

We Are Not Our Own

By FATHER LEO J. TRESE

We all are familiar with the concept of stewardship—of responsibility for another's property which may be entrusted to our care. The manager of a chain store is the steward of the corporation which owns the store. The corporation's board of directors are the stewards of the stockholders. A banker is the steward of his depositors and a pastor of his parishioners.

The obligation of a steward is to administer wisely the property which is entrusted to his care. He must guard it vigilantly, use it prudently and keep always in mind the best interests of the owner.

There are few of us who do not find ourselves in a position of stewardship, at least some times and at least in some small matters. It is to our credit that most of us do discharge conscientiously our duties of stewardship. There are, however, some who are not. They are the ones who are the subject of newspaper headlines.

We understand clearly and take seriously the obligations of stewardship as far as our neighbor is concerned. It seems somewhat surprising, therefore, that we pay so little heed to our duties of stewardship as far as God is concerned.

We acknowledge readily enough our indebtedness to God for all that we are and have. We never would question for a moment the fact that we owe to God our existence, our religious faith, our physical and mental endowments and all that is good and desirable in our lives. We are decently grateful to God, and pray that He will continue to bless us with His loving care.

Too few of us, however, develop a functioning realization of our stewardship to God. Freely admitting all that He has done for us, we still operate on the recognized premise that we belong to God, in our selves and in all that we are and have.

WE ARE NOT our own. We remain God's absolute property. We are only on loan to ourselves. When we finally face God in judgment, it will not be to give an account of our gifts. Usage has hallowed that expression, but strictly speaking there have been no gifts, only investments. In judgment we shall be called upon to give God an account of the dividends, in love and in service, which His investments have garnered in our hands.

The unawareness of our role of stewardship shows itself in a hundred ways. For example, we often say (or think) "I owe it to myself to do this," when the real basis of our decision should be, "I owe it to God to do this."

Hawthorne Nun Attends Meet

Sister Mary Angela Bott, O.P., Assistant Mother General of the Dominican Sisters of Hawthorne, N.Y. and a former Rochesterian is attending the fourth National Sisterhood Vocation Conference at the Shenton-Cleveland Hotel in Cleveland, Ohio, August 21-22.

Sister is being accompanied at the Cleveland Conference by another Rochesterian, Sister Mary Eucharist Morton, O.P.

The Hawthorne Dominicans (known as The Servants of Relief for Incurable Cancer) are a nursing order of Sisters who care for needy victims of cancer in their free hospital-homes across the nation.

U. S. Seminarians Bogota — (NC) — Forty U.S. students are taking part in a "Students for Understanding" program here which includes 10 weeks of an intensive language and cultural experience.

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Graduation at McAuley College

DR. KATHERINE KOLLER, Gilmore Professor of English at the University of Rochester, seated, delivered the commencement address at the 12th annual Catherine McAuley College graduation on Aug. 10. Sister Anastasia Maloney, R.S.M., and Sister Edith Varghese, S.I.C., of India were two of thirteen sister-students to receive Associate in Arts degrees. Dr. Kenneth O'Loane is co-chairman of the college's lay advisor board.

Educators Stress Bible Study

Santa Barbara—(RNS)—The Rev. Ernest Latko, O.F.M., of Christ the King Seminary, West Chicago, Ill., was re-elected president of the Franciscan Educational Conference at the conclusion of its 26th annual meeting at the Old Mission here.

Father Juniper Cummings, O.F.M. Conv., of St. Louis was re-elected vice-president.

The election ended the annual sessions designed to promote the educational aims of the order through an exchange of ideas of its leading educators.

Fifty friars of the five branches of the Franciscan Order from the United States and Canada attended the meeting. About half of them stayed over to enjoy Santa Barbara's Old Spanish Days Fiesta (Aug. 13-15) which opened with the Fiesta Pequeña (Little Fiesta) at the Old Mission. The festival has strong Catholic religious overtones, emphasizing the religious role of the Spanish padres in early Southern California.

Eleven papers on the theme, "Rediscovery of Scripture—Biblical Theory Today" were presented at the Franciscan meeting. A summary statement issued by the conference stated that the sessions indicated a resurgence of interest in the sacred Scriptures in Roman Catholic circles.

