Announcing a Great Step for Mankind...

In a small, humble corner of Abbeville, Louisiana, in an area known as Rice Cove, God has been at work now for some fourteen months preparing a special place for abused and homeless children.

Now that substantial progress has been made, we hereby announce the Birth of the Holy Family Center as having been called forth by God to meet the needs of abused and abandoned children and alienated families.

This announcement is being made to invite you to physically visit the Holy Family Center soon. We believe that your heart will leap with joy when you visit the Center and find all that God has done and what plans He has in store for this child-servant of His.

Upon arriving, we will present to you a progress report and explain to you the architectural rendition of the proposed Center and answer any questions you may have about our goals, purposes, guidelines, etc.

Each time you seek us, you should find us hard at work bringing about the fulfillment of the Center. There is much work to be done. We need all the help we can muster up, especially yours. Take the time required to read this, our first newsletter, and you will recognize many ways in which you can personally join our cause.

You are personally being called to become an Apostle of the Holy Family Center. We

Abused & Homeless Children: FIND A HOME

The name of the Center was chosen explicitly and for a given purpose. We call it the Holy Family Center because the Center and all of its work will be geared to the Family unit. Our services, once we open, will be multi-faceted and integrated. Some of our projected services include:

- Care of Children - In Residence

Plans call for up to 14 homes to be located at the Center which will be made available for the housing of needy children; whether the care is overnight or for an extended period of time.

We want to maintain the integrity of the Family unit; thus providing the children with the most natural home setting and environment.

The children under their care will have full run of the home as a member of the family would normally have. There will be no lines drawn separating areas reserved just for the couple and their natural children. The needy children will enter the home as a member of the family and not a guest.

The design of the Center will be such that to an unsuspecting eye, it will appear as a normal subdivision with all the conveniences and pleasures: Fish ponds, swimming pool, recreation center, tennis courts, etc.

The couples who are to be chosen to live in the homes and offer their life in ministry must first pass a series of stringent tests that will help us to determine if they are qualified and worthy for the ministry.

Then, after passing these tests, an intense character investigation will be conducted and will include a check with the City, Parish and State Police as well as the FBI. After this, if they desire to be Foster Parents, they will be handed over to the Office of Human Development with the State and must meet and pass their investigations and training programs.

(Continued page 4)

God Bless the Children

A commentary by John W. Reinson, Dir.

What one sows, one reaps!

We are presently harvesting the crop we sowed. The sad news is that it is not fruit or vegetables but a generation of young people who are lost, confused, abused and disordered in their thinking and attitudes.

(Continued page 10)
Letters to the Director

Dear Mr. John M. Joyner,

I am most pleased to learn that you are in the process of establishing a children's center dedicated to the needs of the family and in particular the needs of children. I support wholeheartedly the concept of a center for children in need of care or for children in need of care or for children in need of supervision and/or juvenile delinquents.

As we have discussed, I saw a particular need in this parish and in an area for a facility for children’s shelter, juvenile detention center or a home in Acacia or Verillon. Such a facility is available, we need an institution that will meet the needs of the population. I asked God to make us a steps toward a child welfare and juvenile detention center.

And God Said “No”

A poem written by Ruby Bourdier

I asked God to take away my pride, and God said “No.”

I asked God to take away my anger, and God said “No.”

I asked God to take away my fear, and God said “No.”

I asked God to take away my selfishness, and God said “No.”

I asked God to take away my pride. God said “No.”

I asked God to slay my pride. God’s answer was “No.”

I asked God to show me the way. God’s answer was “No.”

I asked God to give me happiness, and God said “No.”

I asked God to grant me a wish, and God said “No.”

I asked God to grant me a wish. God’s answer was “No.”

I asked God to take away my pain, and God said “No.”

For the unsolicited service and prayers of God and God said “No.”

And God Said “No.”

If you feel personally called to become a part of the Holy Family Center, please call our office at 800-123-4567.
Find a Hero - from pg 1

All you can row, we will work out and invite only those couples who by reputation and example have proven their worthiness to serve in the ministry of caring for children.

