

# President Ford Asks People 'Confirm Me by Your Prayers'

Washington, D.C. [RNS] — Acknowledging that he had not been elected by ballot, Gerald R. Ford asked the American people to confirm him as President "by your prayers."

The 38th President made the appeal after he was sworn in as successor to Richard M. Nixon by Chief Justice Warren Burger.

Mr. Ford pledged an Administration based on truth, and he prayed that the "higher power" whose nature is love, justice and mercy will "purge our hearts of suspicion and hate."

The new Chief Executive asked for the nation's prayers for himself as he takes the burdens of the Presidency and for prayers for Mr. Nixon and his family. "May our former President who brought peace to millions find it for himself," he said.

In his talk following the brief ceremony, the new President said he will always "do what is right as God gives me to see the right."

He pledged "uninterrupted and sincere search for peace" and declared that "truth is the glue that holds government together."

Mrs. Ford, the former Elizabeth Bloomer, stood with her husband as Chief Justice Burger administered the oath of office. The couple's four children were in the audience.

The new President is a man who makes no secret of his personal faith; at the same time, friends say, he never "wears his religion on his sleeve." The family is known in Washington and Grand Rapids, Mich., its home town, for its simple, religious life.



President and Mrs. Gerald Rudolph Ford

In religion as in politics, Mr. Ford, an Episcopal layman, tends to be conservative. He is a traditionalist with strong commitment to the family, patriotism and hard work.

The 61-year-old former Michigan congressman was named last year to replace Vice President Spiro T. Agnew. He became the first person in U.S. history to achieve the Presidency through the resignation of his predecessor.

As a congressman and as Vice President, Mr. Ford made his capital home in Alexandria, Va., where he is an active member of Immanuel-on-the-Hill Episcopal Church. He takes part in a prayer group with colleagues in government, and evangelist Billy Graham is a friend and golfing companion.

Michael Ford, the President's oldest son, and his wife, Gayle

Ann, are both divinity students at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, a conservative evangelical school in South Hamilton, Mass.

President Ford's views on foreign and domestic affairs are similar to those of former President Nixon.

"I would say I am a moderate on domestic issues, a conservative in fiscal affairs and a dyed-in-the-wool internationalist in foreign affairs," Mr. Ford once said.

Some consider him a conservative on domestic issues. In Congress, he voted against most social welfare bills. He strongly opposed busing as a means of achieving racial balance in public schools, and he attempted on various occasions to soften civil rights acts. President Ford has in the past backed limited use of capital punishment. In 1970, he led an unsuccessful attempt to impeach Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas.

## Cover Art

Page One graphics are by Brother Placid Stuckenschneider, OSB.



## The Nixon Years

Richard M. Nixon's five-and-a-half year term of office, which ended with his resignation as the 37th President of the United States on Aug. 9, 1974, was marked by major achievements in foreign affairs and a series of scandals which led to his becoming the first President in U.S. history to resign from office.

Upper Left — President Nixon is surrounded by a sea of helmets as he greets combat troops during a 1969 visit to Vietnam. Although the Vietnam war was inherited by Mr. Nixon, it continued during his first four years in office. In early 1973, after years of negotiations, a cease-fire agreement was reached and American personnel were withdrawn.

Upper Center — Communist Chinese Chairman Mao Tse-tung (right) greets Mr. Nixon during the President's summit conference in Peking during February 1972. In addition to Mr. Nixon's historic visit, the Nixon years saw the People's Republic of China

join the United Nations and begin diplomatic relations with the United States.

Upper Right — Soviet Communist Party leader Leonid I. Brezhnev and President Nixon sign a communique detailing their discussions and agreements on a variety of issues at Mr. Nixon's estate in San Clemente, Calif., during Mr. Brezhnev's visit to the U.S. in June 1973. In their three summit meetings, the Soviet and American leaders moved their two countries into a period of detente.

Lower Left — Through the efforts of President Nixon's Secretary of State, Henry Kissinger, hopes for peace in the Middle East grew during late 1973 and early 1974. After war broke out in the troubled area in October 1973, Mr. Kissinger was instrumental in achieving agreements between the Arab states of Egypt and Syria and Israel. Here, Mr. Nixon points out something to former Israeli

Premier Golda Meir during her November 1973 visit to the White House. Mr. Kissinger is at right.

Lower Center — Washington's Watergate office-apartment complex, scene of an aborted burglary of the Democratic National Committee headquarters in June 1972, became the symbol of a myriad of scandals which rocked the Nixon Administration and eventually led to the President's resignation.

Lower Right — Spiro Agnew (left) and Richard Nixon accept delegates' cheers following their nomination for re-election at the August 1972 Republican National Convention in Miami Beach. In the November elections, they were re-elected by a landslide margin. The following October, Mr. Agnew resigned the Vice Presidency in disgrace and did not contest a charge of income tax evasion. Ten months later, Mr. Nixon, after admitting a role in the Watergate cover-up, also resigned. [RNS]

## OFFICE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

St. Bernard's Seminary, 2280 Lake Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14612  
Director of Continuing Education: Sister Anne Mary Doolay, S.S.J.  
Phone: (716) 254-1020

The Continuing Education for Pastoral Ministry Program of St. Bernard's Seminary in its second year of development is endeavoring to offer courses to meet the educational needs of priests, religious and laity in understanding and activating post-Vatican II theology in Rochester and in the Auburn and Elmira areas.

Semester courses are credit courses. (Auditors may enroll.) Mini-courses and workshops are non-credit. Tuition rates are: \$55 per credit hour for semester courses; 50% for auditors. A limited number of grants are available and are awarded according to demonstrated financial need.

