relating to relics of the saints.

In the late Middle Ages it became customary, and then required, to insert a saint's relic in every altar, the old "altar stone."

This is no longer required. Veneration of relics can be a means of praising the goodness of God and of honoring our brothers and sisters who are saints.

VIEWPOINTS

Teen moms

By Dolores Curran

Being a teen mom is tough, and so is being a teen mom's mother or a teen grandmom. When I addressed an Oklahoma Child Abuse Conference on prevention-based parenting education last March, I found in my workshop many social workers and parent-educators who work solely with teen moms.

Some of these teen moms are married, some not. Some live with their parents, some close by and some distant. Each living situation has its own stresses and rewards. These young mothers range in age from 14 to 20 and most have dropped out of school.

For diverse reasons, they have chosen to keep and rear their babies rather than abort them or put them up for adoption. As tough as their lives are, they have made a decision which is their right to make and which we must respect. But, they don't have an easy life.

At the very time their hormonal development tells them it's time to separate and become independent, they are forced to become more dependent on their parents. At a time when teens are seeking an identity — who am I apart from being a limb of my family — they are suddenly mothers whose search for individuality must be put aside.

They're as trapped as the teen mom. They don't deserve the flak, but, they aren't revert to adolescent behaviors. Teen moms have predictable stresses: dependency, poverty, isolation, loneliness, stigma, envy and hopelessness. When you're 16 with a baby, it's easy to do the math — you'll be 34 before that child reaches maturity. And to a 16-year-old, 34 is old age.

The issue, however, that my workshop professionals brought up as being most stressful concerned the relationship between teen moms and their mothers. It's an understandable stress. They are still teenagers, after all, so they exhibit typical teen reaction to parental limits, advice and authority. But, they are also mothers and so they have a prior right in determining how they are going to rear their babies and live their lives. When there's a conflict, grandparents can pull authority and teen moms can revert to adolescent behaviors.

My heart goes out to both. Many mothers of teen moms who have anticipated liberation suddenly find themselves locked into caring for a baby as well as a teen. They don't deserve the flak, but, they aren't going to abandon their daughter and grandchildren. They're as trapped as the teen mom.

What's the answer? Each has to grant the other space, respect each one's role and sacrifice developmental behaviors for the welfare of all. The teen mom has to give up teen behaviors like slamming doors and rolling eyes and grandma has to give up control, unsolicited advice and criticism.

QUESTION CORNER

Is there a special prayer one can say, for example, when venerating a relic of our Lord? (Illinois)

A. As most Catholics know, veneration of the bodies of the saints, especially martyrs, goes back to the very early church. Sometimes the blood of the martyr was collected on a cloth to be kept as a reminder to the Christian community of that individual's fidelity and courage in professing the faith.

Later the Eucharist was celebrated and churches were built over their tombs.
In response to the Oct. 16 letter from Steven Gottlieb, Assistant Director of the Anti-Defamation League, I would like to say I am one of the pro-lifers who compares abortion to the Holocaust of Nazi Germany. I can assure you my intention in doing this is not to detract from the Nazi horror but to call it to people's memory.

Since Roe vs. Wade, over 26 million unborn babies have died in the womb in the United States. They can be killed at any time during the nine months, for any reason. Most of these babies are killed by being dismembered while still alive in the womb. These are human babies, the most innocent and defenseless of all human beings. Their body parts are disposed of in trash cans, incinerators, or boxed up and shipped to research centers for research, they are even used in make-up to make women's faces beautiful.

In a moral climate where 4,400 babies are killed each day eroding our respect for human life, the silent killing of abortion opens doors for the killing of euthanasia, infanticide, assisted suicide, etc. Perhaps I am being "insensitive to the real facts, then we must make our choice to support or deny abortion and live with our choice. I choose not to support murder, and to support life."

F.C. (Bill) Jordan
Broomfield
Catholic Native Americans seek leadership development

By Charlene Scott
Register Staff

The development of Catholic Native American leadership in the Denver Archdiocese has been funded for the second year by a Campaign for Human Development grant.

The Denver Kateri Circle was granted $700 again this year for its Native American Catholic Leadership Development Program.

"We look forward to having native leadership in the Church," said an advocate for Native Americans with the Kateri Circle, Sister Marie Therese Archambault.

"We hope for a Church where natives can say freely how we want to be Christ."

Sister Archambault was born on the Standing Rock Reservation in North Dakota of the Hunkpapa tribe in the Teton Lakota nation.