We would like to see some homes with family families and their natural children only; others with Foster children living in the homes other than orphans; others with possibly children who need supervision before being adjudicated juvenile delinquents and others with children who are in the custody of the State but need a place to stay until things get home stabilized.

Also, our concern will not be limited to just the physical needs of the child but we will look and hard to supply the child's emotional and spiritual needs. Volunteer doctors, dentists, psychologists, etc. will be made available to work with children needing such extended care.

In the cases we have been involved in, a few areas of the child's need in the positive influence of transforming love and acceptance grew up with a lot of patience.

Care of Children - Non Resident

Have you seen honey bees going and coming from the hive? Well, that's what we pray will happen as the non resident children will be in full swing. Children going and coming with a meal from the nectar of the Center. Every child needs a home, where one will find streams of watering the winds which will refresh, heal, strengthen, renew, reconcile those who are in distress. Guidance and counselling will be made available to all children who desire it even if they are non resident. We are here to help and serve.

Our doors will also be open to the Office of Human Development for natural parents/child to heal their children's physical and Foster care. Certain rooms will be heating/air conditioning and as the beautiful grounds under the oak trees, thus providing a more natural environment for the family visit.

We hope to have an art center that will afford an outlet for the children as well. Not to mention, all types of farm animals to feed and pet. With your help the Center can be a loving refuge for our children, a place for relaxation, learning and fun.

Christian Parenting Classes

Treat the problem, not just the symptoms. That's just what we plan to do. We would be missing the boat if we addressed only the needs of needy children and not the source of the problem itself.

So goes the family, so goes society, so goes the nation. The family unit is paramount in terms of importance and necessity for having peace, order and justice in the world.

Often, needy children come from homes where there is a lack of basic affection from one or more members of the family, so various. Do not accept children, with fear and resistance.

Our plan is to offer to the public, programs and classes that will renew and strengthen the family unit. Literature will be made available on this subject.

Counselling/Guidance

Family and private counselling will be one important service offered at the NFC. Staff members will be available to listen and direct people to agencies who can answer and solutions to their problems. This service will help people in coping with their problems in a normal and healthy way.

Meeting Facility

Large rooms plans calls for us having facilities that can accommodate the needs of various groups to conduct meetings, seminars, retreats, etc. We even hope to have overnight sleeping quarters complete with dining facilities.

Our offices and beautiful grounds will also be made available to the Office of Human Development for family visits. This would allow the child of Foster children to visit in a more natural environment. They could have a picnic or maybe even go fishing or horseback riding together.

Summer Camp

Summer time in the City is hot and gritty especially for young children who have nothing but the side walk to play in and even more so for needy children. With your help, we plan to offer an alternative to these kids by sponsoring summer camps for them.

With the proper help, we would like for kids to be able to come out regularly to enjoy the activities of the Center. Big brothers and sisters will be needed throughout the year, thus getting kids involved with kids.

Seminar/Programs

On a regular basis, seminar and programs will be offered to strengthen and renew family relationships. They will be addressed to the public.

Child Abuse Prevention

We would be missing the boat if we only concerned ourselves with the treatment of abused children without also properly addressing the source of child abuse by offering classes to aid in the prevention of child abuse.

Various types of literature dealing with child abuse and its prevention will be kept on hand for distribution to interested groups. Along with this we will work with other existing organizations and agencies to educate people about all forms of child abuse.

Deborah Abshire works at our new computer working on the mailing list. To the right is the front view of our office building. Thanks to the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Trahan Jr., we have our new office. They donated the house to us and we added the porch and made other improvements. It has a 1,200 sq. ft. under roof and is centrally heated and cooled. It features a reception room, three offices, a full kitchen, board room, full bath and storage space. What really adds to the beauty of the office is that the wood floors were refurbished in their natural color and varnished. We are proud of our office and are excited to do due to the computing equipment. A 10 key, hard disk computer system which the secretaries use a 356K computer at the deal of the Director for his use, an IBM Wheelwriter 3 electric typewriter with the spell feature; A Deltaphone a Sharp SH 7200 copier with reduction/enlargement feature; An Isotec telephonic system with four lines and many features.

