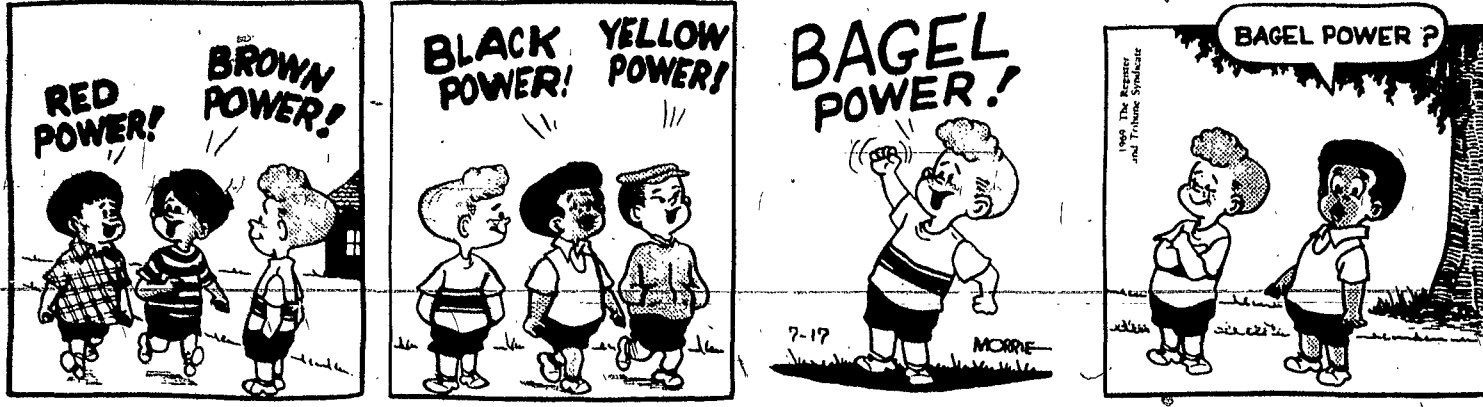


WEE PALS



by Morrie Turner

TEENAGERS WANT TO KNOW

By FATHER MARTIN, CSSR. Dear Readers,

Usually this column is reserved for questions and answers and for comments by readers on the questions and answers we publish. I thought it well to have a little change of pace in this column and am reprinting an article on the challenge of religious vocations. The article was written by Father Jerome Pokorny.

VOCATION SHORTAGE?

One reason for the lack of religious vocations, we are told, is the lack of challenge our youngsters see in this state of life.

Where has the challenge gone?

The priesthood, the sisterhood, the special consecration, the spiritual marriage to Christ—these have not changed. If once they held challenge, why is it not there now?

This is like saying that the sun doesn't shine as brightly today as it did yesterday.

If the vocation to the religious life offered challenge yesterday, and a century ago, and a thousand years ago, why should it not do so today?

Is the ailment in the challenge—or is it perhaps in us?

I am afraid that we have somehow, somewhere, lost our sense of challenge, of vision, of wonder.

In this—and in other aspects of life—we have become subjects of the terribly sad words of Christ: "They have eyes and see not."

Someone once said: "How the earth pales, when we look at the sky!" Is this our trouble, that we look not to the sky but to the earth?

Wonder leads to worship. A man who cannot wonder loses the sense of the divine. He is like a man wearing

spectacles behind which there are no eyes.

Perhaps one reason why our young people miss the challenge is because we have developed a wrong notion of the meaning of challenge.

Challenge is made to mean something out of the ordinary—like being a millionaire, or a Hollywood satellite, or a visitor to the moon.

Achievements like these do pose a challenge. But challenge is much more universal than this. Challenge refers to the quality of any and every action rather than to its size.

Challenge involves motivation, dedication, consecration.

There's the biography of Brother Lawrence, a Carmelite, who lived three centuries ago. He served in the French army and was wounded. After recovering, at the age of 40, he entered a monastery at Paris. Most of the 40 remaining years of his life were spent in a sort of ecstatic happiness working in the kitchen of the monastery. Never were the pots and pans more spic and span, never were the meals more tastily served than under the hands of Brother Lawrence.

Today we might be tempted to say: "How could there be any challenge in being a medieval brother? How can there be any challenge in peeling spuds or cooking sauerkraut?"

But challenge challenges everyone everywhere!

There is challenge, my dear young people, all around you.

There is challenge in being a gentleman, and a lady.

There is challenge in obeying your father and your mother.

There is challenge in keeping the Ten Commandments.

There is challenge in answering an alarm clock early every morning.

There is challenge in attending Mass and receiving Holy Communion.

