

The Sister in the Church

By REV. BERTRAND BLUMA, OFM



In this season of convent ceremonies marking the profession of vows by diocesan Sisters, the following sermon preached at the Dominican Monastery, Elmira, on Pentecost Sunday, has general and eloquent application because of its spiritual interpretation of the religious woman's role in the life of the Church.

The mission of the Holy Spirit and that of the Sister are similar. Both are signs or symbols of an invisible reality.

In the Blessed Trinity, the Word of God, Christ, is the one to whom we attribute the intellectual operations of God, while the Holy Spirit is the one to whom we apply the affective operations of God.

In mankind, man is the one in whom we see more visible the operations of the mind and the duties of the intellectual side of our being. Woman is the one in whom we see manifested more visibly the operations of will and duties of the affective side of our being.

Now, all created things are sacrament of God as Love. Man is the image of the Trinity, man and woman are visible signs of the intellectual and affective operations of God. Man is the sacrament or sign of God as Truth; woman is the sacrament of God as Love. Man reflects the Word of God; woman, the Holy Spirit.

The Son of God was sent in mission to instruct man and teach them the way to salvation, by word of mouth. The Holy Spirit was sent as a sign and a mother-principle. He was the sign of sanctification; the sign of what the interior renovation which takes place in the soul of man in the state of grace actually is.

As mother-principle, the principle of rebirth, he was to mold the human race into a new creation. This was a work he was to continue in silence and a hidden manner by acting as the soul, the vitalizing force and power of the Church, giving birth and life to the family, the people of God.

A woman receives and accepts to give flesh and blood, so to speak, to the Holy Spirit, to clothe it with the more sublime qualities of human nature. She is made to mother the human race. Her maternal instinct is to form someone for family life, whether it be for the human family or the family of God.

Consequently we can say that a woman's vocation and mission is to imitate and continue partially at least and in a visible way the mission of the Holy Spirit—to mother the human race in its relationship to God by showing that God is a God of love and that it is man's duty to find God not so much by reaching him on our level but rather by going out of ourselves and in the darkness of deep faith and trust, loving beyond what we see.

The religious vocation, the vocation of sister, builds on this. A girl's decision to be a sister is not arbitrary. It is by a special glance or grace of God whereby he lifts her from the realm of his common love and elevates her to his special love. God embraces her with his special love.

The sister leaves the world because she is given another task by God. She is given to the Church and to mankind as a sign like the Holy Spirit to the world. Her mission is to publish this truth: this woman belongs to God, and she lives only for him and only with him. The habit she wears, the house she lives in, the bearing which marks her person—one belonging to this way of life is set apart for the Lord.

Ever since the fall of man, Adam, it is most difficult for man to keep the first commandment: "Love God with your whole soul and mind." Man is immersed in earthly things. He is one who finds truth by what he sees through his senses.

The sister is the sign of this reality, the reality of God's love and man's love of God.

While a sign of many things—the fact that God exists and that he can touch a soul in a most intimate way, that he can ask a soul to live for him alone—the sister is still a sign of greater mystery. Her

mission is to signify that God is love, that he is one who loves and can be loved. She is called to signify that man is called to experience God's personal love, that the human soul is called to be the bride of the Lord.

The profession of a sister takes the form of marriage, a marriage in which she unites herself to the God-man as

his bride. Consequently only the sister is able to signify in her very being and person the marriage of the Christian with God, because only she can be by nature a bride. The veil she receives at her profession is meant to be a perpetual reminder both to herself and to the world that there is another world of reality that lies beyond

the surface vision of our lives. As in marriage the bride assumes the interests and concerns of the bridegroom, the sister assumes the interests and concerns of eternal love, of God. Her womanly and maternal love is not annihilated by her profession, but given new life and becomes more dynamic and extensive. It assumes the status of the love of God.

SINCE 1852
"YOUR INDEPENDENT AGENT"
EGBERT F. Ashley Insurance
300 FIRST FED. BLDG. Phone 546-2620

COMPLETE SELECTION OF
SHADE ORNAMENTAL - FLOWERING
SHRUBS - EVERGREENS AND
FLOWERS NOW AVAILABLE FOR PLANTING

EVERGREEN
NURSERY
"See and Buy Where It Grows"
3446 MT. READ 865-7813 OPEN DAILY CLOSED TUES.