She studied theology and scripture in Rome for seven years and teaches New Testament at St. Thomas Seminary and religious studies at Regis University in Denver.

A Sister of St. Francis from Marycrest, she began her work with the Denver Kateri Circle in 1989.

"We have an outreach to 50 to 80 Native Americans," she reported. "We meet for a monthly Mass and meal in people's homes, and have a weekly Bible study during Advent and Lent."

Many Native Americans who move from their reservations to the city "fall away from Catholicism," Sister Archambault said.

"They do not identify with large urban parishes - and they lose touch with other native people," she explained.

"This always has been a tremendous concern for me."

Native Americans have been treated paternalistically by the U.S. government and by the Church in the past, and therefore, do not perceive themselves as leaders, explained Sister Archambault.

"We only have about 20 native priests and 60

"Every step we take upon mother earth should be done in a sacred manner; each step should be as a prayer."

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Wheat Ridge, CO 80033
Or Call: 424-7785
All are called to serve as missionaries

For Betty Tanksley, the weekend was also an opportunity to share recent experiences as a missionary in Africa.

"This weekend has been twofold -- to share and discern my last two years in mission in Uganda, East Africa, and to prepare, hopefully, for mission next year in South America."

"I feel called to work with the poor so I can learn from them about Jesus and Church in a way other than we experience Church in our own culture," said Sister Frances Sedlouk, of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Colorado Springs.

"The weekend helped me to answer some of the questions about hearing and responding to the call to missionary work. The weekend helped blend the realities of the struggle with the joy and satisfaction of serving others."

For two other women, the weekend had a different meaning.

"My interest in the weekend was to become more oriented in mission to help in a background capacity where possible," said Betty Lewis of St. Michael the Archangel Parish. Lewis, who along with Bea Carrillo, a member of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Colorado Springs, serves on the Monteria Mission Board.

"As a member of the board, this weekend has given me not only insight as to the lives of the missionaries, but also great admiration for their willingness to answer God's call," said Carrillo.

"My prayer is for discernment to answer God's leading; that wherever He places me, I may be able to further His Kingdom."

For Dick and Kathy Hunt of Our Lady of the Pines Parish in Colorado Springs, the weekend was a new beginning.

"This weekend was the beginning of a discerning process to determine where God's call is leading us. It has opened the doors to different possibilities to not only foreign missions, but also home missions and even community service. We were able to meet and share with people who had been on missions and learn firsthand some of the wonderful experiences this life has to offer in many other cultures."

"Only in talking with Marianne and Denise was I able to begin to understand the realities of serving as a missionary," said JoAnn Knutson, a member of St. Mary's Church in Brush.

"Sometimes those most in need are the people you live around and work with every day."

"Este fin de semana me ha confirmado que hay algo mas aparte de nuestra vida cotidiana. Me ha gustado mucho estar con gente que se siente igual..."

"This weekend has confirmed to me that there has got to be more. That there's something else besides everyday living," said Carolina Gonzalez-Ailer, who moved to the United States from Spain only a few years ago. "It's been a great experience to be among people who feel the same way, who are looking for more."

"I continue to feel blessed by the experience of seeing the missionary spirit alive and moving in God's people," said Madden.

"In the past four years, more than 300 people from Colorado have taken the time to listen to the call to mission. Each is called separately and yet equally to serve as a missionary."

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Safeway and the Food Bank of the Rockies have launched a program designed to provide needy children and adults with fresh produce, meat and dairy products. Called “Change for the Hungry,” the program is being conducted at 122 Safeway stores in Colorado, Wyoming, S. Dakota, Kansas, Nebraska and New Mexico.

Safeway’s Denver Division is donating more than $12,000 to begin the program and will give customers the opportunity to contribute change received at the checkstand into special canisters. Overall, Safeway is contributing $100,000 nationally to start the programs in all of its U.S. Divisions.

Funds collected will be converted to Safeway gift certificates, which the Food Bank of the Rockies will distribute to nearly 300 food assistance programs.

"The great thing about this program is that it complements standard non-perishable food drives," said Rick Rank, president of the Food Bank of the Rockies.

"Change for the Hungry provides a way to supply items such as dairy products, meats, fruits and vegetables."

Safeway spokesman Jeff Stroh said, “With the help and generosity of our customers, we’re confident that the Change for the Hungry program will provide many more hungry children and adults with not only the basic staples they need, but fresh perishables as well."

**MDA benefit**

The fifth annual 1999 Broadway Stair Climb, a race up the skyscraper’s stairways to the 38th floor for the benefit of the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) has been set for Wednesday, Dec. 11.