Give me drink by signing up for the HOLY FAMILY CENTER PLEDGE DRIVE

The suffering Christ is present in abused and abandoned children in a real way. We hear the cry of needy children and desire to respond now. But, we can help only if you help.

For us to make steady and significant progress, we need 100 people who will pledge $100/month to the NFC. In the State of Louisiana, there must be 100 people who have the ability to donate $100 per month to the cause of helping needy children. Especially when you consider that it's tax deductible. To some, the new tax cut of donating $100/month is only $50/month.

If after reading this newsletter, you feel called in a special way to sign up for such a pledge, please write or call us today. We need your help! There are many privileges to being such a donor:

• You can be proud that you are helping in a substantial way to build the Holy Family Center.
• Your name will be prominently displayed on a plaque in the main office of the NFC.
• You will automatically qualify as a voting member of the NFC and receive an invitation to attend the Annual Board meeting of the NFC.
• You will be included daily in the prayers of the NFC.
• You will be invited to attend any special function the NFC may host.
• On a limited basis, you will be able to fish in our stocked bass/beaver pond fishing ponds.
• What can I say? You will be treated as a VIP in any way possible due to the fact that we need you and your pledge in a real and pressing way.

To sign up, just write or give us a call today.
A Pulpit for Brother Philip

Brother Philip \textit{Anxious to Preach}

No novice in the abbey burned with the fierce zeal for learning that burned in Brother Philip. Most of his free time he spent being as absorbed in the ancient, biblical texts as if he was trying to memorize the names of the stars. Neither he nor anyone else dared to interrupt him

"My son, I want you to go out and preach with me today."

The youth's face flushed, then turned pale. He was embarrassed. It was the first time his opportunity came! His heart pounded with surprise and joy that he was being commissioned for work that he was ready to do. But he was not yet ready to do the work. It was the first time he was ready to do the work.

\textit{Deeds of Charity}

They followed a path frequented by travelers and beggars on their way to the monastery's walls. Brother Philip was surprised at how sincerely Gregory's work was done. He did not seem to be a hurry to reach his destination. He stopped frequently to greet passers-by and offered them refreshments. As they walked, he shared his story of how he and Gregory had come to be in the monastery.

At length they encountered a little girl who was crying. Brother Philip did not hesitate. He reached down into his purse and brought out a coin which he asked to be used for the girl.

A little farther on they encountered a woman who had been feasting beside a pot. She had been forced to halt her meal, as she was hungry. Brother Philip followed Gregory to a nearby field to gather grass to feed the hungry woman.

One morning much earlier than usual, Gregory approached the cell of the young monk. Although it was hardy dawn, he could hear Philip repeating the phrase of an ancient work, something about the bedridden wife of a poor labourer who had prayed with her and had been cured. It was said that his thin, wistful face reflected a new light of hope.

And so their journey continued through the rest of the day. Always Philip thought that they were in the right place where they were to give this word to those who were hungry. In the end, they only encountered one beggar who had no first name. Still, Philip found himself joining them, offering them words of encouragement.

\textit{The Best Season}

Someday, as the days wore on, Philip's heart was filled with joy. He had forgotten all about his previous work and Latin phrases. He no longer worried about his happiness and his death. He was not being called to do work.

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\textit{Open Invitation}

Our office hours are from 8-9 A.M., 9-4 P.M., Monday through Saturday, 9-1 P.M., Sunday. We have a 24-hr. line for home emergencies. Our number is 1-800-555-HELP. If you cannot reach us, you can try our office at 1-800-555-HELP. We recommend that you call our office if you need help in an emergency situation.

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\textit{VITF OPPORTUNITIES}

If you happen to be one who likes to donate a particular amount of money, we have a long list of items that you can contribute to the VITF. If you don't find what you are looking for, give us a call at 1-800-555-HELP. We can arrange for a meeting around our office building.

Nothing would please us more than to give you a list of items that you can contribute to the VITF. If you cannot reach us, you can try our office at 1-800-555-HELP. We recommend that you call our office if you need help in an emergency situation.

\textit{Finally, we must say goodbye...}

This is the final issue of the VITF. We have enjoyed serving you. If you have any questions, please call us at 1-800-555-HELP or visit our website.