BRAKES
ADJUSTMENT
Check, Lining, Rotor Front Wheel Bearings
99¢ Most Cars

ALIGNMENT
COMPLETE
FRONT END
REBUILDING

SHOCKS
ELIMINATE
• Steering on Incline
• Tail Dragging
• Following on Curves
• Steering on Curves
\$7.95 EA.
(Installed Most Cars)

SEIBERLING TIRES
SCANLON TIRE CO., INC.
115 Ridge Rd. W. (Near Lake Ave.) 458-3610
Official N.Y. State Inspection Station

DAW'S HAS YOUR SUMMER NEEDS

Raid HOUSE & GARDEN BUG KILLER - For House Insects - For Garden Pests. Reg. \$1.59 **99¢**

Sturdy Brass Folding Legs For Porch, Patio or Lawn... For Bar-B-Q's, For Outdoor Snacks. Reg. \$1.29 **97¢**

PLANTERS Cocktail PEANUTS Large 13 1/2-oz. Vacuum Tin. Reg. 69¢ **54¢**

CHILDREN'S SUN GLASSES - for Girls - for Boys. CHOICE OF COLORS. 23¢

Half-Price Sale of Summer Jewelry
Hundreds of Beautiful Selections...
Earrings, Clogs (Pierced Included)... Necklaces... Rings... Bracelets... All Sparkling and Shimmering... the Very Latest in Hi-Fashion Summer Jewelry.

Now 19 Stores in Rochester and Vicinity
• FIMINTON PLAZA
• SPYGLASS AVE.
• EAST ROCHESTER
• LATAK DEWEY
• 13th WELLS AVE.
• RIDGE AVE.
• 17th E. AVE.
• 18th E. AVE.
• 19th E. AVE.
• 20th E. AVE.
• 21st E. AVE.
• 22nd E. AVE.
• 23rd E. AVE.
• 24th E. AVE.
• 25th E. AVE.
• 26th E. AVE.
• 27th E. AVE.
• 28th E. AVE.
• 29th E. AVE.
• 30th E. AVE.

Deluxe... MOTORIZED 2 1/2-Inch PATIO GRILL Features 3-Position Swing-Out Spit. Complete As Shown. **12.88**

GALLON SIZE VACUCEL PICNIC JUG with Handy Spout. **1.44**

HALF-GALLON VACUCEL PICNIC JUG with Flip Cap. **77¢**

VACUCEL COOLER CHEST with Handle. **99¢**

Easy-Folding ALUMINUM LAWN CHAIR Webbed... For Extra Strength. **3.49**

9-Inch Fluted PAPER PLATES Hard-Finish Quality. 100 for **76¢**

CHARCOAL LIGHTER Quart Size. **33¢**

HARDWOOD Charcoal 4-lb. Bag. **37¢**

STYROFOAM HOT or COLD PICNIC CUPS 50-Cups. 7-oz. Size. **69¢**

PLASTIC FORKS or SPOONS Pkg. of 25. **23¢**

FREE Excedrin Headache Card... With Purchase of Excedrin. **93¢**

FREE DENTURE CUP... With Purchase of efferdent. **68¢**

NEW dial family DEODORANTS Roll-On or Aerosol. Reg. \$1.00 Each. **48¢**

13-oz. Size Suave CRYSTAL CLEAR HAIR SPRAY HOLDS HAIR FIRMLY. For: NORMAL, DRY; HARD-TO-HOLD HAIR. Reg. 99¢. **53¢**

SEA & SKI Suntan Lotion Large 8-oz. Size in Unbreakable Plastic. Reg. \$2.75. **1.77**

bronztan Gives You A Fast Lasting Tan In The Form You Like Best. **86¢**

Wash'n Dry PRE-MOIST DISPOSABLE TOWELETTES Pkg. of 22. 98¢. Value **53¢**

Dippity-do SETTING GEL For Body... Easier Setting. REGULAR or EXTRA HOLDING. For Longer-Lasting Roller Sets (8-oz. Jar). Reg. \$1.25. Size **77¢**

DAW'S SUPER-VALUE COUPON Boxes of 24 Modess POSITIVE PROTECTION SANITARY NAPKINS. Choice of: REGULAR or SUPER. Reg. \$2.06. Value With This Coupon **2.99¢**