The event, which typically attracts between 300 and 500 participants, has raised thousands of dollars for worthy charitable organizations.

Edward J. Barsocchi, the event’s founder and chairman, said, "This year, in order to encourage greater participation, we not only reduced the entry fee to $15 for an individual and $39 for a co-ed team of three, we modified the pledge concept from a requirement to an option. And MDA’s a great cause."

Entry forms are available at running stores, sporting good stores and athletic facilities.
Arts & Craft fair
St. Rose of Lima Arts & Craft Fair will be Nov. 23, from noon to 7 p.m. and Nov. 24, from 9 am. to 1 p.m. at the St. Rose School Hall, 1345 W. Dakota Ave., Denver. Crafts, paintings, needlework, crocheted items, weavings, baby gifts, novelties, baked goods and Mexican food will be available. Sunday morning there will be hot cinnamon rolls.

Eucharistic Adoration
Eucharistic Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament at Good Shepherd Church, 2626 E. 7th Ave., will be Thursday, Nov. 14, from 7 to 9 p.m. Jesus Father Walter Harris hears confession and celebrates Mass, 9 p.m. Evening and night prayers of the Liturgy of the Hours (Divine Office) and rosary recited.

Healing Mass
Servite Father Peter M. Rookey will be in Colorado for two days at the following Parishes: Nov. 29, 4 p.m., St. Peter's Parish, 9th Ave. and 12th St., Greeley. Call 352-1060; Nov. 30, 8:30 a.m., Queen of Peace Parish, 13120 E. Kentucky Ave., Aurora. Call 364-1056; Nov. 30, 5:30 p.m., St. Frances Cabrini Parish, 6673 W. Chatfield Ave., Littleton. Call 979-7688.

The cross that Father Peter uses in blessing people during these healings contains relics of the Servite Saints, St. Peregrine, St. Anthony Pucci, St. Juliana, St. Philip Binizi and the Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order.

For information call his assistant, Barbara Avillar, 972-3332. Sponsored by Medjugorje Ventures Inc., a non-profit charitable organization.

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Quilt sale
The last quilt showing of the year is Nov. 15, from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Nov. 16, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Colorado Christian Home, 4325 W. 29th Ave., at Tennyson. Proceeds from sales will provide treatment and residence for abused and neglected children. For information call 433-2541.

Men's retreat
Men have an opportunity to experience the peace, quiet and prayerfulness of the monastery setting at the Snowmass Monastery, Nov. 15 to 17. A non-directive approach is used.

Registration is $15 and a donation. For information in the Denver area, call Lynette Reiling, 989-1348 or Sister Faith Hansen, P.O. Box 4198, Steamboat Springs, 80477, 1-879-0671.

Inner Child and Hope
The Shepherds of Bethlehem under the direction of their spiritual moderator, Bethlehem Father Anton J. Boror, presents a weekend on "The Inner Child and Hope," at the Inner Child Center, 1461 Irving St., Broomfield, beginning at 7:30 p.m., Friday Nov. 8 to Sunday, Nov. 10. For information call 438-0820.

Day of Prayer

Family perspective
The Archdiocesan Catechetical School offers a course with Dr. David Thomas or Regis University on the core curriculum of the Catechetical School Faith Formation track, is Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Spirit of Christ Parish, Arvada. For information or registration call 388-4411 Ext. 122. Registrations will be taken through Nov. 29.

Penny for Tots
Auraria Catholics sponsor their second annual "Penny for Tots" campaign to benefit Denver's Josephine Center, 2828 E. 46th Ave., Denver. Last year more than $200 was raised which went to help babies and children of needy families. Tables will be staffed Tuesday, Nov. 26, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Student Union. For information or to help, call Matt, 556-3864.

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Holiday dance
For songs of the 50's, 60's and 70's, the sparkle of holiday lights, and fresh pasta, sauce, meatballs, chicken, vegetable and antipasto trays, attend the Holiday Happenings II Dance, Friday, Dec. 6 from 8 p.m. to midnight. St. Frances Cabrini Parish, Chatfield Ave. and Pierce St., Littleton.

Music is provided by the "Pink Cadillac Band." Tickets are $12 per person in advance, and $14 at the door, if available. Wine, beer and beverages are included. Call 979-7688 or 972-2959 for tickets.

