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Newsletters

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One Small Voice, October 1987

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ONE SMALL VOICE

Vol. 16 No. 2

October 1987

What Shall I Be?

Rev. Walter R. Dean, O.S.F.S.

I've got to make up my mind. I've put off the decision too long. What costume shall I wear this Halloween? What Shall I be? A pirate? A clown? (No space suit, please. I'm a little too creaky for that.)

Oh for the days when our problems were so trivial! How we lingered at the candy machine in the movie lobby trying to decide what nickle candy bar to buy for the saturday matinee!

But soon we were making serious choices and decisions. We chose courses in school-lasting friendships-life partners-and that frightening thing called-STATE IN LIFE!

Then-maybe we stopped choosing-or worse-we went back to trivia. Which shirt to wear with what pants? What wallpaper in the front bedroom?

Wait a minute! Hold it!

What's wrong with trivia? Jesus was the master of trivia. Oh, once in a while He chose to startle with beautiful sermons and miracles. But he also chose to be an obedient son and carpenter-a loving friend. He chose to be exhausted from over-work. He chose to be patient-a good listener-kind.

"Be faithful in little things."

What's my cue. Lord, I'll leave the bravura protestations to others. I choose to forgive-to be the first to patch a broken friendship-to be at peace.

I know what I'll be this Halloween and forever and ever. Amen!
A SAINT!



MASS AND SOCIAL

Our usual monthly Mass (in sign language) will be held on Sunday, October 25th at 2:00 p.m. at St. Vincent's Chapel on Highland Ave. in Fall River.

Following our Mass, we will have our annual Halloween Social. We would ask those attending to dress in the costume of their *patron or favorite saint*, although costumes are optional. A cash prize will be awarded to the best dressed saint. There will be games and prizes for the children attending. We ask adults attending to bring cakes and pastries decorated with the holiday theme. We will provide the beverage.

DIRECTIONS TO ST. VINCENT'S

From Route 24, take Highland Avenue exit. Proceed one mile . . . St. Vincent's is on the left opposite the Catholic Memorial Home.

From I-195, take Route 24 north th President Avenue exit. Go around the Rotary and pass McDonald's through the traffic lights at 2nd light, take right . . . go 3 1/2 miles up the road. St. Vincent's is on the right.

SIGN CLASSES

A six week Beginners Sign Class and a six week refresher course in intermediate and religious sign will begin on Monday, November 2 at 7 p.m. Classes will be held at St. Vincent's Home cafeteria on Highland Ave. in Fall River. Anyone interested, please call our office at 679-8373.

CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

The Center for Independent Living is looking for people, particularly people with disabilities, to serve on the Board of Directors. They are particularly interested in persons from the towns of New Bedford, Acushnet, Fairhaven, Dartmouth, or Westport. If interested, please call Kathy Melanson at 679-9210.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Any parents who have children with disabilities wishing Religious Education for their children should contact: Mrs. Babara Domingue at 679-8373 or write to her in care of our office address on the back of this newsletter.

CORRECTION...

In our July-August issue of One Small Voice, we printed a telephone number for a Handicapped Hotline that was being launched. The number submitted to us was incorrect, and we are presently trying to track down the correct number. We appologize for any inconvenience this may have caused any of our friends and readers.

TEACHERS NEEDED:

We have a need for volunteer teachers in both our Special Needs Religious Ed Programs, and our programs for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing students. If you are interested, please contact; Barbara Domingue at the Apostolate at 679-8373.

ATTENTION PARENTS OF DISABLED CHILDREN:

If you are interested for Religious Education Programs for your children, please contact Barbara Domingue at the Apostolate at 679-8373.

For parents in the NEW BEDFORD AREA:

We have a deaf couple (who are able to spea, sign, and lip-read very well) presently instructing hearing-impaired students in this area. If interested, please contact Barbara Domingue at the Apostolate (679-8373).

HEAD INJURY CONFERENCE

Braintree Hospital will hold its eighth annual Traumatic Head Injury Conference on October 14-16, 1987.

For information on the conference, contact the Public Relations Department, Braintree Hospital, 250 Pond Street, Braintree, MA 02184.

FAITH AND SHARING RETREATS

A Faith and Sharing Retreat is a special gift of God in which people companion with Jesus and with each other. At this retreat there is enough togetherness that we are not lonely and there is enough solitude that our togetherness is not empty. Faith and Sharing retreatants are composed of God's people called together: bishops, priests, sisters, lay people-old, young, well, handicapped, happy wounded, one family by grace.

If you desire to know more about the work of Faith and Sharing, I invite you to contact me. I will be happy to share with you and your people.

Yours in the Lord,
Rita Oleksiak
Region 7 Director
4966 Katherine
Dearborn Heights, Mich. 48125

(Region 7 comprises most of the U.S.)
(313) 277-0770 (home)
(313) 562-5356 (work)

CURSILLO

Some time for yourself! Time for learning about the Catholic Faith, time for sharing, for growth, for fun and for peace. Does this sound wonderful? It is wonderful and that is what CURSILLO is all About. There will be a Cursillo for deaf people in Brooklyn, NY from October 29 to November 1. During this cursillo you will be given an opportunity to experience Christian fellowship. It will also give you some tools and ways you can support your faith life. If you are interested in this cursillo week-end, please fill out the form below and send it to Fr. Joe Bruce, S.J.; Holy Cross College; Worcester, MA 01610 for more information.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION OF PERSONS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENT

Washington, D.C. The Catholic Association of Persons with Visual Impairment (CAPVI) has opened its office in Washington, D.C., announced Mosignor Paul Lackner, President of CAPVI.

