



Easter in Italy

Twenty-six girls from St. Agnes High School, and their chaperones, Sister Theresa Daniel and Sister Carol Cimino, of St. Agnes, will depart from the Monroe County Airport tomorrow, April 11, for 10 days in Italy.

FISH Needs Volunteers

Auburn — Auburn Area FISH (Friends in Service Here) now in its fifth year, is seeking volunteers. Time, love, and neighborliness are the only requisite for volunteers, according to a FISH spokesman.

Transportation, helping elderly with errands, companionship for the shut-in through regular

telephone calls or visits are among needs. There is a need for transportation to hospitals outside Auburn in medical emergencies.

FISH volunteers also have been successful in locating clothing and housing articles for persons on limited incomes.

Appeals for FISH service in 1973 totaled 1,968, an increase of about 270 calls from 1972.

The FISH telephone is staffed from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. During other times, calls are answered by the Auburn Police Department. All calls are received by the FISH captain on duty.

Anyone interested should contact the Volunteer Center at 191 Genesee St., or call FISH.

ALL IN THE FAMILY

Sarah Child

You'd probably call my father a late bloomer. He worked for another man for 22 years before he opened his own grocery store at the age of 40.

Two years ago at the age of 65 when most men are beginning retirement he convinced the bankers in his area to lend him enough money to put up a hardware-department store next to his new supermarket.

This past weekend during the visit we made to my parents' home, Dad told me what a gamble he had taken, jeopardizing the future of the supermarket, of the home he and Mom had just built and of the educations of a younger brother and sister who were at that point just entering college.

The gamble, he told me, however, with quiet satisfaction appeared to be paying off. A hardware seemed to be just what their small town needed and things were going quite well.

Our family's pride in my father is substantial. There are many reasons we feel as we do. It is not just what he has accomplished but the way he overcame the obstacles that lay in his path.

At age 12 he began clerking in a grocery bringing the money home to his immigrant parents and three younger brothers.

A wife, three children and more than a score of years experience later he bought a small, rundown grocery in a tiny village. He was 40, past the age many thought for such a big step. Two years later with loans and hard work by him and my mother they began expanding and remodeling. A couple of months after the project was completed fire broke out, leaving only the brick facade standing. Insurance covered only part of it. They were left with a debt of \$40,000 and their livelihood gone.

I saw my father cry that day, his head in his hands. I was 12 or 13 at the time and I don't know how long the despair lasted. But six months later he had convinced bankers to lend him the money for another store in another town.

There are so many lessons in my father's story I sometimes lose track of them. The foremost has to be that his faith in God is as strong as anyone's I know. His faith in himself is almost as strong.

I relish the fact that it took my father 40 years to step out on his own. It proves that there is no age limit for trying something new. I think it interesting that it took Dad an extra year to finish high school, that his parents never did learn to speak the English language very well and had little status in their chosen community. They were simple impediments to be overcome, not insurmountable obstacles.

I tried to figure out how many hours a week he works. I don't really know but I imagine 60 or 70. When he can grab a few hours he's off fishing, skeet shooting or tying flies in the basement hideaway.

Over the weekend he led me from one gardening project to the other. Pepper plants in the garage, geraniums under fluorescent light in the basement, avocados sprouting next to the kitchen sink, a potato experiment next to the peppers, and I suppose, getting ready to get his tomato plants growing on the velvet covered window seat in the living room where the light is best.

We delight in the fact that my father at 67 looks and acts like a man 10 years younger, a man who has never used the words "bored" or "depressed" in conjunction with himself.

If he ever thinks of retirement, he does not mention it. And the guess here is that we would all do better if we would delete the word from our vocabulary and our future plans.

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Waterloo St. Mary's Has Anointing Rite

Waterloo — St. Mary's held its first communal anointing service, Sunday, March 31 during the Mass with more than 250 parishioners in attendance despite poor weather.

The sacrament was administered to approximately 120 parishioners over 65 or chronically ill. Opportunity for confession preceded the ceremony.

