



Move Over St. Francis

Finding a cozy niche to keep warm and dry is what it's all about if you're a bird — especially a pigeon. This one found protection from cool lake breezes on top of the statue of the Blessed Virgin outside the old Mother of Sorrows Church in Greece. The church became the Paddy Hill Library when the new church was built nearby several years ago. Since the Blessed Virgin is known for her protection of all creatures, we're sure she wouldn't mind letting a pigeon use her statue as a resting place.

WORD FOR SUNDAY

Father Albert Skamon

Sunday's Readings: (R1) Eccl. 1:2, 2:21-23 (R2) Col. 3:1-5, 9-11 (R3) Lk. 12:13-21.

In John XXIII's autobiographical book *Journal of a Soul* (a book I heartily recommend to all religious and clergy), this wonderful Pontiff made some timely observations about the Church and Politics. He titled this section "The practice of prudence by the Pope and by the Bishops" (pp. 307-308). Here are a few excerpts:

"The sublime work, holy and divine, which the Pope must do for the whole Church, and which the Bishops must do each in his own diocese, is to preach the Gospel and guide men to their eternal salvation, and all must take care not to let any other earthly business prevent or impede or disturb this primary task. The impediment may most easily arise from human judgments in the political sphere."

"The Bishops are more exposed to the temptation of meddling immoderately in matters that are not their concern, and it is for this reason that the Pope must admonish them not to take part in any political or controversial question and not declare for one section or faction rather than another. They are to preach to all alike, and in general terms, justice, charity, humility, meekness, gentleness and the other evangelical virtues, courteously defending the rights of the Church when these are violated or compromised."

"He must with more assiduous and fervent prayer earnestly seek to promote divine worship among the faithful frequent use of the sacraments and above all he must encourage religious instruction because this also will help to solve problems of the merely temporal order, and do much better than ordinary human measures can."

These norms seemed to have been inspired by Jesus' words in Sunday's Gospel. Someone came to Him and wanted Him to interfere in a purely civil matter. "Teacher, my brother won't give me my share of our inheritance," Jesus replied. "Friend, my job is not to judge about such matters." However, Jesus then went on and spoke in general terms about greed, and with the parable of a rich but greedy farmer. He further illustrated the folly of greed.

It is sometimes charged that Christianity only seeks the

salvation of man and does not concern itself about other human interests. To see the lie in this allegation, one need only peruse the document of Vatican II on the "Church in the Modern World."

Jesus assigns top priority to the salvation of mankind. He branded the farmer a fool precisely because he had made no provisions for the life beyond this life. Yet he always sympathized with others in their needs. He fed 5,000 with five loaves, for He had compassion on the crowds.

Why, then, did Jesus refuse to interfere in the dispute narrated in the Gospel? It was not because He did not care about temporalities. The reason for His "hands-off" policy was because He saw that the evil in the situation sprang from the heart. The problem was greed.

So often we seek to correct social problems by laws, by revolution, by strikes and boycotts. These really solve nothing, for they leave the human heart unchanged. Jesus went deeper, to the heart of the problem by going to the heart. He sought reform from within, not from without. Thus Jesus set the pattern for the relationship of Christianity to political questions: it must be spiritual, a preaching of justice and charity.

Again in one of the greatest social encyclicals of all times *Rerum Novarum* ("On the Condition of the Working Classes"), Pope Leo XIII enunciated the selfsame principles loud and clear. Consider, ponder, meditate on his words:

"Neither must it be supposed that the solicitude of the Church is so preoccupied with the spiritual concerns of her children as to neglect their temporal and earthly interests. Her desire is that the poor, for example, should rise above poverty and wretchedness, and better their condition in life; and for this she makes a strong endeavor. By the very fact that she calls men to virtue and forms them to its practice, she promotes this in no slight degree. Christian morality, when adequately and completely practiced, leads of itself to temporal prosperity, for it merits the blessing of that God who is the source of all blessings; it powerfully restrains the greed of possession and the thirst for pleasure — twin plagues, which too often make a man who is void of self-restraint miserable in the midst of abundance" (#23).

Equality for Women Stressed to Serrans

London [RNS] — A leading U.S. Roman Catholic nun suggested to participants in a convention of Serra International — an organization promoting vocations to the priesthood — that they might work "consciously toward equality and recognition of the gifts of women as women in the Church."

She indicated that if groups like Serra seek the collaboration of women and women religious in the work of vocations, it would only be "honest" that these groups help the Church "provide a forum" in which women are encouraged to resolve questions of their own place in the Church.

