

'God is the ultimate trip' Students

by Debbie Bell

Religion is a very integral part of many students' lives. From childhood on, each person builds his own religious philosophy.

Julie Olson, senior, was raised a Lutheran. Her parents are very religious and took her to church every Sunday and had her attend Sunday school. She feels she has been given a very good religious background, but says she really didn't start to think about it until later.

"I don't think organized religion is all that important anymore. I'm sort of mixed up right now. God is more like an idea than a person or anything. The thing that motivates people to do things for other people and to love them could be God. Love is the thing behind people, and that could be God. It's like people say, 'God is Love'."

Julie feels that religion is an important part of her life. She thinks that it is related to everything in the world. "It's like something that's there, but you don't really recognize it. In religion you can see the truth in things, like if you see a really beautiful day and you can appreciate that it's real."

Learning about yourself is part of religion too, she feels and this honesty is an important factor. "It's not something you learn, it's in you; you let it come out and be truthful to yourself."

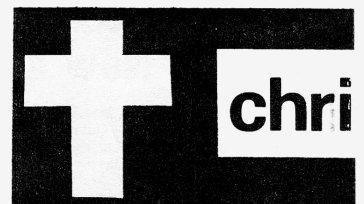
Her changing attitudes about the subject brought concern with her father, who felt she should go to church on Sundays.

"We had big arguments about it, but I don't feel I find my religion there. I think more kids are seeing that."

She feels that organized religion is often very cold and hypocritical. Some of the rules seem more like restrictions placed upon the people. They go through all the hand-shaking procedures, but still can't talk or laugh in church. "Religion is a fun thing and it can really make you happy, but I wonder if they're happy."

Some people, she feels, confine their religion to Sundays and use it as security. "I can't separate it from anything else. I can't run and hide behind my religion because it just doesn't work."

An unidentified sophomore gave her views on the subject. Her parents, Lutheran and Presbyterian, gave her a good religious foundation, she feels. They did not commit her to any one religion, and she was free to explore other religions. Her thoughts led her to stop believing in God two or three years ago. Speaking of the Sunday school-church life she says, "the longer I stayed away from it, the



Clergy discusses stud

by Sue Smiley

To overuse an old high school age phrase, is anything relevant? Religion? Jack Philippi, Catechism teacher feels that, "You have it both ways. The majority of young people are losing interest, but they have no home education and the church isn't giving them an education (in religion)."

Philippi and his wife teach a 90 minute class each week for 13, 14, and 15 year olds as a part of Corpus Christi's CCD (Catholic Christian Doctrine) program. Experience has shown Philippi that most students only do "what they absolutely have to" in the way of assignments. At the same time, such questions have come up in their class open discussion periods as "Does God exist?" and "Is the any sin?"

Philippi said that the high school age is a difficult age as far as religious education, but he doesn't feel that students attitude towards religion has changed since his high school days. "Maybe kids today are a little bit lazier about their religious endeavor."

"There is a definite need to develop or redevelop authority within a class - everybody talks about doing things, but knowledge is lacking. We are going through a questioning period," stated Philippi. "we (his generation) learned 'why' but at a much later date." In the authoritarian system students accepted ideas first and realized them at a later age than when students are questioning today.

"The church (Catholic) has gone a long feels the "need for a certain amount of the old," but he enjoys the participation as if the folk masses "rather than simply the priest leading the mass."

John Richardson, psychologist and CCD teacher for St. Rose of Lima Church, recognizes a critical problem in students'

lack of interest in religion.

At St. Rose this year out of 250-300 potential secondary school age students, 4- or 50 were registered for CCD groups. "Maybe by midyear the number is down to 15 or 20," said Richardson.

The Catholic Church has offered a variety of forms of involvement for students as a lecture series. Richardson said, "They may say that religion isn't relevant but they son't come no matter what the subject." Two of the speakers involved in this program were the Assistant Dean of the U and a Negro history professor, but attendance remained very low.

Richardson noted that of the 42 secondary school age students registered this year by their parents, 40 attended par-

CHURCH RENEWAL- Modern mass

by Karen Jarvis

It could have been a love-in at Loring Park with its music, lightshow, and love group.

In front of a huge surrealistic cloth poster of Jesus Christ lit by flashing lights, both young and old gathered to hear and participate in Newman Center's "guitar mass," Easter Sunday.

Newman Center has had this type of Mass four about two years, finding that it has worked out "Very Well."

People crowded into the small room to

hear the mass. Many onlookers were at the door. Everyone was singing enthusiastically. Father Berry, the priest singing most enthusiastically of all.

The mass started with a song called "All Together We're Free," played with two guitars, a base, piano, drums, and tambourine. The rythm was a strong jazz beat.

This was followed by "Soon the Sun Will Shine," a gay song similar in spirit to the Beatles' "Good Day Sunshine."

The group played in the front of the church to the side of a small red table of tulips and a three foot candle with a cross almost unnoticeable.

For the rest of the mass songs were alternated with readings from the Bible and a sermon about understanding Christ and seeing qualities of him in other people.

NEW TRANSLATION -

Bible's power endures

by Keith Lancette

MATTHEW

As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day and they were greatly distressed."

LUKE

As he said this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts that you sucked!" But, he said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it."

JOHN

The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst they said to him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such.

The "New English Bible" is a book which translates the Bible into more understandable and contemporary terms.

Four congregational leaders that were interviewed use the "New English Bible" for their sermons and the original translation for the remainder.

TRUE HAPPINESS

When Jesus had said this a woman spoke up from the crowd and said to him "How happy is the woman who bore you and nursed you!" But Jesus answered, "Rather how happy are those who hear the word of God and obey it!"

by Val Kern

Starlight of night	to place on a pedestal	and that one is probably right	turn to your god then all pharisees
Staring out on a girl;	or a mess of	but in	and ask can it help
Staring in on herself.	tangled emotions and	side of her wants	one doubts god can help her.
What does she see?	unknowings?	there is a compassion	The only god for her is
What is she seeking?	Does she want- why does she want	an understanding of problems she cannot solve	from within herself.