There is challenge in going to school and studying hard.

There is challenge, young lady, in sinking your hands into dishwater.

There is challenge, young man, in a hundred chores you can do for your dad.

There is challenge in eventually entering a holy marriage.

There is challenge in staying married.

Moving over into the life of a priest... here is the greatest challenge of all.

The priest impersonates Christ. Christ said, "Do this in commemoration of me." Only the priest is empowered to do it. So there is the sublime challenge in uttering the words of consecration in the Mass. There is challenge here greater than that of Moses or Isaias or John the Baptist.

There is challenge in the upraised hand of a priest forgiving sins, but only God? The priest, through the merciful power of Christ, can.

There is challenge in pouring saving waters which makes an infant a child of God.

There is challenge in forming the souls of little children into the image of Christ.

There is challenge in preaching the word of God.

Where shall we stop? The priesthood is challenge without limit.

Here is challenge deep and wide and heaven-high!

Only open your eyes—and see it! Open your heart—and take it!

Among Persons 'Wanted' for Reunion

Twelve-year-old photo shows some of persons from Rochester area who attended Summer School of Catholic Action at Fordham University in 1956-57. Father Edward Steinkirchner (upper left), pastor of Holy Ghost Church, is planning picnic reunion for the group at Coldwater parish Sept. 7 but does not know many current addresses. Reservations may be made with Mike and Bettie Fitzpatrick, 328-4443; Rita Otterbein, 442-4646; Mary Elizabeth Guerin Bader, 235-4567; Joanne Canarozzo Stirpe, 544-9202; Barbara Scheg Trudeau, 328-2211.

Artists to Sell For Hope's Sake Red Wings Plan 'Helmet Night'

About 400 area painters, sculptors and print makers are organizing a sale of art work for the benefit of Project Hope and whooping cough for 3,300 children.

Hope is offered the would-be art collector too, in the price range—\$10 to \$50.

The space for the show and all materials needed are being donated, and the artists themselves make up the volunteer labor force, Mrs. McFall said.

The third stage of the Red Wing "Operation Kids for 1969" is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 28, when it will be "Batting Helmet Night" at Silver Stadium. Columbus will provide opposition in a single game at 7:45 p.m.

Every youngster (boy or girl) through 14 years of age attending this game will be given a blue batting helmet which is a replica of the helmets the Red Wings wear at bat.

SETON 65

Members of Seton Branch 65 and their husbands will have a picnic supper Tuesday night, Aug. 26, at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Carroll, 66 Branch Avenue.

Deaths

Mr. Farnsworth

Howard J. Farnsworth of 8 Golden Fleece Drive died Aug. 7, 1969, while on vacation in Vermont. The funeral was Aug. 12 at St. Augustine's.

Mr. Farnsworth leaves his widow, Mary Vivian Farnsworth; a son, Gary; a daughter, Mrs. Raymond Centola; and a granddaughter, Jennifer; a sister, Irene LaVine of Union Springs; and a brother, Edward.

The chairman, Mrs. John C. McFall, noted that a single sale could provide "lifetime immunization against polio, diphtheria

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ALL IN

Colonial

By Sarah C

There are times w Colonial or Early Ar much a furniture p creeping disease. An ly have been afflict

Should anyone ev period furnishings, I tell them quite bra towards the electic

Give me a glean Saarnen pedestal t ple of Louis XVI cha can credenza for the temporary look of a the living room bala of Queen Anne wing an-Oriental-ginger-ju or two and some va accessories and tha, the real me.

Somehow the re furniture that actu fills) our house h jelled.

Certainly I never house filled with early Americana. Bu ly, I do.

It began with the tie table my uncle a wedding gift. It w simple and it made tion Army furniture ing my bachelor de disgrace that it was, kitchen, a fine p

A LAY

The Jus

It is obvious that to exhaust the sub War in one newsp reason is that the su vast, and a second i theologian, although dossed to the teach theologians in this Augustine, St. Tho a certain Father Jc of a beautiful pam Gospel of Peace".

My purpose is not of discussion—but- it. My aim is not t thority but rather, to plead with it. I role in the formati tainly qualifies to life and death.

I don't believe I in noticing that a becomes involved in sion of the theology seems to get shelv tion. Why this is s mystery. Perhaps t taking unpopular st over patriotism.

In a short war th unrecognized. How drawn-out affair su Vietnam, people d the validity of the eter. It is here that leadership.

In a large Easte man, acting in the II and of the recent nation's Catholic bl entious objectors mously, recently the pointment with his his claim for conse and to obtain benci take this stand. Th interpretation of th request is that he i