

# What's New in the Parishes

**BLESSED SACRAMENT,** Rochester. Chi Rho Young Adults Club Cabin Party Sunday, April 23 at 1 p.m. at Mendon Ponds Park. Reservations, \$1.75 per person, by April 16. Dick Schuler, 66 Beaufort St., Tel.: 271-7946.

**HOLY FAMILY,** Rochester. Benefit card party Friday, April 28 at 8 p.m. Cochairmen, Mrs. Joseph Smarsh and Mrs. Maurice Doran. Tickets \$1, available from school children or at door. Refreshments.

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE,** Irondequoit. Spring dance Saturday, April 8 from 9 to 11 in the school hall. Music by Harry Roney's Parish Pipers. Buffet luncheon at 11:30 p.m. Chairmen: Messrs and Mesdames Alfred Matekis, Michael Holowka, Joseph Weckesser, John Oldenberg, Robert Kerry, Richard Neubauer, Robert Anselm, John Riggs, Milton Sick, Danie Spencer and W. Burke Atkinson.

**ST. JOSEPH,** Livonia. Rosary Altar Society annual fashion show Wednesday, April 12 at 8 p.m. in the church hall. Officers and band leaders in charge. Members and daughters will model fashions from Angie's Dress Shop, Avon. Mrs. William Busch, moderator. Entertainment, refreshments.

**ST. MONICA,** Rochester. Rosary Society meeting Wednesday, April 12 at 8 p.m. in rec. room. Movies will be shown by Monsignor Gerald C. Lambert. Refreshments.

**HOLY APOSTLES,** Rochester. Mothers Club, Mothers, Sons and Daughters Banquet Monday, April 17 at 6:15 p.m. in school hall. Priests and Sisters will be guests. Tickets: \$1.75, adults; \$1.25, children under 12. Reservations, by April 10, Mrs. James Doyle, 458-9246; Mrs. Clarence Arthmann, 254-6372; Mrs. Michael Rosso, decorations. Entertainment.

**ST. THEODORE,** Rochester. Rosary and Altar Society bake food sale Sunday, April 9, after all Masses in the school corridor. Cochairmen, Mrs. Sam Cusano and Mrs. Robert Kwarta. Baked foods may be brought to school any time Saturday, or Sunday before Masses.

**SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL,** Rochester. Rosary Guild meeting Monday, April 10 in rectory hall following Rosary and Benediction in church at 7:45 p.m. Entertainment, the Cathedral Belles under direction of Sister Natalia. High school girls invited. Refreshments by Mrs. Joe Connelly and her committee.

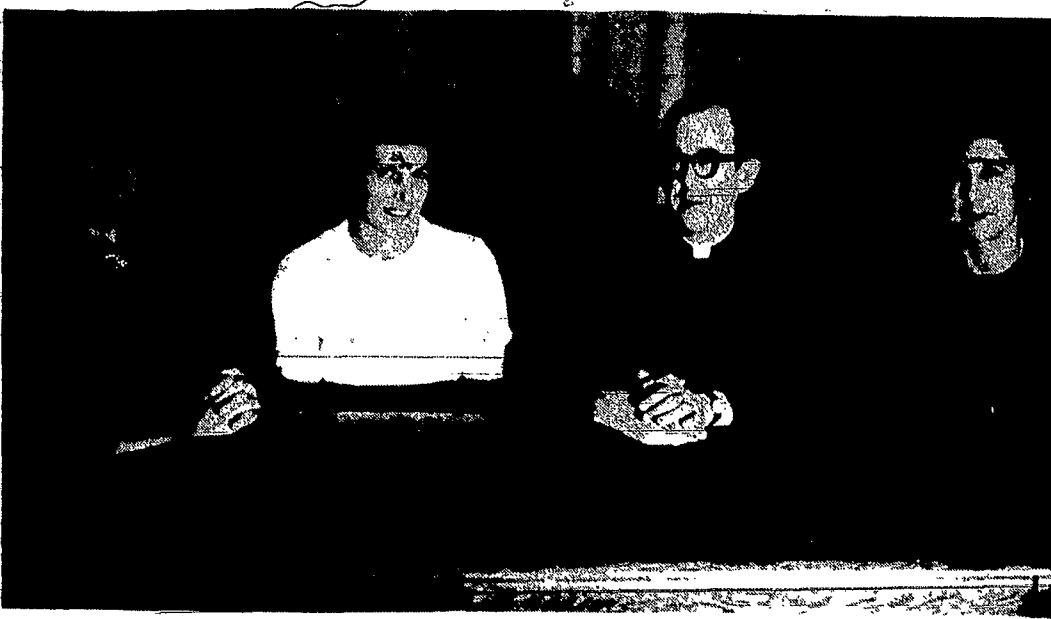
**MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD,** Rochester. Chicken dinner Saturday, April 8 from 5:30 to 9 p.m. in school auditorium. Tickets, \$1.75 per person. Preparation and serving by families from Bergen, Burrows, Canton, Curlew, Elsinore and Emerson Sts. Chairmen: Mesdames Victoria Natalia Jr., Joseph Sica, Frank Dimarco, Michael Montagna, Mario Parente and Michael Molisan. Parents Club meeting April 11 at 8:15 p.m. Scholarship dance Saturday, May 6.

