

Rev. Leger Tremblay speaks universal language of love

By NANCY MORRIS
Journal Religion Writer

Leger Tremblay is a short, slightly chubby Roman Catholic priest. Tufts of white hair look as though they have carefully been combed in place over a round, rosy cheeked face.

Even when in repose, the mouth of the face turns ever so slightly upward, and if there was a beard and the suit was red instead of black, Tremblay could easily be mistaken for a jolly Santa Claus who had become detached from his department store.

Tremblay, a native of Canada, speaks broken English in a soft voice, his French accent betraying his birthplace. But Tremblay is always understood — because, French accent or not, Tremblay speaks another language. A universal language — love.

In the breast pocket of his Roman-Catholic-priest-black suit, Tremblay carries something very special to him. And very confidential. That's why he always carries it with him.



Rev. Leger Tremblay

It's too precious to let anyone else see. It is a list of names. Names of people who belong to his church who have lost their jobs or have been affected by the sagging economy this

year.

Tremblay is the pastor of Holy Rosary Catholic Church. And under Tremblay's direction, the church has taken on a very special task this Christmas.

According to Tremblay, "In the past, our church made baskets for the poor each Christmas. People who went to our church would give money and food, and children who attended our school (Holy Rosary Catholic School) would bring canned goods.

"Then, when people would call and ask for help, and we'd take them food."

And after those who had asked for aid had been helped, members of the Holy Rosary congregation would "go door to door," Tremblay says. "We'd see people sitting out in front of houses and we'd ask them if they had any food. They'd often say 'no,' and we'd put a basket of food on their porch and go on."

But this year, things are different at Holy Rosary because the economy and high unemployment rate have caused problems for members
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