



WORD FOR SUNDAY
Fr. Albert Shamon

Sunday Readings: (R1) Is. 50:4-9. (R2) Jas. 2:14-18. (R3) Mk. 8:27-35.

Suppose you were asked, "What do you think is the hardest thing in religion?" What would you answer? You would be close, I think, if you quoted the words of Jesus in Sunday's Gospel: "If a man wishes to come after Me, he must deny his very self, take up his cross and follow in My steps."

The hardest thing in religion is to deny self. Things are outside us; self is inside us. Self is so much a part of each of us that to deny my wants, my desires, my thoughts, my opinions, my tastes is a veritable amputation of my very self. So loathe are we to deny ourselves that should a person cross us, not infrequently we would flame out into anger. Haman sought a pogrom (just because the Jew Mordecai crossed him. Herodias asked for the head of the Baptist, because he threatened her desires. Self-denial — there is the cross!

Because self is so much a part of us, self-denial must be a free choice. "If a man wishes," said Jesus. It is up to each one of us to want to deny himself. The wish must father the act.

"If a man wishes to come after Me," continued Jesus. He did not say go but come. Caribaldi, when going into battle told his troops, "I offer you hunger, cold, wounds, perhaps death." Yet all followed him, because he himself went before them. So Jesus goes before us; He shows us the way — "to come after Me."

Following Him entails self-denial: "He must deny his very self." There are two selves in all

Barley School Sets Rehearsals

The Barley School of Music Community Orchestra will hold its first rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 17 at the main school in Fairport. All interested students and adults who wish to participate should call the school at 377-1220.

The Barley School of Music Chorus will hold its first rehearsal Saturday, Sept. 22. Children under 12 should attend the 1 p.m.-2 p.m. session and teenagers and adults should attend the 2 p.m.-3 p.m. session. All interested should call the school.

K. OF C. TO MEET

The Knights of Columbus have scheduled an installation meeting at 8 p.m. Sept. 14 at the Monroe Avenue clubrooms. Awards also will be made to local Catholic high schools.

WHEN IT'S TIME FOR A DIAMOND THEN IT'S TIME TO SEE BERNARD J. HENSLER JEWELERS

Open Tues. and Thurs. Even 'til 9

307 COMMERCE BLDG.
Phone 454-6918

of us — a lower and a higher self. "I see in my body's members another law at war with the law of my mind . . . so that I do, not the good I will to do, but the evil I do not intend" (Rom. 7:19, 23). To give in to the lower self is to destroy the higher; deny the lower and you save the higher!

Such self-denial is "taking up his cross." It is a cross to say No to many of the strongest cravings of nature — the drives for earthly ease, comfort, dignity, glory. It is a cross to cross one's will to do God's will, or merely to subject one's opinions to the teachings of the Church.

How else can we follow Christ? Surely, His miraculous actions are not imitable, nor His Redeemer role. However, we can follow Him in His spirit, His attitudes toward God and man. Jesus never sought His own will, but His Father's. He prayed, was forgiving, kind, loving, especially toward the needy and poor. He was courageous and steadfast — cling to the right, no matter the cost. When the cross loomed before Him, He set His face like flint toward Jerusalem and death.

Just recently, Paul VI asked the question, "Does an easy Christianity exist?"

He answered Yes — but only for those who embrace the Christian life in its totality.

He answered No — for those who seek to cut corners. "Those who seek happiness," he said, "by whittling away faithfulness to the Christian life feel its burden, its tedium, and find its demands almost unnatural."

Jesus called His way of life a yoke (Mt. 11:30). If you set a yoke squarely on both shoulders, the yoke is easy and the burden light, so much so that Dutch dairy girls used to carry buckets of milk that way. However, should the yoke not be set squarely on the shoulders, the yoke becomes abrasive and the burden unbearable.

If a man builds a home, he does not seek to prevent rain from falling on it or winds from beating against it. These things cannot be prevented. Rather he seeks to build the home in such a way that it will be proof against all weather. So should the Christian build. To avoid crosses in life is to seek the impossible. Therefore, discover how best to bear the crosses of life. In Gethsemane, Jesus sweat blood in evaluating the cross, but He prayed and the Father strengthened Him. After that, the actual carrying of the cross was a triumphant victory. Forewarned is forearmed!

New Nazareth Course Will Explore Dying

A rising nationwide interest in exploring the implications of death — a subject which has ranked among the great American taboos of the 20th century — may place one of the new courses at Nazareth College high on the most popular list of curriculum offerings this fall.

