

Ecumenism in Liturgy Meet



REV. CONRAD MASSA

REV. ROBERT LESTER

Two Protestant clergymen will be speakers at the Liturgy Institutes coming up in October. The Rev. Dr. Conrad Massa of Rochester's Third Presbyterian Church will speak at the

Auburn session (Oct. 6-7); the Rev. Robert Lester, also a Presbyterian cleric, will speak at the Elmira session (Oct. 20-21). Both will discuss "The Homily and the Word of God."

This Baby Was Named 13 Years Before Birth

When Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Casey were expecting their first baby 13 years ago, they had the name "Michael" ready in case it was a boy.

It was a girl—and so were the next nine Casey babies.

"Michael" will be used now, however, as the Caseys have finally had a boy, born in St. Mary's Hospital on Wednesday, Sept. 6.

Michael's middle name will be Lawrence—not only for his dad, but for his great-uncle, Bishop Lawrence Casey of the Paterson, N.J. diocese, and former auxiliary bishop of Rochester. By coincidence, young Michael Lawrence was born on his great uncle's birthday. Bishop Casey marked his 62nd birthday last week.

The Caseys, who formerly lived on Hobart St. in St. Au-

gustine's parish, now live in Waterport, N.Y., near Albion. Their new home is a farm with plenty of room for chickens, a pony, 10 daughters and at last—a son.

The proud father is an employ-

ee of Eastman Kodak Company.

Fr. Ehmann On Liturgy Panel

Father Benedict A. Ehmann, chairman for the Music Commission of the Rochester Diocese, will serve as guest speaker on the liturgical panel for Buffalo Unit of the National Catholic Music Educators' Association's two day convention, Sept. 18-17 in Buffalo.

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PRIEST BROTHERS THREE. The LeFrois brothers, from left, Fathers Christian, Joseph and Vincent all celebrated Mass at St. Mary's Church, Honeoye, last Sunday. The first two were home on vacation; Father Vincent is pastor of the Honeoye parish.

Father LeFrois Looked Different At Each Mass!

Parishioners at St. Mary's Church at Honeoye had a Father LeFrois offering Mass three different times on Sunday recently—and it was a different priest each time!

That's because three of the LeFrois brothers who are priests were all at St. Mary's that Sunday.

Father Vincent LeFrois is the pastor of the Honeoye church, and also of St. Michael's parish in Livonia Center. He was playing host to his brothers, Father Christian LeFrois, an Air Force

chaplain, and Father Joseph LeFrois, a Josephite priest stationed in Port Arthur, Texas. The latter were home on vacation at the same time.

There is even a fourth priest-brother, Monsignor Marvin LeFrois, who is pastor of St. Anne's Church in Columbus, Ga.—but he couldn't time his vacation to coincide with the others this year.

This clerical foursome hails originally from Holy Rosary parish in Rochester, and their father, George LeFrois still

lives on Stone Road in Holy Name parish, Greece.

Father Vincent is the oldest of the quartet, and was ordained for the Diocese of Rochester in 1941. Father Joseph was ordained for the Society of St. Joseph in 1944. Father Christian was ordained a Benedictine priest in 1946, but has spent most of his priesthood in the U.S. Air Force. He's been a military chaplain for 15 years, holds the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Youngest of the brothers is Monsignor Marvin, ordained for the Diocese of Savannah, Georgia in 1949. Besides his pastorate, he holds the newly created post of Episcopal Vicar in his diocese.

Convent Problem

More Rooms Than Sisters

"Half-filled convents" provided a springboard for a three-part series in Elmira's daily newspaper, the Star-Gazette last week.

Surveying 19 convents in the general area of that Southern Tier City, reporter Patricia Ryan noted that facilities for 240 nuns were being used by only 136 sisters.

The average convent in that area is tenanted "by less than 57% of its capacity," she pointed out.

