

CHRONICLE

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Precious Blood Sisters' 175th Anniversary opens with lecture series

The Sisters of the Precious Blood opened their 175th anniversary year the weekend of January 17 and 18 with a round of celebrations for the public and the congregation's members. Assisting at the Mass was Missionary of the Precious Blood Father Ernest Ranly, a retired Latin American missionary who resides in Carthagen. The anniversary weekend opened with a lecture titled "A Theology of Eucharist and Adoration," the first in a four-part lecture series on Precious Blood Spirituality. Precious Blood Sister Joyce Ann Zimmerman, an internationally known liturgist and author, was the presenter. More than 180 persons, including sisters from Dayton to Kentucky to California and many points in between, attended.

Saturday evening, with prayer and liturgical movement, the sisters heard and viewed a powerful retelling of



THREE C.P.P.S. SISTERS exchange thoughts during a break in the lecture program. From left, Sr. Katie Lett from San Diego, Calif., Sr. Jane Francis Hoffman from Salem Heights, and Sr. Ann Schulz, administrator of Mother Teresa School in Liberty Township. Until very recently, Sr. Jane Francis served for many years at Briarwood Manor in Coldwater.

their congregation's roots and growth. In the context of prayer and song, Sister Margo Young, a Precious Blood Sister who is a medical doctor recently returned from Guatemala, portrayed "the spirit of Mother Maria Anna Brunner," the 18th century Swiss

foundress of the congregation, inviting the sisters today to reflect on the challenge of their call. Sister Florence Seifert, the congregation's president, offered opening reflections for the anniversary year. On Sunday, Father Angelo Anthony, ----- *Continued on page 6B*

Precious Blood

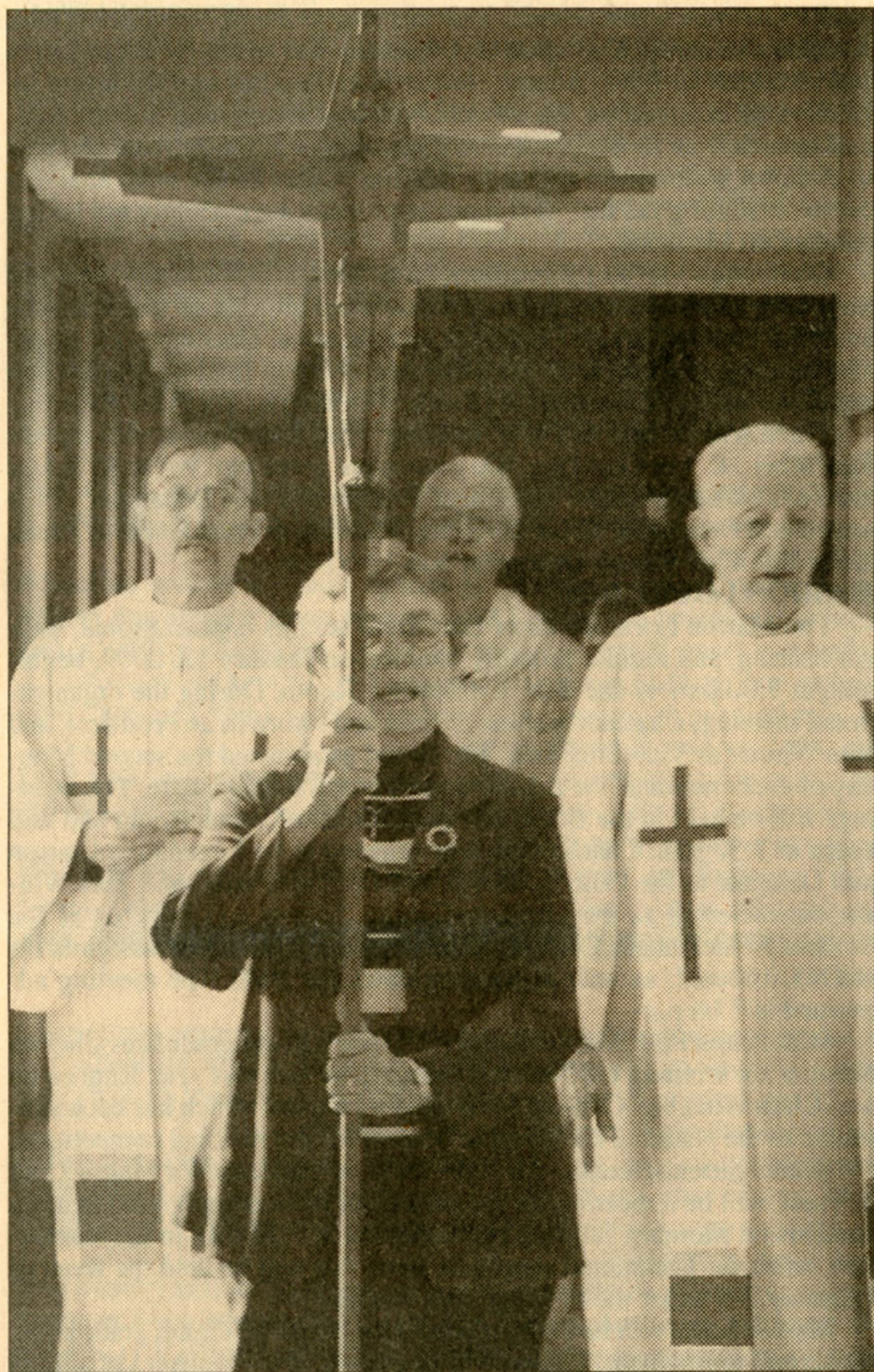
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the provincial of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood in the Cincinnati province, was the main presider and the homilist for the Eucharistic liturgy. Sisters of the Precious Blood proclaimed the Scripture readings and general intercessions, served as ministers of the Eucharist and formed the choir for the Mass. The opening celebration continued after Mass with a community

dinner.

The next scheduled anniversary event is an open house for the public at Salem Heights on Sunday, April 26. Upcoming events are also being planned to be held at the Maria Stein Center.

For more information on the Sisters of the Precious Blood and upcoming anniversary events, see the website at: www.PreciousBloodSistersDayton.org.



SR. MARTHA BERTKE CARRIES THE CRUCIFIX as the procession leaves the Salem Heights Chapel. Missionaries of the Precious Blood who celebrated the liturgy are (from left) Fr. Joseph Bathke, currently serving in Dayton, and Fr. Ernest Ranly of Carthagen, a retired Latin American missionary. Behind them is Fr. Angelo Anthony, principal celebrant of the Mass. Sister Martha Bertke is currently manager of the Senior Living Community at St. Charles Center.