SCHICK New IMPROVED SHAVE LATHER REGULAR or MENTHOL. Reg. 79¢. 6 1/2-oz. Size **31¢** each

WILKINSON SUPER SWORD EDGE BLADES "Masters of The Cutting Edge". Reg. 79¢. Dispenser of 5 Blades. Limit 2-Dispensers. **37¢**

ultra-brite EXTRA-STRENGTH TOOTH PASTE Reg. 99¢. Family Size Tube **58¢**

TURTLE WAX 3-MINUTE CAR WASH Reg. 79¢. Value **47¢**

OUTBOARD MOTOR OIL For 2 and 4 Cycle Engines. Reg. 69¢. Quart **39¢**

GO REFRESHED BLUE JAY FOOT DEODORANT Sprays-on coolness for tired, burning feet. Stop foot odors up to a full day. \$1.50. Value **77¢**

SPRAY-A-WAY SHOE ODORS BLUE JAY SHOE DEODORIZER For leather, canvas or synthetic shoes. Also helps prevent athlete's foot. \$1.50. Value **77¢**

BE KIND TO YOUR FEET BLUE JAY FOOT POWDER Sprays-on icy cool, refreshing. Helps prevent athlete's foot. \$1.50. Value **77¢**

Super Gentle CUTEX NAIL POLISH REMOVER CONTAINS LANOLIN. Reg. 39¢. Limit Two. **22¢**

36-INCH WHITE PICKET FENCE Pointed - Assembled Ready-To-Use. 3-ft. Sections. **39¢**

RECTANGULAR Oscillating SWINGIN' SPRAY Set Dial For Automatic Control Of Spray Pattern. Covers Up To 2,500 Sq. Ft. **3.99**

50-ft. Lawn Hose Tough, 2-Ply Vinyl, Fully Guaranteed. **99¢**

CC
NEWSP...
Vol. 7

Poor People Campaign Continues

By JOHN R. SULLIVAN (NC News Service)

Washington—More than 100 ministers and just circled the Capitol last night to demonstrate their sympathy for the Poor People's Campaign.

They were almost all black. Washington's 85-C for two hours and marched around the Capitol grounds. They strolled to the nearby Baptist Church to hear the Rev. Young, the high Campaign leader, who invited them back the following day.

Young said the Sunday would continue "until, Joshua, we have marched the walls seven times."

He also announced for a "Poor People's Coalition" to broaden white middle-class support for the needs of the poor.

The experiences of the Poor People's Campaign in Washington have provoked SCLC leaders to shift the nature of the struggle.

SCLC grew out of the 1955-56 struggle against the Jim Crow laws in the South. It was a struggle for the rights of the poor, but on the part of the poor.

Its leaders for the most part were rural black preachers. The campaign has been in the public's attention has been not upon the plight of the southern poor, but on the ghettos.

Their problems are different in many respects and degree than those of the poor in the North. SCLC has quietly decided not to go to the Poor People's Campaign.

Part of the campaign can be attributed to the fact that SCLC has chosen which interests it represents.

By choosing, instead, the interests of all the poor, it really had to do—do to six weeks of constant campaigning every tactic of the conflict was summed up in a campaign from Detroit complained:

"What are we going to do for the poor? I don't want stamps or surplus food. I want the poor to be able to run the food store, baby brother, elected Mayor. Can you do that for me?"

By attempting to speak to the urban poor in the language of the southern sharecropper, SCLC is trying to alienate many blacks.

The Campaign was criticized for ignoring the Washington community and permitting some prominent urban, but the needs of the urban poor are being highlighted in the point that police life even harder on the streets.

SCLC plans to reorganize Washington for a counter these charges. At the time its overtures to indicate that it is unwelcome of the white-black coalition has served it so well in the past.

IF YOU MOVE... let us know about it so we can keep your Courier-Journal on time. Phone or notice of your change of address and new address and of your parish.

Courier-Journal, 35 Rochester, N.Y. 1460 716-454-7050.

GRACE DOWNS TRAINING SCHOOL (world renowned) DON'T WASTE YOUR SUMMER... Complete vacation with learning of... 25 no-costs... \$1.50. Value **77¢**

Vacuum Cleaners PARIS-REPAIRS-ALL MAKES All Work Fry Guaranteed 5 Year... **442-3086**

Over 35 Years of... **PRESCRIPTION SERVICE WORTHY OF YOUR CONFIDENCE**