Living trusts
St. Martin de Porres Parish, 3300 Table Mesa Dr., Boulder, hosts a free Educational Workshop on living trusts and estate planning Tuesday, Nov. 19, from 7 to 9 p.m. Attendees receive a free Colorado Living Will form and an opportunity for a complimentary hour of private consultation. Sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. For reservations call 295-3000, Ext. 56, weekdays, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Legion of Mary
Denver Comitium of the Legion of Mary will meet in the St. Francis de Sales Parish Hall, 324 S. Sherman St., Thursday, Nov. 14, 7 p.m. Host is Our Lady of the Mystical Rose Praesidium. Officers of all praesidia are invited. For information on activities and membership call Bill Bley, 797-6460 or Charles Onofrio, 571-4141.

Day of Prayer for religious
On Nov. 13 there will be a special Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception for the Religious of the Archdiocese of Denver, at 12:10 p.m. All religious of the Archdiocese are invited to attend.

Bazaar
12th annual Advent Bazaar at Epiphany Lutheran Church, 790 S. Corona St., is Nov. 16 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Nov. 17 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Call 722-5311.

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Hats off to the Hamelin rats!

By Meg Sandoval Phillips
Register Staff

"It Happened in Hamelin," the Denver Civic Theatre's season premiere in its "Theatre for Children" series is an entertaining and charming rendition of a classic fairy tale.

Chock-full of song and whimsical dance routines, "It Happened in Hamelin," is offered as one possible explanation for the mysterious goings-on in the isolated town of Hamelin in the 15th Century.

The audience will discover that Hamelin is full of all kinds of rats -- from the daring, but annoying rodents to corrupt politicians and spoiled children. Rats, after all, are everywhere.

Otto Offenbacherberndorf, Hamelin's mayor and his relatives have monopolized town politics and helped themselves to the treasury for years. As these rats have thrived so have the rodents and the townspeople are unhappy.

They express their sentiments in song with "Rats to the Rats," a wonderful demonstration that leaves Mayor Otto and his family in a quandary. Will they have to cancel the upcoming ball because of the rats?

Zezperelda, Otto's sister and the town wizardess, tries in vain to "swish up" a spell to make the rats disappear.

It is Johann, the cobbler's grandson, who discovers a riddle carved on a tree stump: "What's in is in and can't get out 'till selfish hearts are turned about," and thereby discovers the Pied Piper's presence in Hamelin.

"It Happened in Hamelin" will run on weekends through December 1 and provides solid entertainment for all ages.

Ryan Coles' solo performance of "It Isn't Any Fun Without A Friend" is not to be missed.

Tickets are $5 for children and $6 for adults. For reservations and ticket information call 595-3800. The Denver Civic Theatre is located at 721 Santa Fe Drive.

The Piper goes to meet Mayor Otto and offers to rid the town of the rats for a price. But the treasury is virtually empty, and Hamelin cannot afford both the Piper's exterminating services and the Mayor's ball.

Nonetheless, the Mayor commissions the Piper to do away with the rats.

As the rats are charmed away by the Piper's flute, they perform the Rat Ballet, the best and most enchanting part of the play.

Pleased that the rats are gone, Mayor Otto, refuses to pay the Piper, and turns the townspeople against the Piper and his supporters, Zezperelda, Johann and the Cobbler.

But, there are more important problems than money and rats and the Piper teaches the town a lesson they will not soon forget by spiritling Hamelin's children away as payment.

The trip he takes them on is truly a diversion from the classic story line, but is wonderful nonetheless.

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Tickets are $5 for children and $6 for adults. For reservations and ticket information call 595-3800. The Denver Civic Theatre is located at 721 Santa Fe Drive.
Paramount Pictures celebrates the holiday season by presenting a motion picture for the family, "All I Want For Christmas," a comedy about two New York City children who launch a hilarious scheme to get what they most want this holiday season. The picture opened Nov. 8 nationwide, and is one of the few G-rated motion pictures being offered to moviegoers this season. "All I Want For Christmas" has been crafted with the heart and sensibility of classic yuletide tales. Check your local movie listing for the theatre near you for dates and times.

Fight illiteracy with ALS

Fight illiteracy and support the Adult Learning Source (ALS) at a special of "Phantom of the Opera," 8 p.m., Dec. 19 at Temple Buell Theater. Tickets are $100 per person, with some box seats available at $150. Prices include a champagne reception following the performance. For information call 892-8400.