**ST. MICHAEL,** Newark. Pre Cana conferences beginning Sunday, April 9 at 3 p.m. in school with Father Gerald Dunn, speaker. April 16, Dr. V. James Palmeri; April 23, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Moran and Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Flescher; April 30, Father Walter Cushing, Wayne DCCW, sponsor.

**ST. ANDREW,** Rochester. Christian Mothers Club meeting April 10 at 8:15 p.m. in the school hall. Program of slides and talk by Father Charles J. McCarthy. Refreshments by mothers of 4th graders.

**OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL,** Rochester. Altar and Rosary Society meeting Wednesday, April 12 at 8 p.m. Food Shower for Sisters. Speaker from Poison Control Center.

**ST. SALOME,** Rochester. Mission Society meeting Wednesday, April 12 at 8 p.m. Guest speaker, Mrs. G. Francis Sweeney, "Decorating." Baked Food Sale Sunday, April 16 in church hall after Masses.



## Spring Bazaar at St. Salome's

MOTHERS CLUB of St. Salome's parish will hold a Spring Bazaar on Saturday evening, April 15. Reviewing final plans with the pastor, Father Walter Fleming, are: Mrs. Marie Kelly, Mrs. Rosemary Lovell and Mrs. Ann Morrisette. Booths, games and refreshments.

speaker, Mary Ellen Bussis, Home Demonstration. Banquet scheduled May 10.

**HOLY FAMILY,** Rochester. Rosary Society meeting Wednesday, April 12 at 8 p.m. in Pine Room. Monsignor George Schmitt will show old time movies. Games, refreshments. Mrs. Maurice Preston, hostess.

**ST. STANISLAUS,** Rochester. Holy Name of Mary Society meeting Tuesday, April 11 at 8 p.m. Mother and Daughter corporate. Communion and Breakfast Sunday, April 23 at 9 a.m.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL,** Churchville. Rosary Altar Society members will attend showing of "The Bible" April 24 at 6:45 p.m. at the Waring Theater. Reservations: Helen Pisaro, publicity chairman; Helen Dermody, president.

**ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST,** Greece. Rosary Society meeting Wednesday, April 19 at 8 p.m. Election of officers. Guest speaker, Mrs. Leo Wesley Jr., family retreats.

**ST. JOHN OF ROCHESTER,** Perinton. Women's Club meeting at Lauer's Furniture Store Thursday, April 13 at 8 p.m. Sueaker, Mrs. G. Francis Sweeney, "Decorating." Baked Food Sale Sunday, April 16 in church hall after Masses.

**ST. JEROME,** East Rochester. Ladies Catholic Benevolent Association meeting was held April 6 in church. Mrs. Parker Turner, chairman.

**HOLY SPIRIT,** Webster. Rosary Guild meeting April 11 at 8 p.m. in St. Rita's Barn. Guest speaker and slides, Mrs. Bennett, "Operation Head Start."

**ASSUMPTION,** Fairport. Parish card party was held Wednesday, April 5 in New Junior High School of Religion. Prizes, refreshments.

**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER,** Rochester. Sacred Heart Women's Club meeting Monday, April 10 at 8 p.m. in parish center. Annual spaghetti dinner Sunday, April 16 from 1 to 3 p.m. in parish center. Tickets at door: adults, \$1.25; children, 75 cents.

**ST. JAMES,** Rochester. Rosary Society Spring and Summer Fashion Show April 12 at 8:30 p.m. in the hall. Fashions by Style Shop, Webster. Mr. Sam of Vogue Hair Fashions, Tickets, \$1. Entertainment by Mrs. Daniel Schwehm, Mrs. Edward Miller. Chairmen: Mesdames Gary Smith, John Foley, Edward Bissonette, Francis Guzzetta, Leslie Tandler, Raymond Petrus, Harold Petrus, William Strang, Richard Nordquist.

**ST. JOSAPHAT,** Irondequoit. First Holy Communion classes Saturday mornings 10 to 11:30 a.m. Sister Theodore, SSM, moderator. First reception May 7. Holy Name Society corporate Communion Sunday, April 9 at 9 a.m. Breakfast and business meeting in cafeteria.

**ST. RITA,** West Webster. St. Rita's Society annual fashion show April 18 at 8 p.m. in the school. Special guest, Mary Ann Morey. Refreshments. Fashions by Style Shop of Webster. Admission, \$1. Chairmen: Mary Lou Riley, Rosemary Nevin-skas.

**ST. MARY,** Elmira. Parish dance Friday, April 28 from 9 to 11 in auditorium. Sponsored by Altar-Rosary and Holy Name Societies. Music by Reome Quartet. Refreshments. Chairmen: John Ryan, William Liddy, Mrs. Frank Maloney and Mrs. Ralph Stamp.

