2nd Wednesday in Lent
Rolling Meadows - 1975

Rev. Carl F. Thrun

IN NOMINE JESU

St. Matthew 11: 16 "NOW, TO WHAT CAN I COMPARE THE PEOPLE OF THIS DAY?"

The film you are about to see is both comedy and tragedy! You might wonder what comedy has to do with LENT. However, comedy and tragedy form the essence of ALL HUMAN EXPERIENCE. When you see the film -- think about yourself and the human situations ~~institutions~~ in which you live and work -- your job, the church, your family, the People world! Think about how caught up we can get in the mechanics, the organization, and the administration of trying to help --spinning our wheels!

The film is based on the question of Jesus: "TO WHAT SHALL I COMPARE THE PEOPLE OF OF THIS DAY?" It is a GOOD QUESTION -- one which all of us must ASK OURSELVES and OTHERS. It is a DEMANDING QUESTION. It is comedy and tragedy mixed!

In the film you will see a YOUNG MAN - HAPPY HAROLD - who has dedicated his life to dancing and jumping -- to CELEBRATING LIFE. In the course of his celebrating he JUMPS INTO SEVERE DIFFICULTY. - Like Jesus comes to his rescue - He

NEIGHBORLY NORBERT is well intentioned -- eager to be of help. However, it is the way in which he goes about giving help which becomes comical. BUT IT IS ALSO TRAGIC.

SHOW FILM

At the end of the film we saw NEIGHBORLY NORVERT completely satisfied with the gift HAPPY HAROLD had left him — TWO CLOWNS — one laughing, one weeping. Such is the nature of life and human experience — both laughter and tears. JESUS too went through the human emotions of laughing and crying.

More important, NEIGHBORLY NORBERT is a very industrious and concerned person. Yet his good intentions ran into organizational plans which simply didn't work. As one pastor remarked: "When the Lord comes for judgment, I'll be at a meeting." We meet, and meet, and meet — and we plan, and plan, and plan ——— but how much is ever really accomplished in HELPING PEOPLE? spin wheels

JESUS always went to the heart of a problem in the shortest possible way. For instance, He asked a blind man: "WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO FOR YOU?" The man said: "LORD, THAT I MIGHT RECEIVE MY SIGHT." JESUS healed him and the MAN rejoiced.

Good Samaritan - Priest & Levite - too busy.

Most of all, JESUS goes "UP TO JERUSALEM" — STRAIGHT TO THE CROSS — in order to heal and help us in the sin and tragedy of our life. He goes to rescue us from the hell of our existence. He goes to pull us out of the pit of DEATH ITSELF.

For that reason we have come to WORSHIP HIM and EAT AT HIS TABLE.