PILGRIM STATUES

Pilgrim statues of Our Lady of Fatima, sponsored by the Ambassadors of Mary, will be in the following homes the week of Nov. 16-23:

ST. BERNADETTE, Lakewood: Rowena Smith, 570 S. Grant St., Denver; MT. CARMEL, Denver: Lena Martinez, 4444 Navajo St., Denver; ST. LOUIS, Louisville: Schedule not available; OUR LADY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH, Commerce City: Socoro Zubia, 6190 Olive St., Commerce City, ST. VINCENT de PAUL, Denver: Sarar Depperschmidt, 1790 S. Milwaukee, Denver; NOTRE DAME, Denver: Rosie Martinez, 4421 S. Yates St., Denver; ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL, Aurora: Gary Divine, 371 S. Peoria Cir., Aurora.

For more information, call 322-6009.

Honeymoon winners

The Hyatt Regency Denver Downtown and the Denver Catholic Register are pleased to announce the winners of the Honeymoon package drawing. Congratulations to Kathy Kirk, whose wedding date is June 13, 1992, and Joy Weldon, who will be married May 16, 1992.

Contact Ray at the Denver Catholic Register, 388-4411 Ext. 273 for information and prizes.
Rocky Mountain Brassworks
performs benefit concert

ROCKY MOUNTAIN BRASSWORKS
A benefit concert for the Food Bank Coalition, a program of Catholic Community Services, will be performed by the Rocky Mountain Brassworks on Sunday, Nov. 24 at 7 p.m.

The event will be at Holy Ghost Parish, 1900 California St.

The Rocky Mountain Brassworks is a 35-member British-style brass ensemble that has performed before numerous Colorado audiences.

All proceeds from the concert will go to the Food Bank Coalition. Tickets are $15 for patrons, (preferred seating), $10 for general admission and $5 for seniors ages 65 and older and students. Children under age 12 are admitted free.

Tickets are available at all metro Denver King Soopers stores, from Food Bank Coalition member food banks, or by calling Catholic Community Services, 238-0521. Tickets will also be sold at the door.

The Food Bank Coalition was established in 1975 by Catholic Community Services to help area food banks better meet nutrition needs of poor families. The coalition buys food in bulk quantities at reduced rates and passes the savings along to food banks affiliated with the Food Bank Coalition.

Food and clothing bank needs winter clothes

With the recent onslaught of cold and snowy weather, the demand for winter clothes has skyrocketed at the Marycrest Food and Clothing Bank. The supply of these clothes has decreased drastically.

Donations are sought of unneeded jackets, sweaters, boots, gloves, mittens and hats for people of all ages. The supply of children’s clothes is particularly low. Blankets also are needed.

These items will be distributed to needy families and individuals in northwest Denver.

The Marycrest Food and Clothing Bank provides assistance to more than 125 families daily.

Food is supplied by area grocery stores, local churches and community organizations. Clothes are received from churches and individuals.

Deliver clothing or food donations to the Marycrest Food and Clothing Bank, 2851 W. 52nd Ave.

There also is a drop off box at Maxfield’s Cafe, the corner of 15th and Platte.

For information call Sister Carmelita, 433-7634 or Sherry, 458-5084.

Dr. Joseph Collins to speak

Dr. Joseph Collins, co-founder of the Institute for Food and Development Policy, and author of “Food First,” and “World Hunger: the 12 Myths,” will speak at CU, Boulder campus Nov. 20, 4 p.m. at the Geography Dept. and Nov. 21 at 8 p.m. in the Glenn Miller Ballroom. Admission is a can of food.

The program is presented by Oxfam Hunger Action, a campus student group dedicated to spread awareness about issues of hunger and homelessness.

EL PUEBLO CATOLICO*
*THE CATHOLIC PEOPLE
NEXT ISSUE NOV. 27th
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The Denver Catholic Register
Empowerment Teen Program needs 'Friends'

The Empowerment Teen Program works with young women between the ages of 9 and 19 who are currently gang members, at risk for becoming members or former gang members who want to stay away from future involvement.

The “Friends” program is accepting applications from those who can make a one year commitment to working with a young woman in its program. They are particularly interested in “Friends” who themselves have overcome problems and difficulties and would be good role models for young women who are at risk for gang membership, drug and/or alcohol addiction, teen pregnancy, being a high school drop-out, surviving a violent relationship, receiving public assistance or being a former gang member.

Below is a list of dates for the next training sessions being held at the Empowerment Program:

Nov. 16, 1991 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Jan. 11, 1992 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Feb. 15, 1992 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Mar. 14, 1992 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Call Terry Meza or Carin Valdez, 863-7817 for an application.

