

Reminder from Bishop Sheen: Face Up to Your Sins in Lent

My dear and beloved friends in Christ:

Lent means two things: sin and penance. Neither word is "in" today. Many will admit they are stupid, but few will ever admit they are sinners.

A Russian of the last century predicted these times: "A day is coming when men will say, 'There is no guilt, there is no sin; there is only hunger.' And they will come crying and fawning to the feet of dictators, saying 'Give us bread. We are your slaves.'"

Sin is not the worst thing in the world; the worst thing is to deny that we are sinners. If I am blind and deny there is such a thing as sight, will I ever want to see? If I am deaf and deny there are children's voices, is there ever any hope that I will hear? If I deny sin, how can I be redeemed? That is why the denial of sin is the unforgivable sin; it makes forgiveness impossible.

Lent is the season when we face up to our sins, and become honest enough to admit that we are not little "tin gods" and then begin to do penance. When we sin, it is like driving a nail in a table; when the sin is forgiven it is like pulling out the nail, but a hole is left. The hole has to be filled by penance.

Forgiveness is one thing; repentance or penance is quite another.

Penance is the decentering of self; it is creating a vacuum into which God's pardon can flow. It gives Our Lord a chance to show His compassion and it gives us that inexpressible joy of being forgiven.

Many cases of psychoses and

roses are due to a suppressed sense of real guilt. Lady Macbeth, for example, was given to the practice of washing her hands every quarter of an hour; it was a hidden substitute for the need of washing her soul of the sin of murder.

The words of our Lord are unmistakable: "Unless you do penance you shall all likewise perish." (Luke 13: 3, 5).

You decide on your own particular penance, but let it be directed as much as possible to the good of neighbor. To that end, perhaps these five suggestions will help:

1—If there are some people you do not like, begin doing them favors. You continue to injure or ignore such a person, you will hate him more; if you do him a good turn you will stop disliking him.

2—Running away from God and your faith is like running away from the sun. You will always have shadows and speckles ahead of you to hunt you. But if you run to Him and the practice of your faith, the shadows and fears of life will always fall behind you.

3—If you are in the state of sin because of your selfishness, you feel the absence of God. If you seek to remain in a state of grace, you have a sense of His presence. But in neither case will He leave you alone. Just as thirst implies the absence of water and refreshment its presence, so, as Augustine said: "Our hearts are restless until they rest in Him."

4—Stop wanting to be loved and begin to love; the only way that love

can express itself is by sacrifice of self. Ego love is the circle or the serpent devouring its tail. Christian love is the Cross with arms extended to embrace all humanity within its grasp. Put your love in those whom you presently find unlovable and they will become lovable. That is why you are lovable to God. God put His love in you and finds you are infinitely lovable.

5—Try to get to Mass daily during Lent. What is the Mass?

The Mass is the act by which the Judge, after finding a criminal guilty, says to him: "I will take the sentence I imposed on you — and go to death."

The Mass is the moment when you can take all the little crosses of your daily life and plant them along side the Great Cross of Christ saying, "Dear Lord, sharing in your death until You come, may I share also in the glory of the Resurrection!"

The Mass is dying before we die. It is the one place where there is an ecstasy greater than the flesh—the unity of two in one spirit, Christ and you. The earth can give you only earthly comfort; the Mass is the one act where you get heavenly comfort!

Also kindly breathe a prayer for the diocese; that our priests may be priestly, our Religious, religious and that we may all live one another unto the building up of the Church in Christ Jesus, our Savior.

Your servant in Him,

Fulton J. Sheen



PROPOSED CHAPEL — Father James L. Callan, chaplain at Rochester State Hospital, describes proposed St. Jude Chapel to some of men who will be leaders in a campaign for \$100,000 to cover construction and other costs. Approximately \$250,000 already has been obtained from a drive conducted in 1966. Pictured from left are: seated—Father Callan and John F. Hurley; standing—John J. Curran, Robert J. Benedict, president of the hospital's board of visitors; Al Salvaggio and Norman Schulik.

Alhambra to Assist Drive For State Hospital Chapel

Members of Musa Caravan 25, Order of Alhambra, will assist in a campaign beginning next week for \$100,000 toward costs of the proposed St. Jude Chapel to be constructed on the Rochester State Hospital grounds.

Alhambra officers told Father James L. Callan, state hospital chaplain, that they will endeavor to en-

list more than 100 of their men to aid solicitation of cash and pledges to the chapel fund.

