# philippine studies

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# Preaching For Special Situations: Handbook for Special Preaching

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http://www.philippinestudies.net Fri June 27 13:30:20 2008 and implemented. Having served as United Nations consultant in at least 10 countries (Philippines, Bolivia, Ghana, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Nigeria, Pakistan, Singapore, and Turkey) and several more in behalf of the United States and other entities (Barbados, Colombia, Puerto Rico, and Venezuela), Abrams' criticisms carry a convincing air.

The reliability of his statements and assessments of various programs is further strengthened for the local reader by numerous, apparently accurate references scattered through the book to familiar situations in the Philippines. He devotes several pages to a consideration of the Philippines by itself in the matters of squatting (pp.15-17), the urban land problem (pp. 56-57), and administrative difficulties (pp. 80-84). With refreshing candor he presents his indictment of the PHHC (People's Homesite and Housing Corporation) for its failure to provide low-income housing, largely because of poor coordination of the many government agencies responsible for various aspects of housing, inadequate financing, and the PHHC's having been saddled by politicians with "at least a thousand temporary employces, most of whom were useless" (p. 84).

For those Filipinos not yet aware of the critical character of the world's and their nation's housing problems, *Man's Struggle* for *Shelter* should shock them into an active realization of them When they join the ranks of those yet few individuals in positions of being able to do something about it, they will find the book an indispensable aid to their planning efforts.

#### MARY R. HOLLNSTEINER

### PREACHING FOR SPECIAL SITUATIONS

HANDBOOK FOR SPECIAL PREACHING. Edited by Anatole O. Baillargeon, O.M.I. New York: Herder and Herder, 1965. 192 pp. The purpose of this little volume as stated in its preface is to give some solid practical advice on preaching which will benefit young priests in a variety of special situations other than that of the Sunday homily. The editor has called on a number of experts in these typical preaching forms to distil the essence of their experience as a guide for the first-timer.

Among the subjects treated are: The Bible Service, an adequate description of this new form of worship service, which is attaining a growing popularity. This is followed by the Conference to Sisters, The Cana Conference, Weekend Retreats for Adult Laymen, Days of Recollection, Married Couples Retreats, Exercises for a Liturgical Week, Preaching to Non-Catholics, and The Parish Mission. The neophyte preacher will certainly find some help in all of these chapters, although not to the same degree. A few of them will even enlighten the veteran. Some comments on the treatment accorded these subjects may prove helpful to the busy reader.

The chapter on the Bible Service is based solidly on the principles of the Liturgical Constitution and will remove any latent suspicion that this service might smack of Protestantism. Indeed, it reveals how much of Catholicism our separated brethren have retained in their devotion to the Word of God. The author, L.F.X. Brett, shows the adaptability of this new form and suggests some practical schemes that can be followed. However, this will not absolve the priest from personal effort in devising the readings, etc., which special circumstances may require. For this the attached bibliography will prove helpful.

The chapter on Sisters' Conferences stresses well the type of conference the new breed of Sister enjoys and needs; topics to adopt and topics to avoid are frankly stated. An interested, present and prepared priest will always top a recording.

For those familiar with The Cana Conference, this section does not offer much that is new. The Chapter on Weekend Retreats for the Laity offers some good practical hints for today's retreat-givers and reiterates the Papal approval and experiential value of the Ignatian method. In the following chapter, the organizational aspects of the Day of Recollection (which the author points out carefully, is not a retreat) would be very helpful for beginners with this form.

One of the more informative and informed chapters in the entire collection is that on Married Couples' Retreats. It covers all areas of this apostolate which is still unique enough to require detailed information. The author of this section, Fr. Anselm Ginter, O.S.B., emphasizes the fact that such a retreat is not a clinic for problem marriages, but rather a source of growth in the spiritual life. Aside from much positive matter, many helpful and oft-forgotten don'ts are deftly packaged in this rather rewarding chapter. In offering the section on Exercises for a Liturgical Week, the need for a changed emphasis in Christian Spirituality is pointed out. There is some overlapping here with the chapter on the Bible Service, but one point is well-taken, namely, that the priest preaching sanctity through the liturgy had better center his own sacerdotal and pastoral activity on the same source if he is to preach it effectively.

Not too pertinent to our Philippine situation is the next topic on Preaching to Non-Catholics, although much of the methodology

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herein set forth might well be adapted to our instruction of ignorant Catholics in our rural areas. Ecumenical contacts are also multiplying, so that it is ever more necessary to cultivate a true ecumenical attitude among our people, one which bears the face of sincere charity toward our neighbor while strengthening the commitment to Catholic belief.

The last chapter on the Parish Mission would require much adaptation in the crowded and frequently ill-organized parishes of the Philippines. But the need for a solid sociological survey of our parishes could be recommended before beginning any new movement therein.

Every chapter concludes with a select bibliography which for the veteran in any of these preaching-forms may be the best help this little volume can offer. One would have liked to see a chapter on radio and TV preaching as well as some objective description of the Cursillo method by someone who has been trained in its use. In short, there is much here that may assist the young preacher and a few pointers that will be of value to the veteran.

SAMUEL R. WILEY, S.J.

## ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN THE PHILIPPINES

#### THE FILIPINO MANUFACTURING ENTREPRENEUR: Agent and Product of Change. By John J. Carroll, S.J. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1965. xix, 230 pp.

Economists have always regarded the entrepreneur as the agent of change. It is he who breaks away from the bonds of tradition to try new production functions, discover new sources of raw materials, develop new markets and carry out new managerial techniques. Schumpeter's theories on economic development and the business cycle, for example, are based on this concept of the entrepreneur.

With the growing concern for economic development in the developing countries, increasing attention has been given by sociologists, anthropologists and psychologists to the interaction between economic and non-economic factors in the implementation of development programs. As a result, the concept of the entrepreneur as the product of change has taken on added importance as an object of research in the field. For if entrepreneurs are essential to economic development and if their emergence in the economy is not merely due to chance, then it becomes vital to recognize the pattern of circumstances and the set of forces in society which give rise to entrepreneurs.

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