DURING THE FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS, Archbishop J. Francis Stafford spoke to young people at St. Dominic's Parish about St. Francis of Assisi. Seated behind Archbishop Stafford are a panel of four who held a dialogue with the youth on the topic of St. Francis. Seated left to right is Capuchin Franciscan Father Lloyd Schmeidler, Franciscan Sister Theresa Langfield and Jim and Monica Anthony, who are Secular Franciscans.
33rd Sunday of the year
Mark 13:24-32

By Father John Krenzke

This gospel concludes a larger section concerning the end of the world and the second coming of Jesus. One of the difficulties about the doctrine of "He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead" is that people are apt to disregard it or become so unbalanced about it, that it becomes for them practically the central doctrine of their faith.

The Jews of that day thought that, when the Messiah came, they would have a privileged and well deserved position in history. Only could God intervene in history and win it for them. The time of God's intervention was the Day of the Lord. Before that Day of the Lord, there would be a time of terror and trouble when the world would be shaken to its foundations and judgment would come. Then a new world and a new age would dawn.

Literature (like the book of Daniel) using this theme appeared in Judaism as an expression of hope in times of persecution and affirmed the coming of God to judge persecutors and deliver the faithful. In the discourse of Jesus there is a series of collected sayings intended to answer questions about the last days. Here is a prophecy of persecution and affirmed the coming of God to judge its foundations and judgment would come. Then a new world and a new age would dawn.

Imagery is the special language spoken here. Hence, the literature was called Apocalypse which in Greek means unveiling. The unveiling remains a mystery because the prophecy was never meant to be taken as maps of the future nor timetables of events to come. The language is poetry using dreams and visions of reality in a pictorial way because Jesus, His contemporaries and you and I know that no man could really tell what would happen when God broke into the events of the world.

In our passage today, Jesus warns us of the second coming and the necessity to be on watch. In verses 24-27, the imagery (world-shaking events) of the day of the Lord and the second coming are intertwined. It has to be so because no one could possibly know exactly what would happen in either situation. The "imagery" is lifted by Jesus from several Old Testament sources. The imagery is impressionistic and designed to impress on the hearer and reader the awesomeness of the event.

Who would not be paralyzed in his/her tracks in seeing the sun darkened and no moon and stars falling and the collapse of the heavens?

In verses 28-32, we are told to read the signs of the time and this amounts to a perpetual vigilance for the believer. The Christian community, in fact, as a group fled Jerusalem before the Romans laid siege. Verses 30 and 31 refer to the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple. What was seen on a national scale was then seen by the reader to happen in a cosmic scale.

Jesus says He does not know the day nor hour when He will come again. We must live day by day and hour by hour so that we are "ready to welcome Him when He comes again" (Eucharistic prayer No. 3).

**Empty Nest Syndrome**

St. Anthony Hospital North and Provenant Health Partners present a free seminar addressing problems that parents face when their children leave home, Monday, Nov. 18, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Same Day Surgery Waiting Area, St. Anthony North, 2551 W. 84th Ave., Westminster.

The "Empty Nest Syndrome," will be lead by Erica Wittenberg, Licensed Professional Counselor.

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**Crusade for Children**

KYGO Radio is again sponsoring the KYGO Christmas Crusade for Children for 1991. Officers from the Denver Police Department developed this program to provide new toys for underprivileged children.

During the course of their daily work, police officers become familiar with domestic situations where the traditional "visit from Santa" may not be possible.

When an officer meets a child who may be left out for Christmas, the officer can nominate that child for the KYGO Christmas Crusade for Children. KYGO-FM 98.5 and KYGO-AM 950 ask their listeners for pledges of new toys for each child nominated.

Sponsors call a hotline number and are matched with a child. The sponsor brings their toy to the KYGO studios where it is wrapped by police officers and community volunteers.

The police officers deliver the gifts, while in uniform, to the children they have nominated.

The gift is offered as a present from Santa and his "helpers" at the police department.

KYGO-FM 98.5 and KYGO-AM 950 will begin asking for toy pledges on Monday, Dec. 2. Sponsors may offer their toy donation by calling the KYGO Christmas Crusade for Children hotline at 320-6318.

The Christmas Crusade for Children is a non-profit organization and all donations are tax-deductible.
Exclusively at Safeway

10% Off

U.S. Postage Stamps

Plus over $15.00 in valuable coupons - FREE in our Stamp Saver book

Safeway

Limit 2 books of 10 stamps. Hurry limited offer. While supplies last.