Alhambra is a social organization of members of the Knights of Columbus. One of its purposes is to mark historic sites.

Another more recent purpose of the order nationally, according to John F. Hurley, local Musa commander, is aid to retarded children. Musa Caravan, he said, has been contributing "scholarships" for teachers at the School of the Holy Childhood, a school for exceptional children conducted by Sisters of St. Joseph in Rochester.

"We are pleased to assist in the campaign for St. Jude Chapel," Hurley said. "We consider it will be a 'living memorial' of our concern for our fellowmen."

Father Callan announced a meeting for campaign workers at 7:45 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 18, in the auditorium of the State Hospital Medical-Surgical Building, Elmwood Avenue.

Site preparation is now under way for the chapel, which Father hopes will be ready for use next autumn. Designed to seat 407 persons, it will serve the religious needs of the nearly 1,500 Catholics at the state institution.

Constitutional barriers forbid the state from constructing such chapels, but the state contributes land for them and will maintain them once they are constructed and debt-free. There are 16 chapels on state institutional grounds, mostly downstate.

Efforts last year of chaplains and laymen of Catholic, Protestant and Jewish faiths to erect an interfaith center on the grounds failed.

Hurley is general chairman of the St. Jude Chapel campaign committee. John J. Curran is vice chairman, and James Wilmet Jr. heads the special gifts committee.

Advisory committeemen include Norman Schulik, Frank R. Davis, Leo Saeum, Al Salvaggio, Steven Danes and Thomas Donovan.



FATHER DRINAN

Jesuit Will Lecture On Abortion

"Should Abortion Be a Crime?" is the title of a lecture at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19, in McQuaid High School.

Speaker will be Father Robert F. Drinan, S.J., dean of Boston College Law School, who has spoken widely on such subjects as natural laws, obscenity and church-state relations.

He has engaged in public platform debate with Assemblyman Albert Blumenthal, D-Manhattan, who for the last two sessions of the legislature has introduced a bill to liberalize the state's abortion laws.

Father Drinan is a corresponding editor of the Catholic weekly, "America," and in 1963 authored a book titled "Religion, the Courts and Public Policy." He also has contributed articles to many law and other journals.

He is a member of the Massachusetts Attorney General's Committee on Civil Rights and Liberties, and of the National Citizens' Committee for Public Television. He has numerous other law-related and civic affiliations.

Dire Prediction No Aid, No Schools

J. Alan Davitt, a layman and executive secretary of the New York State Council of Catholic School Superintendents said that government aid is necessary if Catholic schools are to continue.

Speaking to an estimated 1,200 teachers at the annual Diocesan Educators Conference, Davitt said that the furthering of urban parochial education is "highly doubtful, if not next to impossible, if relief does not come within the next couple of years."

Citing enrollment figures, Davitt said that the Catholic schools are contributing more to education in the urban areas than are the public schools.

Fifty-seven per cent of parochial school enrollment is urban, compared with 40 per cent of the public school enrollment, he said.

Davitt said that the federal government recognizes the role of non-public schools by sharing funds for disadvantaged children. But the state, he said, does not. Davitt described suburban white communities as "apathetic" about the problem.

The need for state aid was seconded by Rt. Rev. Msgr. William R. Roche, diocesan superintendent of schools, who said that a closing of parochial schools in Rochester would cost the city \$20 million. It would bankrupt the city.

Speaking on the benefits of a Catholic education, Father Robert Faricy, S.J., director of the Commission of American Citizenship at Catholic University of America, said that a school curriculum is integral only if it includes religious studies.

Father Faricy said that the inclusion of a course of religion "allows the other subjects in the curriculum to be more truly themselves."

Outlining the nature of the Catholic School System, he said that it was not an institution for teaching a "baptized social studies", but a place where the union of a course of religion with secular studies makes for the distinction and depth of each.

The conference included a discussion of contemporary experiments in educational aids by John F. Wood of the Genesee Valley School Development Association.

The meeting ended with a concelebrated Mass in Corpus Christi Church. Msgr. Albert P. Bartlett, rector of McQuaid Jesuit High School, preached the homily.

New Aim of Newman: Service, Not Clubbing

By PINCHER LEAVEN

"We like to think of ourselves as the Church in service instead of as a Catholic 'club'; and our service as the Christian community on campus cuts across denominational lines." So Father James Lawlor describes his work as co-chaplain of Newman on the U of R campus.

Catholics attending the university constitute about 12 per cent of the total student enrollment, and for them, and everyone, Newman attempts to provide the life of Christ.