Sessions were attended only by delegates to the conference, and papers delivered at the meeting will be published in the "Franciscan Educational Conference Proceedings" by the Franciscan Herald Press, Chicago.

Of the 11 Biblical themes and problems discussed was a paper presented by the Rev. Geoffrey Wood, O.S.A., rector of the Atonement Seminary, Washington, D.C. Father Wood is a leading figure in the ecumenical movement on the East Coast.

His paper, "The Infancy Narratives," evaluated the story of the births of St. John the Baptist and of Jesus as recorded in the Gospel of St. Luke.

"The infancy narratives in St. Luke's Gospel shows evidence of artistic effort," Father Wood said. "Phrases and figures have been drawn from Old Testament narratives about patriarchal, heroic and prophetic types such as Isaac, Samson, Samuel and Elias, and from Messianic prophecies. They have been interwoven into St. Luke's narrative, thus constituting continuous allusions to past moments of divine intervention in history and to ancient promises of final intervention."

Italian Pilgrims List Aurisville

The 1965 Annual Italian Pilgrimage to the Aurisville Shrine of the North American Martyrs will be held on Sunday, Aug. 22.

Italian groups inside the State of New York and outside will visit the site marking the scene of martyrdom of St. Isaac Jogues and his companions, St. Rene Goupil and St. John LaLande.

This pilgrimage is expected to be one of the largest that will be seen at the Mohawk Valley Shrine this year.

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Martin Walsh Dies At 84

Funeral Mass for Martin J. Walsh was offered in Holy Rosary Church, Monday, August 16. Mr. Walsh, 84, of 73 Selby Terrace, a retired employee of Eastman Kodak Co., died Thursday, August 12, 1965 in St. Ann's Home.

Rev. Richard J. Orlando gave the final blessing at the Mass.

Mr. Walsh was a native of Ireland and came to this country in 1903. He worked for Eastman Kodak Company for 34 years retiring from the carpenter shop at Kodak Park in 1940.

He was a longtime officer of the local Ancient Order of Hibernians. At one time he was a member of the original Harps Gaelic football team and later played with teams competing throughout the state.

He was a member of Holy Rosary Holy Name Society and of the Nocturnal Adoration Society.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Eleanor C. Walsh; his daughter, Mrs. Marian Ayres; three sons, John M., W. Emmett and Raymond J. Walsh; 15 grandchildren; and one great grandchild; his sister, Mrs. Teresa Ryan; his brother, Keiran Walsh.

Blessing at the grave in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery was given by Rev. Richard C. O'Connell. Arrangements by Farrell Brothers Colonial Funeral Home.

Leon Byrnes Requiem Held

A Solemn Requiem Mass for Leon M. Byrnes of 286 Melville St. was offered on August 10, at Corpus Christi Church by Monsignor John E. Maney. Mr. Byrnes died unexpectedly Saturday, August 7, 1965.

He served the Rochester Fire Dept. from 1921 to 1955 and was a member of the Rochester Firemen's Benevolent Association. His son, Lloyd, is a Battalion Chief with the Department at the present time.

He was a member of the Holy Name Society of Corpus Christi Church. Mr. and Mrs. Byrnes recently celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary.

He is survived by his wife, Anna; two sons, Lloyd M. and Martin A. Byrnes; three sisters, Mrs. Ray Woolchlager of Lowell, N.Y., Mrs. Wendall Curtis of Watertown, N.Y., and Mrs. Victor Oshel of Rome, N.Y.; four brothers, Henry of Elmira, N.Y., John of Bruchton, N.Y., Lawrence of Copenhagen, N.Y., and Ambrose of Rochester; and nine grandchildren.

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Mark 50th Anniversary

GOLDEN WEDDING of Mr. and Mrs. Victor K. Siwicki was marked by an anniversary Mass at 10 a.m. on Aug. 21 at St. Stanislaus Church, Rochester. The couple has three sons, Victor J., Edwin J., Robert C., and one daughter, Gene. They have six grandchildren. A reception was held at the Echo Club.

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