Reporter Ryan's series was entitled "Problems of Area Convents." Going from the problem of unused plant, it went on to discuss the vocation shortage, new apostolates which are taking nuns from classroom duty, and listed some suggested solutions for the unfilled facilities.

"Pastors and their parish boards are well aware of the situation," stated Father Bartholomew O'Brien, Episcopal Vicar for the Southern Tier area. "We are aiming for the maximum use of all our parish facilities and want to reach workable solutions."

"In this changing world," he smiled philosophically, "it's hard for parish boards to lay down hard and fast answers for the best use of our buildings."

Speaking for his own parish, St. Mary Our Mother in Horseheads, Father O'Brien added:

"Our decision here was to renovate an existing building for a convent. We try to make full use of the convent. We have used it for conferences for our eighth grade retreats, meetings of the school staff, etc.," he explained.

Suggested Solutions

Among the suggestions noted

in the Star-Gazette series for the half-filled convents, were: merging two or more convents, then perhaps using the empty ones for teen centers, meeting places for senior citizens, or taking in homeless young girls or young working women.

Housing two different orders of nuns in one convent would pose several problems, Father John J. Leary of St. Mary's parish commented. He has two groups of sisters working in his parish, St. Joseph nuns teaching in the school, Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement doing catechetical and social work.

"The two groups are engaged in different work, their hours are different, their community rules differ—all these things would make such a merger quite unfeasible," he said.

Nor was the pastor of St. Mary's inclined to consider the present shortage of nuns as a permanent trend. "The picture can change," he noted optimistically, "and who knows what the situation may be in ten years?"

Actually, Father Leary concluded, the normal maintenance of an existing convent "is not too burdensome for a parish." Most of the convents in the Elmira area have been "up for many years, he added.

Parishes which built convents just prior to the current shortage of teaching sisters were often caught short, the Star-Gazette series emphasized. The article mentioned the new convent at Our Lady of Lourdes parish as an example. Built for 14 nuns, it houses only 5 today.

Father Joseph Egan, pastor of St. Patrick's parish in Elmira, made an oblique reference to the Star-Gazette's series in his parish bulletin of Sept. 3.

"There's higher than usual interest in convent business this year, and especially in the business side of the convent, he noted, as a prelude to listing the convent salaries and expenses for the past six years.

"Naturally we regret the fact that our convent is only half full. But even with the 'high overhead,' let us not close our eyes to the fact that we are receiving the services of competent teachers at an average cost of \$2,500 a year," he wrote.

(This figure includes the sisters' salary of \$1,250 each a year and the convent upkeep.)

Future Possibilities

Taking the long range view, Father Bartholomew O'Brien felt that "with many new apos-

tolates opening," there could be many ways to utilize half-filled buildings, convents or not.

"With their strategic location in a parish, there are many possibilities—such as adult education programs which are just starting—for which these facilities could be ideal," he stated.

editor, Burt Blazar, noted in his "Saturday Notebook" column (Sept. 9) the candor with which most priests and sisters treated the topic with reporter Ryan.

"Most took the view that they had nothing to hide—and they are right. They haven't done anything wrong, and ignoring a situation won't make it go away," he editorialized.

"What was intriguing," he added, "is that most (priests and sisters) were willing to talk about differences of opinion on the role of nuns in today's society."

—Father Robert Kunka

Piri Thomas To Speak on Ghetto Trap

Piri Thomas, author of the book "Down These Mean Streets" about ghetto life, will speak at Corn Hill Methodist Church, Plymouth Avenue South, Tuesday, Sept. 26, at 8 p.m.

Thomas will describe "the devastating trap" of a city's slums which pull residents toward crime, dope addiction, gang brutality.

Thomas is a black Puerto Rican from New York City's Spanish Harlem.

Paul Gossens, administrative assistant to Father P. David Finks, Bishop Sheen's Vicar for Urban Ministry, said of Thomas, "One can't help but marvel that a man who has fought such great odds is able to be (so great) a credit to America."