Sister Ann Norwood, a Religious of the Cenacle, who is co-chaplain with Father Lawlor, describes her role simply: being available to listen. "We're ecumenical," she says, "We're there to serve anyone who needs help."

Sister Norwood sees Newman on Campus developing a new shape of the Church, providing new vehicles for religious and social expression.

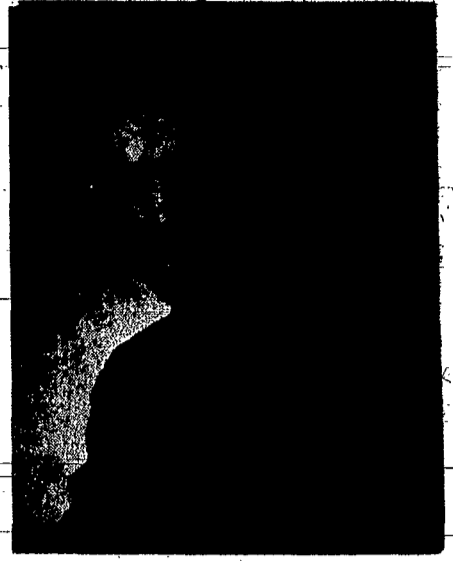
The idea of building a community which will first relate to the larger community on campus and finally to the community outside of the campus is basic to the Newman philosophy, Sister Norwood said. "We have to see ourselves as the Church, that is as a serving community."

Exemplifying the dynamism of the Church-at-service are the 90 Newman members who tutor at Madison High School and at Immaculate Conception School through an organization headed by Mike O'Donnell and Roberta Salvini.

Another program, one which will allow the St. Joseph's House of Hospitality to remain open on Sunday, involves almost 25 Newman members headed by Chuck Johnson, Kathy Carrese and Tom Gervasi. The House of Hospitality provides food and clothing to the poor and indigent of the Rochester Area. Because of a staff shortage, the House was formerly closed on Sundays.

On campus the Newman group sponsors a number of lectures and activities. Last semester, most notable was a lecture series on the Christian life by Father Albert P. Bartlett, rector of McQuaid Jesuit High School.

Providing for the spiritual and intellectual advancement of the campus, Newman currently engages in a number of study groups, most notable of which is a series of discussions on contemporary theology moderated by Father Giovanni Montinari of St. Bernard's Seminary and Professor Richard Henshaw of both



FATHER JAMES LAWLOR

the Colgate Divinity and the U of R faculties.

With this series there also are discussion groups analyzing the role of the Christian student on the campus, a Scripture study group and an inquiry group discussing basic Catholic tenets.

According to Diane Tolomeo, U of R junior, English major and convert to Catholicism of a year and a half: "We don't worry about the small stuff. We see that we have to be doing something and instead of talking about it, we do it."

Women Plan Forum on Education

Members of the Catholic Women's Club are among sponsors of a Women's Forum which will examine Rochester's educational system at a 6:30 p.m. dinner and discussion Thursday, Feb. 27, at the Church of the Incarnate Word Hall, 597 East Ave.

Sponsors include Church Women United, Council of Jewish Women, Negro Business and Professional Women and the YWCA.

Panelists will be Mrs. Robert Phillips, new member of the city school board; Norman Gross, city school district administrator for pupil transfer; Mrs. Melvira Thompson, a Negro mother interested in integration, and Bruce C. Gilles, School 2 principal.

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CLOSED MONDAYS

10 Churches Plan Series On Salvation

Two parishes—Assumption Church, Fairport, and St. John of Rochester Church, Perinton — and eight Protestant churches in the Fairport area are sponsoring a series of three meetings "intended to probe some of the major problems facing modern man in his quest for salvation."

The first session is scheduled at 8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23, at United Methodist Church hall. Leading the panel on the question, "Are Personal Ambition and Salvation Compatible?" will be Walter J. LaCentra, professor in the philosophy department of St. John Fisher College; Rev. Harold Petter, pastor, Mountain Rise United Church of Christ, and George Cooke, member of the National Board of Methodist Social Concerns.

Kenneth Sarkis, a teacher at Our Lady of Lourdes School, will be principal speaker Mar. 13, in the First Baptist Church hall. His topic is "Disillusionment and the Younger Generation."

The third meeting, slated Mar. 23 at Assumption Church hall, will feature a movie, "Road Signs on a Modern Nomad." Its theme, "The Modern Nomad," is said to be a presentation of the thoughts of noted philosophers.