We hope that you will continue to support the VITF in the future. Thank you for your continued support.

\textit{End of the line...}

If you have any questions or concerns, please call us at 1-800-555-HELP or visit our website.

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$6.00 PER SQUARE FOOT

An amount anyone can handle without strain

The square footage plan calls for using various promotional methods to have people of all age groups donate the value of at least one square foot of land. The value for each square foot is six dollars (see the footnote below).

Each time a donation is made to us as part of the Square Footage plan, you will receive a beautiful, B 1/2" x 11", certificate from us with your name and other information recorded thereon. You will proudly present the certificate and will probably want to place it in a frame.

To make the certificate more attractive and authentic, we have had it specially designed and made to pressure imprint the name of the Holy Family Center giving it a "raised effect."

Six dollars is an amount that just about everyone can donate regardless of age or income.

- Children helping children... Even children who cannot afford to get involved in helping the Center by reaching into their piggy banks, pocketbooks or handbags. One or more of six dollars can be set aside for someone in need and help needy children.

Donating to us could be their first opportunity to make an act of charity, to do something for someone else. The child will receive from us a certificate, in his/her own name on it. They can frame it, hang it on the wall or set it on a table, and look at it when their friends are spending time with family and friends.

Parents and Brand Parents can make a donation on behalf of their children and receive a certificate for their own personal record of giving.

- As a business... Regardless of your business structure and size, you can help us to help needy children by making a corporate donation to the square footage plan and receive certificate(s) that can be sponsored on a regular basis.

...Are you concerned about your own personal investments in this area? If you are, helping us can enhance your income, or give you a tax break! This is an area where you can make the most of your time in helping needy children!

- As an adult... We humbly challenge your generosity and request that you make a sacrifice and donate the value of six dollars to help needy children today. If you would like to donate more than six dollars, you can pledge the balance due and pay for it on a monthly or quarterly basis. The installment method allows you to help us on a continuing basis as well.

Nothing lasts forever. You must make things happen. Make a donation to the Holy Family Center for needy children today by making a donation now.

- As a group, Church, Organization or Corporation... Could you be looking for a unique, exciting way to help a community? What about helping us? We are receiving not only beautiful certificates from the church, but also the name of your group on it!

Not only could you get a certificate, but we will present it to your group during a picture ceremony. The pictures and a written report of the beautiful certificate will be released to the newspapers in Acadiana.

We invite you to start planning an event to raise funds for us today. Based on the success you have raised in your group, we would welcome your beautiful donations accordingly.

If you need some fundraising ideas, we have some books on hand to help you in deciding. Get in touch with us today.

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ACADIANA SHOW US YOUR HEART HELP US TO HELP NEEDED CHILDREN

"WE NEED YOU"

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Helpful Family Booklets Available ... For A Small Donation ...

One of the first and major projects undertaken by us was the installation of one of these systems that should eventually serve the entire center. Major in terms of not only work but cost.

To date, we have installed some 1,500 feet of 8" EDR PVC plastic pipe, five manholes, a three stage (one acre) oxidation pond complete with a dual pump lift station. The system is valued at over some $50,000.00.

We all throw our hats up in the air and shout "THANK YOU" with joy to Mr. Dallas Faulk of Abbeville and his company, DALES MUNICIPAL CONTRACTORS of Lafayette, La., for being generous in helping us to install the system. May the Lord bless Dallas and his family for their kindness.

Memorial Gifts
A Way To Keep Alive
The Memory Of A Loved One...

Most of us do not want to be forgotten. Death and time have a way of erasing our memory. One worthy way to guarantee that the name of a loved one is not forgotten is by making a memorial gift to the Holy Family Center. Such a gift has a way of continuing, here on earth, the good that a loved one did while on this side of the grave.

WHAT IS A MEMORIAL GIFT?
A gift made to us hereby, upon receipt, we either name an item after the person and/or place plaque with his/her name on it and attach it to the gift so that for years to come people will see and remember in a special way that person and their generosity.

Memorial gifts can be for the living and the dead. Some people choose to make a memorial gift in their own name or on behalf of yourself or a loved one; please give us a call or come by our office.