**NATIVITY OF THE B.V.M.,** Brockport. Afternoon of Recollection Sunday, April 9 from 1:15 to 4:30 p.m. Mass at 5 p.m. Conferences by Father John F. Donohue, S.J. Living Rosary and Act of Consecration.

COURIER-JOURNAL Friday, April 7, 1967

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## God's World

# We Need a Strong Dose of Realism

By DENNIS J. GEANEY, O.S.A.

Restlessness, confusion, and anxiety, characterize the feelings of a large segment of the Catholic population. It adds up to hostility, disaffection, and defection. There are rectory drop-outs, convent drop-outs, seminary drop-outs and parish drop-outs.

Strangely, this comes in the wake of the most revolutionary event in the modern church history, the Vatican Council, which has thrust the Church kicking and screaming into the twentieth century.

It was a breakthrough that was not pressured by rebels on the fringe, but it was the very symbol of stability, the Pope himself, who carried the standard.

People are upset for opposite reasons. On the "left" are those who see that there has been a huge opening, but are depressed and frustrated that there has been no instant follow up on the local scene. On the "right" are those who give lip service in praise of Pope John and the Council, but inwardly are bitter and react with hostility to any suggestion of change. It would probably be too large an exaggeration to say that the entire Catholic community is polarized and frustrated at both ends. But there is a polarization.

Some try to play the role of moderates and tell both sides that we are in the first phase of the post-conciliar era and things will settle down and the Church will be one big happily united family. They are more unrealistic than the people at the extremes. The people at the extremes are sane people because they rightly assess the happenings. The moderates remind me of Jean Kerr's line about those who are serene when all those around them are losing their heads. They just don't know what is happening. Serenity can be a state of blissful ignorance.

We can find a parallel to what is happening in the Church in the civil rights movement. For a century, the Negro seemed to be happy and contented with his subservient role. He did not threaten the white community. He seemed satisfied with the hand-outs and hand-me-downs. Negroes were docile and respectful. They knew their place and kept it. They followed the gospel according to Booker T. Washington. In the forties and fifties, young Negro Turks were being bitten by the freedom bug.

In the sixties they began to chant, "We shall overcome." The crisis of Freedom Now and Black Power sent a chill down the white man's spine while they helped the black man to stand erect and walk without shuffling his feet.

What happened in the Negro community is happening in the Church today. Restlessness, confusion, hostility, disaffection and defection are common to both. The new surge of freedom in the Church and in the Negro community has brought a frustration and an anxiety producing crisis that it has never known before. People are saying, "I want to get off, it is moving too fast." Others say, "I want to get off. We are going nowhere."

If we take the long view, we see that the Catholic and the Negro seemed to live peacefully without freedom or access to the democratic processes. In truth, their frustrations were swept under the rug. Both, the White Catholic and the Negro citizen lived in a country that promised democratic procedures to all. It is warp and woof of the fabric of our national character, but as Catholics, we were able to blot out or sweep under the rug its absence by some rationalization, such as the Church being a

hierarchical rather than a democratic institution. The Negro was dealing with a white colossus and it did no good to think about the possibility of change.

But, change did become a possibility for the Catholic through the Council and for the Negro through the civil rights movement. The realization of one small change triggered the hope of other changes. Instead of each concession making the peasants happy, it only incensed them. They began to see the possibility of complete freedom and took almost defiantly the concessions as crumbs from the master's table. With each grant of freedom came fresh demands.

Freedom in the Church and the reality of racial justice created an explosion of expectations. And a rapid rise in expectations brings a proportionate rise in frustrations, as surely as night follows day. We have defections from the Church as well as from the traditional civil rights movement because of an inability of these institutions to deal with a revolution in expectations.

The change-maker himself is often the victim. We love the man who breeds for his idealism. He precipitates the change revolution, but he is too often unable to cope with what he starts. The going gets too tough for him and being a well-intentioned idealist, rather than a hard-bitten realist, he cannot take the infuriating and the body blows he triggers. He seems unable to side step and parry and then come back strong. He easily becomes a drop-out because he lacks the nerve and the stomach of a cigar chewing politician who has no angelic pretense of man being anything other than what he is through the fall of Adam.

If we wish to live with a modicum of peace in these times of rapid change, we must deal realistically with institutional lag and lethargy. Institutions, Church or civic, just cannot change as rapidly as the avant garde demand. They can never embody the idealism and incarnate the dreams of those who are the seers and sit at the cutting edge of new currents of thought.

Instead of tranquilizers, we need a strong dose of realism in the ways of the workings of institutions. All of us must rally to the support of the front runners in the Church. We need to help bind their wounds and accept their bruised feelings. The Church will always show forth the bleeding face of Christ. Or in the language of Vatican II, it will always need to be reformed.

## Forty Hours

Devotions of the Forty Hours in the Diocese of Rochester: Sunday, April 9—Holy Rosary, St. Bridget, St. Monica, Rochester; St. Joseph, Campbell; St. Michael, Newark.

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