

regional news reports

Auburn

Auburn — When school lets out in June, Sister Ellen Kuhl, SSJ currently teaching language arts at St. Mary's School, will begin six months of preparation for her new volunteer assignment in Uberlandia, Brazil. Sister Laurel Davis of Nazareth Academy will be her partner.

Preparation will include the month of July at Mission Institute in Maryknoll, where new volunteers talk with returning missionaries. Sisters Ellen and Laurel will visit their mission on the way to the Center for Intercultural Training in Rio de Janeiro, where the rest of the year will be spent studying the Portuguese language and Brazilian culture.

"I go hoping to offer people opportunities for growth into a fuller human and Christian way of life through education and concern," Sister Ellen said, "but I'm sure they will offer me as much from the beauty of their culture and depth of faith."

Sister Ellen explained it takes more than willingness to get to missionary territory, but if one feels called to this type of ministry, application is made through the congregation. Criteria include ability to learn another language, appreciation of other cultures and ability to work within another cultural context.

Centered at Uberlandia, a city of 115,000, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester have two smaller houses in the surrounding rural cattle-raising area where their territory is one-third the size of New York State. Sister Ellen explained that her special work would depend on her own perception of need and her ability to respond to the needs of the people. The sisters are engaged in pastoral work, education and social service.

"I see mission as a total thing, serving where called to serve, close to home or 7,000 miles away," Sister Ellen explained. "I'm going because I really think this is where the Holy Spirit wants me. It happened gradually, but I began to realize I was ready to take another step."

Her teaching assignments have included St. Alphonsus in Auburn, Christ the King in Rochester and St. Stephen's in Geneva.

BARN DANCE

Montezuma — A barn dance will be held Saturday, May 19

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from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Paul Vitale farm on Beach Road, for the benefit of St. Michael's Church. Music by Rubin Everidge and the San Antone will feature Betty Hitchcock.

Elmira

BIBLE STUDIES

Owego — Parishioners at St. Patrick's Church here who are interested in Neighborhood Bible Studies should attend a special meeting May 23 at 9:30 a.m. at the Memorial Park Baptist Church, 1017 Front St., Vestal.

Reservations to attend the special program should be made by contacting Mrs. Stuart Johnson at 687-4034.

PRO-LIFE DRIVE MARKS MOTHERS' DAY

Horseheads — In conjunction with Mothers' Day services held at St. Mary Our Mother Church here last Sunday a petition drive to halt abortion activities was conducted.

The petition in the form of an anti-abortion statement was available for any parishioner to sign after each Mass. The petition was also available for signature the week prior to Mothers' Day.

The petition asks representatives of the U.S. Congress and the New York State legislature to take legislative action to create an amendment to the respective constitutions which would "protect the lives of all human beings, including our innocent unborn children."

The petition pointed out the Supreme Court's Jan. 22 decision which "mandates each state to permit, allow, and condone the killing of innocent unborn children."

The document also says the "court has predicated a living human being's right to the continuance of his life upon his classification according to the quality, the stage of development, or the meaningfulness of his existence."

Canandaigua

DePAUL BANQUET

Canandaigua — Miss Felicia Panzarella will give an illustrated talk on East Africa at the annual banquet of the St. Vincent De Paul Society, at 6:30 p.m. May 23 in St. Mary's parish hall.

ROSARY OFFICERS

Canandaigua — Eleanor Reddick was inducted as president of the St. Mary's Rosary Altar Society at the annual banquet May 7 at Notre Dame Retreat House. Other officers are Rita Palumbo, vice president; Mary Genocco, treasurer; Peggy Carroll, secretary; Janet DeRosa, corresponding secretary, and Roberta Bolger, hospitality chairman.

CELEBRATION

Canandaigua — More than 1,000 people turned out for a buffet and formal reception for Father Joseph Hart after his recent ordination at St. Mary's.

BREAKFAST

Naples — All of the children who made their First Communion

at St. Januarius during the year will be entertained at breakfast in the church hall after the 10:30 Mass June 10.