An invitation to receive the sacrament of anointing was extended by St. Mary's pastor, Father Albert Shamon, following a series of five Sunday sermons explaining the revised rite of anointing and its renewed emphasis on the hope and healing aspects. Parishioners were encouraged to carry the news to the people at home.

The rite of anointing the sick during the celebration of a special Mass is one of four alternatives offered under the revised rites.

Principal concelebrant was Father Shamon, pastor, along with Father James C. O'Connell, pastor emeritus; Father Ralph Fraats, associate pastor, St. Patrick's in Seneca Falls, and Father John L. Coonan, pastor, St. John the Evangelist, Clyde.

"It was a very moving experience for the community of St. Mary's to see its elderly kneel in prayer with outstretched hands, waiting for the priest to anoint

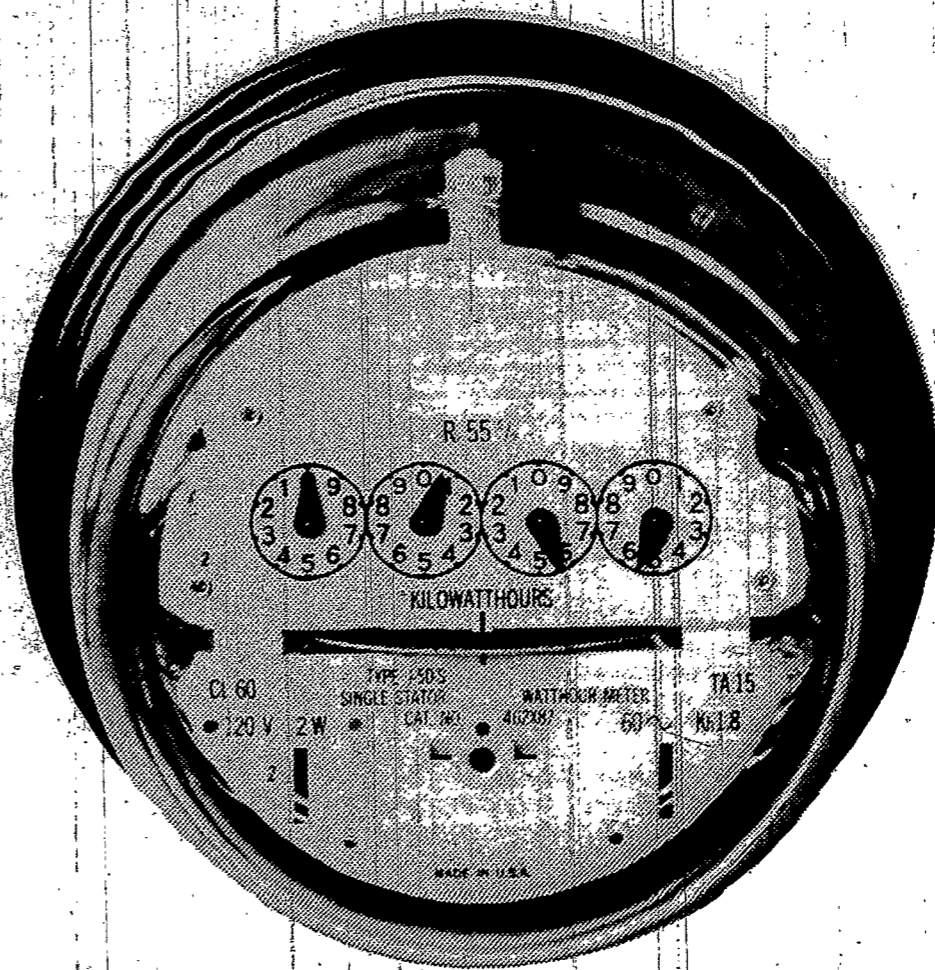
them," according to Adele Giovannini, pro-tem chairman of the liturgy committee of the new Parish Council at St. Mary's. "Helping to make the ceremony more beautiful was the singing of Sister Janet's fourth grade class," she said.

A specially designed banner, reading, "Bring to those who suffer, the comfort and care of the Holy Spirit" hung from the pulpit. Musical solos included "You'll Never Walk Alone" and "Take Courage".

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