The association was formerly known as the American Federation of Catholic Workers for the Blind and Visually Handicapped (AFCWBVH), founded in Pittsburg in 1954. At a meeting (August, 1984) in Philadelphia, the Board of Directors voted to form a new organization in which membership, formerly open to professionals only, would be open to non-professionals as well. To emphasize membership to all visually impaired persons, the name was changed to Catholic Association of Persons with Visual Impairment.

PRINT AND FILM RESOURCES

"Exceptional Times." 13 minute videotape. Against a background of the history of policies toward people with disabilities, this film describes the tremendous changes that have occurred over the past 150 years through the disability rights movement. Available from Council for Exceptional Children, 1920 Association Drive, Reston, VA 22091-1589.

CHARLTON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ACQUIRES TDD'S

Two Telecommunications Devices for the Disabled (TDD) are now available at Charlton Memorial Hospital. The main TDD is set up in the Emergency Department, which will allow users to report emergencies or to obtain critical information and assistance.

The second TDD is to be used as a relay system to assist users in setting up appointments in other areas of the hospital. This unit can also be used by disabled patients admitted to CMH or by visitors faced with an emergency situation.

The following numbers have been assigned for direct access:

EMERGENCY ROOM: 679-7096

HOSPITAL RELAY: To Be Announced

ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CITIZENS

The Association for Retarded Citizens of Greater Fall River, a United Way Member Agency, serving Fall River, Westport, Somerset, Swansea and Freetown, is currently starting a "Family Support Program". The goal of this new program is to actively address the needs of families with developmentally disabled members, through a variety of support services.

During the next couple of months ARC is planning to start a variety of service for families. The following is a partial list of groups being initiated; Parent Education/Advocacy Group, Transportation Service, Adaptive Equipment Exchange, Parent-To-Parent Group, and Support Groups for Parents of children with Down Syndrome, Seizures Disorders, and Autistic or Autistic Like Behaviors. A program for siblings of family members, who are developmentally disabled, is also being considered.

For more information concerning these groups, please contact Ann Lemieux - Coordinator, Family Support Program at ARC - 679-0001.

PUBLICATIONS:

A large-print book club has been launched by the Book Clubs Division of Doubleday. The club offers a wide range of full-length, hard-cover best-sellers - including fiction, mysteries, romance, and how-to titles - printed in large type and economically priced. For more information call 1-800-343-4300 and ask for Operator 355 or write: Doubleday Large Print Home Library, Customer Service Center, 501 Franklin Ave., Garden City, N.Y. 11530.

NATIONAL "EMPLOY THE HANDICAPPED" WEEK

The annual observance of National Employ the Handicapped Week each October is but one of many activities in a year-round effort to achieve maximum employment of people with disabilities.

For resource materials relating to employment of disabled persons, contact the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped:

1111 20th Street, N.W.
6th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20036
Tel: (202) 653-5010

VISION CARE CENTER

The Woody Brown Clinic, part of the Boston Optometric Center, provides a wide range of vision care services to the hearing-impaired community.

For more information, call (617) 236-4600 (V/TDD) or (617) 262-2020(V).

ACROSS AND DOWN

A crossword puzzle book for visually impaired puzzel-doers is now available.

The "Easy to See Crossword Puzzle Book" - and crossword puzzel books for lefthanded people - are available from Olio Publishers, PO Box 78, Glen Echo, MD. 20812-0078.

FCLD RESOURCE GUIDE

The "FCLD Learning Disabilities Resource Guide" is a catalog that lists centers throughout the country that serve learning disabled children. To order the publication, send \$ 10 to: The Foundation for Children with Learning Disabilities, 90 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016.

RESOURCE DIRECTORY

The Helen Keller National Center has published a revised "Directory of Agencies and Organizations Serving Deaf-Blind Individuals, 1987."

The directory is designed as a resource and an aid to parents and professionals who are seeking services for deaf-blind individuals nationwide. The guide includes federally funded and public and privately funded programs and the listings appear alphabetically according to state, city and name of agency.

Data includes director's name, geographical service area, eligibility requirements, age range of the population served, majorservices, communication modes, funding sources, and contact person.

To order, send \$ 10 payable to Helen Keller National Center, Community Education Dept., 111 Middle Neck Road, Sands Point, NY 11050.

FIRST CLASS MAIL

DATED MATERIAL

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

APOSTOLATE FOR
PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
Diocese Of Fall River
243 Forest Street
Fall River, Mass. 02721

Free Matter For
The Blind And
Phys. Handicapped
Postal MP W138

PLEASE NOTICE! If you have any questions, comments, information, etc. regarding this newsletter or any Ministry with our programs, please contact:

Rev. Joseph Viveiros

(617) 679-8373 (Voice / TTY)

We look forward to hearing from you... and seeing you at our signed Masses.

IMPORTANT: If this newsletter is no longer being read or if more than one copy is being delivered, please let us know.

Thank You