Mini-course rates are indicated with each course listing. Inquiries about group rates for mini-courses are invited.

The Seminary reserves the right to cancel any course for which there is insufficient registration. In such cases, registrants will be notified one week prior to scheduled starting time.

## PROGRAM FOR FALL SEMESTER 1974

### AUBURN

All courses will be held at Holy Family School, North Street. To register, please write to the above address or contact Sister Dorothy Quinn, St. Mary's Convent, 40 Clymer Street, Auburn, N.Y. 13021; Phone: (315) 253-7783.

**MAJOR BIBLICAL THEMES** Semester course — 2 credit hours  
Professor: Reverend Albert Shamon; Time: Sept. 4 — Dec. 18, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Registration Dates: August 19-August 29, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

This course seeks to probe in depth some themes that undergird Christian theology: sin and hope; grace; covenant and redemption; suffering servant and the Matthean Gospel. Many of the new insights in post-Vatican II theology owe their origin to a re-discovery of the Bible. The course shows how the Old Testament is revealed in the New and how the New is concealed in the Old. The study will focus on four books in particular: Genesis, Exodus, Second-Isaiah, and Matthew.

### LECTOR WORKSHOP

Rev. William Graf and Team  
Fri., Nov. 8, 7:30-9:30 p.m.; Sat., Nov. 9, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (Bring bag lunch) Registration: August 19-Nov. 1, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost: \$20

This course presents a theology of ministry centering on the role of the lector: an overview of the Old Testament and the New Testament; practicum. Participants have the experience of reading before a group, and also of viewing themselves on video-tape (if this can be arranged).

**PRAYING THE PSALMS** mini-course Rev. Joseph P. Brennan  
Fri., Nov. 22, 7:30-9:30 p.m. and Sat., Nov. 23, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (Bring bag lunch) Registration: August 19-Nov. 15, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost: \$20

This course is an introduction to the life-setting of the Psalms, with an attempt to show why the Church has always utilized these ancient prayers so extensively in her worship and how they can be meaningful for us today.

### ELMIRA

All courses will be held at St. Joseph's Hospital, Market Street. To register, please write to the Office of Continuing Education at the above address, or contact Sister Clare Francis, St. Patrick's Junior High, 517 Park Place, Elmira, New York 14901; Phone: (607) 734-0336.

**DEATH: A MEASURE OF ACCEPTANCE** mini-course Rev. John S. Hayes  
Tues., Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 8:00-10:00 p.m. Registration: August 26-Sept. 24, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost: \$20

This seminar will include the following topics: Manipulation of Life; Consolation of Faith; Death with Dignity and Life after Death.

**PRAYING THE PSALMS** mini-course Rev. Joseph P. Brennan  
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This course is an introduction to the life-setting of the Psalms, with an attempt to show why the Church has always utilized these ancient prayers so extensively in her worship and how they can be meaningful for us today.

**LECTOR WORKSHOP** Rev. William Graf and Team  
Fri., Nov. 22, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Sat., Nov. 23, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (Bring bag lunch) Registration: August 26-Nov. 15, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost: \$20

This course presents a theology of ministry centering on the role of the lector: an overview of the Old Testament and the New Testament; practicum. Participants have the experience of reading before a group, and also of viewing themselves on video-tape (if this can be arranged).

### ROCHESTER

All courses will be held at St. Bernard's Seminary. To register, please contact the Office of Continuing Education or the Academic Office.

**ISSUES IN CONTEMPORARY URBAN MINISTRY** Semester course — 2 credit hours  
Registration: August 19-August 29, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

This course will focus on groups in transition: acculturation and community organization as direct and dynamic challenges to effective Christian ministry in our urban area today.

**PARISH WORSHIP TRAINING: FORMATION OF TEAM LEADERSHIP** Semester course, 2 CR. HRS.  
Professor: Sister Margaret Mary Mattie et al. Time: Sat., Sept. 28, Oct. 26, Nov. 23, and one other session; also, individual research and supervised field experience; 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Registration: August 19-August 29, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

This course is geared to persons preparing for, or engaged in, leadership roles in the area of Parish Worship Committee. The seminar sessions explore four major areas: ritual, scriptural themes, faith-community development and communication arts; sessions are structured to include observation of and team participation in actual parish training.

**JESUS, MAN OF PRAYER** mini-course Canon John Townroe  
Tues., Sept. 10, 17, Sun., Sept. 29, Tues., Oct. 1, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Registration: August 19-Sept. 3, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost: \$20

Course focus is on Jesus, man of prayer, in the days of his flesh; Jesus, man of prayer, seen by the early Church as the eternal high priest; Jesus, man of prayer, known by us in the Spirit as the praying Christ in the world today. What is distinctive about Christian prayer; Christian and non-Christian attitudes; the meaning of spirituality; implications for growth in prayer; the practice of intercession, meditation and contemplation; the fullness of Christ and the freedom of the Spirit; contemporary problems — darkness and light in the presence of God — the way to wholeness — "The glory of God is a living man, the life of the man is the vision of God."

**CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP IN A TECHNOLOGICAL WORLD** mini-course Mr. Mark Gibbs  
Fri., Nov. 1, 7:30-9:30 p.m.; Sat., Nov. 2, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Registration: August 19-October 25, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost: \$20

The course will center on the educational mission of the Church from the perspective of helping Christian laity to grow in understanding of their specifically lay and secular vocations.

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