Thomas works in Harlem to aid those caught in the "trap" he describes in his book. He has been the subject of a prize-winning movie, "Pete and Johnny" and has been invited by Senator Robert Kennedy to explain the plight of slum dwellers to a Senate investigating committee.

Adult Theology Courses to Begin in Four Cities Sept. 25

The new diocesan-wide Adult Theology program will swing into action on four fronts during the week of Sept. 25.

Geneva, Rochester, Auburn and Elmira will be the centers for a variety of eight week courses, all one hour courses. Most are destined to give interested adults a chance to catch up on new trends in theology, scripture, liturgy and morality. Two of the centers will offer courses on adolescent psychology.

Leaflets describing the courses and application blanks for registration were made available at parishes of the diocese last Sunday.

Strongly recommended by Bishop Sheen and his Vicar for Religious Education, Father Albert J. Shamon, the Adult Theology program is part of an overall plan of the newly formed Board of Religious Education.

The program is based on a pilot effort conducted in Geneva last Spring by the Capuchin Fathers. The heartening response—some 150 people signed up for the courses—paved the way for a three-night Scripture congress at Nazareth in mid-summer.

This event, moderated by Bishop Sheen and listing Father Joseph P. Brennan, St. Bernard's Seminary rector and Father Sebastian Falcone, rector of the Capuchin seminary in Geneva, drew crowds ranging from 600-800 each evening.

If there was any doubt that there was a strong interest in Adult Theology offerings, this three-nighter decided the issue.

Capuchin Father Leopold Protomastro is the director of the Adult Theology venture. He heads a capable faculty made up of priests from several religious orders, a sister, a diocesan priest and several lay people active in the field of applied psychology.

The fall session will run from Sept. 25 to Nov. 16. No credits are given, nor will any exams, homework or recitation be demanded. Outside work is "encouraged but not required."

Fees are \$6.00 for one course, \$9.00 for two. In the present scheduling, no one can fit in more than two courses at the same center this Fall.

The program will also be offered in Winter and Spring sessions throughout the diocese, offering new courses, and if the response warrants, additional courses.

The centers with pertinent data on the various courses offered is listed below:

Geneva — at DeSales High School, Mondays, Sept. 25 — Nov. 13

"The Fourth Gospel: Figures and Scenes" (7:45 p.m.) Father Sebastian Falcone, OFM Cap.

"Life and Death in Christ" (7:45 p.m.) Fathers

Leopold Protomastro and Cyprian Rosen, OFM Caps.

"The Christian at Prayer" (9:15 p.m.) Father Leopold Protomastro, OFM Cap.

"The Commandments in Christian Morality" (9:15 p.m.) Father Cyprian Rosen, OFM Cap.

Rochester — at Nazareth Academy, Tuesdays, Sept. 26 — Nov. 14

"The Old Testament in Focus" (7:30 p.m.) Father Sebastian Falcone, OFM Cap.

"The Primitive Church in the Acts of the Apostles" (7:30 p.m.) Father Albert J. Shamon.

"Person in Christian Community" (7:30 p.m.) Sister Joseph Michelle, SSI.

"Adolescence" (9:00 p.m.) Drs. Harold Schwartz and A. W. Sullivan, Mr. Gerald Pashby and Mrs. Anne Marie Farie, all of the DePaul Clinic.

"The New Look of Catholicism" (9:00 p.m.) Father Leopold Protomastro, OFM Cap.

"The New Approach to Morality" (9:00 p.m.) Father Cyprian Rosen, OFM Cap.

Auburn — (Wednesdays at Mt. Carmel High School)

Sept. 27 — Nov. 15

"Christian Life: Its Foundations" (7:30 p.m.) Father Brian Murphy, O. Carm.

"Adolescent Psychology" (7:30 p.m.) Staff of Behavioral Science Department, Auburn Community College.

"The New Look of Catholicism" (9:00 p.m.) Father Leopold Protomastro, OFM Cap.

