

# WORD FOR SUNDAY

From the Bible

**Sunday's Readings:** (R1) Dt. 30:10-14. (R2) Col. 1:15-20. (R3) Lk. 10:25-37.

In his farewell address to the Hebrews, Moses reminded them that God's word "is something very near to you, already in your mouths and in your hearts." Moses meant that the way to salvation is plain and clear, and as near as is the written word of God.

Jesus went further and said that God is even nearer than in His word. His Gospel is more than a written word, something esoteric, hidden, known only to so-called intellectuals. That was the mistake of the Gnostics. His Gospel is for all people and therefore for plain people and therefore a plain Gospel. In the parable of the Good Samaritan, He said God is as near to us as the person who needs our help.

We can discover God, therefore, in two ways: in His word and in our neighbor.

One of the best-sellers of all ages is the Bible, the word of God. One of the places where we are most exposed to this word is at Mass. The flower does not have to go aggyssying to find the sun; nor alooking to meet the bee or the morning dew. Everything comes to the flower. All it need do is open its petals to the sun and bee and dew. So we need not

go awandering, like an Odysseus, to find our God. Everything we need — light, love, life and truth — are ours if only we open our hearts to God's word in the Scripture and listen to it in the Liturgy of the Word.

In the parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus tells us some of the ways we can discover God through our neighbor.

One way is to help him when he is in need. The priest and the Levite in the parable certainly knew the Law of love of God and of neighbor, as well as the lawyer whose question occasioned the parable. Yet they did not keep the Law. The Samaritan, who was supposed to be ignorant of the Law, actually lived it. Knowledge is one thing; practice is another. It is the doer, not the knower, who will be right with God. Hence neither the priest nor the Levite are called "good," but only the Samaritan.

About helping another, Jesus taught a further truth. Once a man helped a stranger in need, the stranger asked the man his name that he might later repay his kindness. The man was reluctant to give his name. The stranger persisted. Finally, the man said he would give his name if the stranger could name the Good Samaritan. The stranger remarked that nobody knew that. "So let my donation be anonymous," said the man, "God who sees in secret will repay."

## Homes Sought For Released Mental Patients

The Rochester Mental Health Center is looking for people who can share their family life with former State Hospital patients.

Dr. William T. Hard, director of the Rochester State Hospital's Unit B and of the center, said this week that many Unit B patients are ready physically and emotionally to return to life in the community. Unfortunately, we do not have enough family care homes to accommodate these people.

Under the family care system, a family agrees to house a former Unit B resident who is either employed or enrolled in a rehabilitation program.

Approved family care homes receive monthly stipends from the State Department of Mental Hygiene to cover room and board expenses. They also receive professional support from State Hospital and Mental Health Center personnel.

The family care system is most valuable in helping former patients be reintegrated successfully into the community," Dr. Hart said. "Patients are able to receive the support they need from the family with which they are placed. At the same time, they are able to experience something other than the institutional life to which they have been accustomed."

Interested persons should contact Peter Carpino, 544-5220, Ext. 102.

**OPEN HOUSE**  
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# Minn. Abortion Restriction Ruled Unconstitutional

**Minneapolis (RNS)** — Minnesota's 1974 law restricting abortions after the first 20 weeks of pregnancy has been declared unconstitutional by a three-judge panel of the U.S. District Court here.

The ruling left virtually only one restriction on abortions under state law, that requiring that the procedure be done by a licensed physician.

A unanimous 16-page ruling was filed by Judges Donald R. Ross and Robert Denny, both of Omaha, and Paul Benson of Fargo, N.D.

The judges said the state law, and the resulting regulations established by the Minnesota Board of Health, "interference with the right of a woman to secure an abortion free of state interference."

Eleven sections of the state law were struck down. They left standing a "conscience clause" allowing private hospitals to refuse to perform abortions.

### DRUG CENTER

The Health Association of Rochester and Monroe County opened a Drug Information and Referral Center yesterday at the Northside Professional Center, 1295 Portland Ave. Dr. Marita Jones is director.

The judges said they based their decision on a January 1973 ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court which appeared to allow abortions during the first six months of pregnancy.

The Minnesota law had stated that a fetus was viable 20 weeks after conception, or approximately five months into a pregnancy.

"Defendants have presented no evidence which would persuade this court that viability does in fact occur at 20 weeks," the judges said.

They added that "any attempt to regulate abortion prior to viability is unconstitutional" unless it is to protect a woman's life.

Other sections of the law were struck down because restrictions placed on physicians were not reasonably necessary for maternal health, the judges said.

Minnesota Attorney General Warren Spannaus, who had warned Gov. Wendell Anderson before he signed the bill that parts of the legislation were

unconstitutional, said the state probably will appeal the decision.

Spannaus said the state could ask for a hearing before the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in St. Louis or appeal the decision directly to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The law was challenged by five physicians, including Dr. Jane E. Hodgson of St. Paul, who successfully challenged Minnesota's previous abortion law several years ago.

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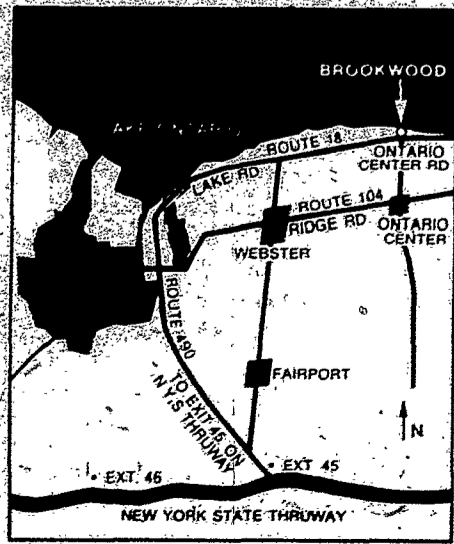
2910 Dewey Avenue 885-2210



# family fare

Want to do something a little different with your family this weekend? Absolutely free? Visit Brookwood, RG&E's Science Information Center. Learning about nuclear power probably won't minimize your Generation Gap, but it will give each of you something to talk about.

- One of the most exciting exhibits depicts the operation of the nuclear reactor used in RG&E's nearby Ginna Plant.
- Actual Geiger Counters demonstrate the detection of radiation in various materials and objects.
- Other displays dem-



onstrate the generation of electricity, explain the structure of the atom and nuclear fission, and follow the story of uranium from the mine to its final use as a fuel element in the Ginna Plant.

- In the auditorium, slide illustrated talks and movie presentations elaborate upon the nuclear energy story.
- And the Brookwood staff, headed by David Burke, is always on hand to answer any questions you may have.

Brookwood is a pleasant drive from wherever you live. (see map). Open Sunday through Thursday, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. And you don't need reservations, or money. Brookwood. Make it a family affair.

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