Requests from students of all ages to participate in an in-depth analysis of "Time, Death, and Beyond" has already resulted in splitting the course into two day sections. In addition, preliminary reports from Continuing Education Director Ruth Gimbernat indicate unusual interest on the part of the general public and among specialized professional groups such as nursing.

Dr. Claude Curtin, assistant professor in Nazareth's philosophy department, hopes to meet the challenge posed by poet Theodore Rilke who wrote: "Death is the side of life that is

Washington, D.C.: More Abortions Than Births

Washington, D.C. [RNS] — The number of legal abortions in the nation's capital last year was almost twice the number of births.

But about 75 per cent of the abortions were for women from outside the district, according to government figures.

A total of 38,868 abortions were performed in the city in 1972. There were 21,579 births.

About 12,000 of the women obtaining abortions here in 1973 were from the adjacent states of Maryland and Virginia. Other non-residents came from various states, but mostly from the South.

The figures on births do not indicate the numbers for residents and non-residents of the city. But in recent years the figures have been estimated at about 60 per cent for residents and 40 per cent for suburbanites.

The first abortion clinic for Washington opened in March 1971. According to D.C. government reports, 19 clinics and hospitals were performing abortions in 1972.

Births in 1972 were down 13 per cent — 3,469 — from 1971. Nationwide the decline was 9 per cent.

According to the D.C. Department of Human Resources report, 97 per cent of the abortions here last year were performed within the first 12 weeks of pregnancy. The average age of the women obtaining abortions was just under 23.

averted from us, unilluminated by us."

Curtin's goal is to consider the morality of man in the light of the philosophy, psychology and sociology of death and dying.

"Consideration," he says, "will be given to various responses to death in world mythology and philosophy as well as to the contemporary psychology and sociology of dying. Immortality, reincarnation, radical finitude and eternal recurrence will be explored. Temporality in relation to the mortality of man and in relation to the idea of eternity will also be discussed."

Although classes officially began Wednesday, Sept. 5, registration will continue until Friday, Sept. 14.

Classes are scheduled primarily on weekday afternoons and evenings, although, this fall the Continuing Education Program, at the request of students, is reinstating Saturday morning

classes. Students in the program may also take regular daytime classes.

Courses are also scheduled in the academic areas of art, business, chemistry, education, English, French, Italian, Spanish, history, music, philosophy, religious studies, social work, anthropology, psychology and political science.

The continuing Education Program is open to all men and women who are high school graduates.

Further information on courses or registration procedures may be obtained at the Nazareth College Office of Continuing Education, Smyth Hall Room 131, telephone 586-2677.

Thank You, Julie, for Dickie, Debbie, Allen, Barbara, Leslie, and twenty-five good years. Happy Anniversary, Love, Custy

ATTENTION—BISHOP KEARNEY PARENTS

A small committee of progressive, responsive, parents of Bishop Kearney students has been formed to assist the present school administration on specific problems.

A broader cross-section of talent is required to be of greater assistance.

Have you any free time & talent you would care to share as a volunteer?

Mr. Albert Pheilshifter, Chairman
P.O. Box 8234, Rochester, N. Y. 14617

IRONDEQUOITERS

COME and MEET SUPERVISOR DON DEMING

At His Old Fashioned Corn & Sausage Roast

ALL YOU CAN EAT
Italian Sausage • Polish Sausage • Hot SWEET CORN • DRAFT BEER • SOFT DRINKS

ST. PAUL EXEMPTS 690 THOMAS AVE. SUNDAY SEPT. 16, 1973 1 P.M.—6 P.M. \$10.00 PER PERSON

FUN FOR ALL—YOUR CHANCE TO HELP SUPPORT DON IN HIS RE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN

FOR TICKETS CALL 467-5843 or 467-7188

ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

1973 FALL REGISTRATION

College of Continuing Education . . . where your personal and career goals are our concern, too.

Whether it's a degree program, or a subject you've always wanted to know more about, RIT has it. And we have the flexibility to enable education to fit into your busy schedule.

Counseling and advisement (without appointment) and registration Sept. 18-19 from 1 to 8 p.m. on the Henrietta campus.

Don't just think about it. Don't just talk about it. Call us today for information on course offerings and schedules.

Rochester Institute of Technology College of Continuing Education One Lomb Memorial Drive Rochester, New York 14623 (716) 464-2234