Sister Margaret Brennan, general superior of the Sisters Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Monroe, Mich., in a series of questions about women's status in the Church, asked if men are "allowing women to decide who they are" or if "an unresolved male consciousness" is being threatened by the "emerging feminine consciousness?"

With specific reference to Serra, she asked: "How do we promote vocations to women in the Church when there is obvious inequality in the Church? Does this mean that an organization such as the Serra Club, if it is to be honest, must work consciously toward the equality and recognition of the gifts of women as women in the Church?"

More than 1,000 Serra delegates and guests took part in the convention. They represented more than 11,000 persons in 37

clubs in 30 countries. Among other speakers at the gathering were Cardinal John Wright, prefect of the Vatican Congregation for the Clergy, and Cardinal John Heenan of Westminster.

After elaborating on the "qualities of women" expressed in the Old and New Testaments and considering what the Scriptures "call forth women to be and to do in Church and family," Sister Margaret said that women in the Church today must look to the "active participation" of their predecessors as a model.

Noting that "Judith . . . Mary and Martha," made their own decisions, performed their own deeds and responded in their own way to the reality of their situation, she said:

"Thus, it would seem that Christian women today are called to an active role in the life of the Church — to make decisions for themselves and perhaps to take drastic measures for the sake of God's people."

Declaring that one is also struck by the courage and steadfastness of women in Scripture, Sister Margaret said, "Perhaps we women today need to take courage in our own personal somewhat embattled lives. More importantly, perhaps courage is what we can offer — courage to take unusual steps, risky steps, courage to continue at a moment of history where all of life seems at times to be a gigantic STOP sign."

Yet, Sister Margaret added, "we have only begun to ask these questions of women in the Church, and there are not definite answers yet — only questions, possibilities and great hopes."

"I'm making \$30 a week more."



Patty Morrison, Sawyer Graduate

I got a better job because of Sawyer training. Now I'm a skilled secretary with real responsibility, and the paycheck to prove it. I have the extra money to do what I want. My own apartment. New clothes. Everything. Because I went to Sawyer. They even helped me find a job. Don't you want a better job and more money? I thank my Sawyer training every payday. You can, too. Call or write for your free booklet today.



917 Main St. East
Rochester, New York 14605
[716] 244-1290

Please send me your free, illustrated brochure. Without obligation, of course.

Name _____
Street _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
Last grade completed _____ Age _____



Aquinas VP

Father Dennis M. Andrews, CSB, has been named vice principal of Aquinas Institute. He succeeds Father Richard J. Allard, who has been appointed secretary to the Superior General for the Basilian Fathers Community in Toronto.

Father Andrews, a native of Detroit, is a 1965 graduate of the University of St. Thomas, Houston, Tex. He holds a Master of Arts degree from the University of Detroit, and a Master of Divinity from St. Michael's, Toronto. His teaching experience has been at St. Thomas High School in Houston and Michael Power High School, Toronto, where he served also as coordinator of the guidance department.

COURIER DEADLINE

The Courier-Journal deadline is noon Thursday for articles intended for the following Wednesday edition.

LOLL'S PHARMACY

R. C. LOLL, PHARMACIST

PRESCRIPTIONS

OUR MAIN BUSINESS

OPEN TIL 11 P.M. DAILY

903 DAVIS ST. ELMIRA

RE 2-6674

The greatest LOVE (bug) STORY ever told!

WALT DISNEY PRODUCTIONS

HERBIE RIDES AGAIN

TECHNICOLOR

HELEN KEN STEFANE JOHN KEENAN
HAYES BERRY POWERS McINTIRE WYNN

Screenplay by BILL WALSH - GARDEN BLUETT Produced by BILL WALSH - Directed by ROBERT STEVENSON
Released by BUENA VISTA DISTRIBUTION CO., INC. © 1974 Walt Disney Productions

MATINEES DAILY AT BOTH JO-MOR THEATRES!
1:30 — 3:30 — 5:30 — 7:30 — 9:30

AIR-CONDITIONED AIR-CONDITIONED
TOWNE I & II STUTSON
OPP. SOUTHTOWN PL. 473-7660 STUTSON BRIDGE PLAZA 342-7550

Win a 1974 Volkswagen — Entry blanks available at any of the four Roch. Volkswagen Dealers! Be sure to see "Herbie" in-the Towne and Stutson Theatre lobbies!