50th ANNIVERSARY

Naples — A parish reception was held recently to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Hartman.

Hornell

GRADE ADDED

Bath — St. Mary's School will add a fourth grade for the next school year.

TRADITIONAL CEREMONY

Hornell — St. Ignatius Loyola Church was the setting for a traditional First Communion celebration at the 8:30 Mass, Sunday, May 13, Mother's Day.

With emphasis on dedication to the Blessed Virgin, 26 girls and 20 boys in solemn procession received their First Holy Communion from Father John Widman, pastor. Father Widman also placed scapulars around their necks symbolizing their enrollment in the Order of the Scapular. The girls were dressed in the traditional white and wore white mantillas. The boys wore navy blue trousers, white shirts and ties.

Miss Armela Brill was the group's instructor, assisted by Mrs. James Gleason. Miss Brill has been active in preparing the classes for many years.

FOSMS SMORGASBORD

Dansville — Friends of St. Mary's School (FOSMS) will host a smorgasbord May 18, 5-8 p.m. Volunteers are needed for both set up and clean up. Call Barb Cerace 987-2754 or Fay Alverson 987-6525.



Sister Esther Leaving Diocese

Southern Tier people must say goodbye to their "Sister Esther" on the 25th of this month. After three years as religious consultant coordinator for a five-county area, Sister Esther Cockburn will move to the Wilmington, Del. area, to do similar work. She is a Mission Helper of the Sacred Heart. During her stay in this area she traveled through Tompkins, Tioga, Schuyler, Chemung and Steuben counties, and part of Livingston, helping lay people find the resources for carrying out their religious activities. "I am sorry to go," she said recently. "And I'm afraid there is not going to be a replacement for me. I hope all the people I've helped can go it on their own now."

CDA BANQUET

Hornell — Court St. Ann No. 194 Catholic Daughters of America, observed the 60th anniversary of its founding at its annual banquet recently at the Knights of Columbus Home on Main St. The national order will observe its 70th anniversary in June at Utica, where it was organized.

Father John Hedges of St. Borromeo Church in Rochester and state CDA chaplain, was the guest speaker. His talk concentrated on the need for the Christian nation to stand up for its beliefs and make itself heard by the government.

Ithaca

ELECTIONS

Ithaca — Elections at St. Catherine of Siena last week added Walter Schwan, town supervisor, Kay Oldberg, ACT representative, and Samuel T. Slack, Cornell professor, to the parish council. The entire council will meet next month.

CONCERT

Ithaca — Grades 4, 5 and 6 at Immaculate Conception School will give a concert June 6. There also will be an arts and crafts display.



Rural Needs Presented

Father George Gauthier, a member of the board of directors of the Catholic Rural Life Conference and head of the Office of Human Development in Tioga County, presents Bishop Hogan with a report on rural life needs as related to the Church and its mission. The presentation was made at St. Charles Borromeo, Elmira Heights.

Msgr. O'Connor to Address Mercy Hospital Auxiliary

Auburn — The Mercy Hospital Auxiliary luncheon on May 23 at Springside Inn will feature Auburn-born Msgr. Joseph A. O'Connor of Trenton, N.J. His address is entitled "The Future of the Catholic Church in the Apostolate of the Sick."

Msgr. O'Connor attended St. Aloysius School and Auburn High and was graduated from Manhattan College. He studied for the priesthood at St. Bernard's and Our Lady of the Angels, at Niagara University. He was appointed director of Catholic hospitals for the Diocese of Trenton in 1960 and has served on the State of New Jersey Comprehensive Health Planning Board since 1964. A member of the New Jersey Hospital Association and chairman of the review board for the state 1965-1970, he is a member of the executive committee of The New Jersey Conference of Catholic Hospitals.

Luncheon reservations should be made by May 16 with Carlene Rattigan, 253-7945, or Doris Carpenter, 252-1554.



MSGR. O'CONNOR

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