To Register by Mail

—for the Adult Theology Program, use form below, sending name, address and fees to:

ADULT THEOLOGY
CAPUCHIN FATHERS
BOX 231
GENEVA, N.Y. 14456

Name

Address

City

Phone

Parish

Location of Course

Course(s)

At St. Bernard's Seminary

Boy Scout 'Happening'

An estimated 800 Boy Scouts will assemble on the grounds of St. Bernard's Seminary for a two-day Retreat, Sept. 29 to Oct. 1. The activity sponsored by the Oletiana Council Area Lay Committee on Scouting is open to all boys of Catholic faith in or out of Catholic sponsored Scout Troops and Explorer Posts. The event is the first of its kind within the Rochester City limits.

many of the seminarians were Scouts and all of them will be engaged in young peoples' activities in their future parishes. "I'd like to think we are helping each other."

According to committee chairman Maurice J. Petrin, "A Retreat is a good way for a boy to start his Scouting year and what better place could be found? Father Joseph Brennan, Seminary rector, points out that

More than 100 seminarians will serve as discussion leaders for small groups of eight to ten boys in an attempt to give special meaning to the Scout principles of "Duty to God" and "A Scout is Reverent." The

event is further intended to give special impetus to the Religious Awards Program. Recognizing the vital role of adult leadership in the Scouting movement a special adult program has been prepared.

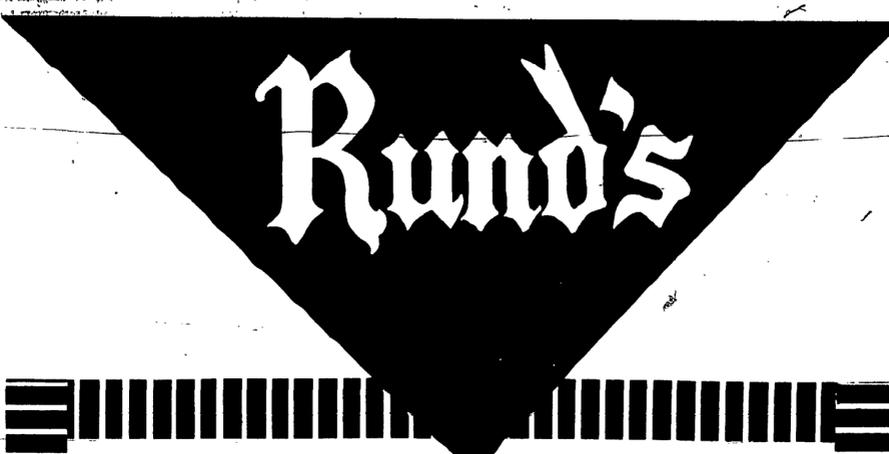
Named as committee for the affair are: Retreat Master, Father Brennan, co-chairmen, B. L. Thirae and E. W. Davis; Camp Chief, J. R. Matarazzo; Program, R. Magin, D. Kunk; registration, W. Busch, J. Baker; arrangements, E. Benoit, C. Leonard, K. Hamilton; staff service, Sacred Heart Troop 68; health and safety, R. Schantz, E. Hamish, Greece Police Explorer Post; campfire, B. Nash.

Family Center Board Adds 4

Four new members will be welcomed to the Board of Directors of the Catholic Family Center when it meets on Monday evening, Sept. 18. The new members are Joseph Burnett, James Nagle, Dr. Howard Lybold, Mrs. Mildred Quamina and Dr. James P. Walsh.

Donald K. Booth is current president of the board, which includes the following other members:

Father William G. Charbonneau and George W. Montgomery of the Catholic Family Center staff; vice-president, Guido P. Palma; secretary, Mary Wintish; nominations, J. Robert Malone; publicity, Marie Cullinane; planning, Dr. John Desauer; inner city, Robert J. Herberger and aging, Dr. Gerald E. Eckert.



FEATURE OF THE WEEK

SUNDAY SEPT. 17 THRU FRIDAY SEPT. 22

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- Crisp Chef Salad
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