

# 200th Anniversary Noted At Mother Seton Mass

A Mass commemorating the birth 200 years ago of Blessed Mother Seton was offered Sunday noon at St. Mary's Hospital.

Father John Rosse, chaplain, celebrated the Mass for the Women's Board and urged prayers for the canonization of their patroness.

Bishop James E. Kearney attended the celebration, which was broadcast on closed circuit television for patients unable to come to the chapel.

Mother Seton, who was beatified March 17, 1963, founded the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent DePaul. Members of this order established St. Mary's Hospital in 1857. It is speculated that Mother Seton may be declared a saint during the coming Holy Year.

She was born an Episcopalian and converted to the Catholic faith following her husband's death. Coming from a strict Protestant family, Mother Seton endured the hardships of rejection by family and friends, and of financial need in the raising of her five children.

Her interest in the Catholic faith and dedication to the poor led her to organize the Daughters of Charity, which she modeled after the French Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent DePaul. She and members of the new order founded many schools for poor children.

Born Elizabeth Ann Bayley on Aug. 28, 1774 in New York, she was brought up to a comfortable style of living. Her father, Dr. Richard Bayley, was the first professor of anatomy at Columbia College and achieved prominence for his work as a health officer in the Port of New York. Her mother, Catherine Charlton, the daughter of an Anglican minister, died when Elizabeth was three years old. Dr. Bayley subsequently married a woman strongly devoted to the Anglican faith. Elizabeth was baptized in the Church where her grandfather once served as curate.

At the age of 20, she married William Magee Seton, owner of a financially unstable business. She and her husband became the guardians of his family at his father's death. In addition to the large orphaned family, she had three girls and two boys of her own.

Because of Mr. Seton's failing health, Elizabeth and the eldest daughter accompanied him to Italy where they stayed with the Filicchi family, business friends.

After Mr. Seton's death in 1803, she remained in Italy, where she became interested in Catholicism. Through Mr.



Blessed Mother Elizabeth Seton

Filicchi, she was able to correspond with Bishop Carroll of Baltimore, who arranged her reception into the Catholic faith in 1805, at St. Peter's Church in New York. The resultant hostility of relatives and friends left her in straitened circumstances. Father Dubourg, SS, from St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, came to her assistance by suggesting that she open a school for girls.

In 1808, Elizabeth opened a school for Catholic children adjacent to the seminary. Being near the convent gave her the

chance to explore the religious life. An opportunity to start a school for poor children led her to Emmitsburg, Md., where she founded the Daughters of Charity in 1809.

By 1812, the new order had drawn many members.

Mother Seton was elected three times as superior of her order, each time against her will. On Jan. 4, 1821, at the age of 47, she died of a pulmonary infection, after 13 years of unselfish service to the poor.



## Scout Retreat

Recently more than 500 Boy Scouts attended a retreat at St. Bernard's Seminary. The theme was Reach Out and featured varied events. Above, Father Joseph Brennan talks with Scouts in the chapel. Below left, seminarian John DeSocio reaches out to a Scout, Thomas Mull from Waterloo chats with retreatants. At bottom, Boy Scouts and seminarians hold discussion session on the seminary lawn.



## Father Darling Named To Regional Position

Father William Darling has been appointed assistant coordinator for the Livingston-Steuben Region. It was announced last week by Father Douglas Hoffman, director of Pastoral Ministry.

Father Darling will be assisting Father Eugene Sweeney, regional coordinator.

Father Darling has a bachelor of arts degree from St. John Fisher College which he attended from Becket Hall, the diocesan house of studies for men contemplating the priesthood. He has a bachelor of divinity degree from St. Bernard's Seminary.

He has been associate pastor at St. Mary's, Dansville, since his ordination on April 27, 1973.

## News from Hornell

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### FR. HAYES SET TO SPEAK AT ST. ANN'S

Hornell — Father John S. Hayes, pastor of St. Patrick's Church, Aurora, will present a series of talks titled Search for an Authentic Christian as a part of St. Ann's Church Adult Religious Education Program.

The four-part series will take place consecutive Tuesday evenings, beginning Nov. 12 at 8 p.m. in St. Ann's school hall.

The discussions will deal with life, faith and death in a philosophical, theological background, with heavy emphasis on Sacred Scripture and literature, a combination of contemporary and traditional ideas," he says, which make up the "authentic Christian."

### RELIGIOUS ED.

Hornell — Religious in-

structions for high school students unable to attend the Tuesday morning classes will be held in St. Ignatius Loyola Hall on Sunday evenings from 7 to 7:45 p.m. Classes began Nov. 3.

### ILLUMINATION

Bath — In the very near future, the buildings of St. Mary's will be illuminated at night. The work is being planned by the Parish Council under the chairmanship of Joseph Hudzinski and the direction of Arthur Bell of the Bath Gas and Electric Co. Father John O'Malley said, "much sacrifice went into all these buildings and we are sure all the parishioners will be pleased and proud when they see the beauty of these edifices stand out in the light at night."

### TEEN DANCE

Bath — St. Mary's Sodality sponsors a dance for all teenagers on Saturday, Nov. 16 in the hall. Music will be provided by the Clockwork.

### CENACLE PROGRAM

The program of activities for the remainder of the year at the Cenacle Retreat House includes a general retreat led by Sisters Marie Halligan and Constance Quinn, Nov. 1-3; Pentecostal retreat, Father Linus Hennessy, OFM, Nov. 8-10; ecumenical institute, Rev. Charles Taylor, Nov. 11-14; general retreat, Father Bernard Bush Nov. 15-17; day of recollection in the Presbyterian tradition, Nov. 23; day of recollection for St. Margaret Mary's Parish, Father Gary Shaw, Nov. 24; women's Cursillo, Nov. 28-Dec. 1; Advent general retreat, Father Sebastian Falcone, Dec. 6-8.

For further information on Cenacle programs call Sister Halligan (716) 271-8755. The Cenacle is located at 693 East Ave.

## High School Seniors And Their Parents Are Invited To The


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