

National Figures Slated for 'Life' Convention Here

Delegates to the State Right to Life convention here in September will hear addresses from a number of national figures. Among those slated to speak to the conventioners are Dr. Mildred Jefferson, president of the National Right to Life Committee; Senator James Buckley; Rev. Charles Carroll, author and official observer at the Nuremberg Trials; Mark Tuohy, former Rochester Commissioner of Public Safety.

The convention will open with a reception on Friday, Sept. 26, hosted by Mrs. Johanna Jankowski, president of New York State Right to Life. Later that evening a fund-raising dinner for Rochester Right to Life will feature Rev. Carroll and Tuohy.

Senator Buckley and Dr. Jefferson will speak on Saturday. Senator Buckley's keynote ad-

dress will incorporate an historical review of the right to life since the founding of the United States.

The bicentennial theme will be carried out in a variety of workshops, also slated for Saturday.

Sunday's program will include religious services and the State Annual Report to Right to Life groups.

All of the convention events will be held at the Holiday Inn Downtown. Area right to lifeers preparing for the occasion include William Polito, Muriel Trunfio, Joan Hanna, Jean Sweeney, and Helen Greene.

Further information on the dinner or on the convention is available through Carol Reichert (716) 342-8849.

The Church 1975



Fr. Andrew Greeley

"Fundamental theology" is alive and well.

That's what we used to call it in the seminary. You lay folk called it "apologetics," in the good old days of Healy's "Moral Guidance."

Whatever it was called it was washed down the drain by "new" methods of religious instruction and Baptism of the Holy Spirit. If you don't think it matters whether there is a God and if you are convinced that the Spirit speaks to the heart and not the head, you hardly need a rational introduction to religion.

But for those few Catholics who still think that human reason is important and that religious commitment must be reasonable even if it ultimately transcends reason, there is a new book which quite explicitly purports to be about fundamental theology.

By the time you get into the first chapter of David Tracy's "Blessed Rage for Order," you will perceive that it is not like any fundamental theology book you ever had to read in the old days. Who to begin with, could imagine an apologetics text with a title from Wallace Stevens? Indeed, who ever heard of Wallace Stevens — even in the good old days?

And by the time you are finished with the book, you will realize that you are in the presence of one of the best theologians of our time. A Protestant colleague, not given to excessive praise, said of young Father Tracy that he is a world-class theologian.

The book is an essay in theological methodology (a

statement surely calculated to frighten off those few Catholic readers who don't think tongue-speaking or socialism are the only religious responses appropriate in our time). But theologians have to be concerned about methodology, partly because much of contemporary thinking challenged the possibility of theology, and partly because such undisciplined romantics as Mary Daly and La Furiosa (Rosemary Reuther) act as though theology is not thought but unrestrained emotion (mostly hatred).

However, Father Tracy's methodology is something more than just an academic exercise. He provides a way out of the present dilemma of Catholicism by showing how both reason and experience combine to produce religions. Indeed he demonstrates that the opposition between the two — which I think is at the heart of much current Catholic confusion — is the result of misunderstanding both of the nature of religious experience and the nature of theological reflection on that experience.

The book is a work of vast intellectual synthesis — the beginning of a new systematic theology which will be a landmark for decades to come, I hope. But it also provides the perspectives from which new homiletics and new catechetics can begin. Like every good theoretical work it has immense practical implications.

Tracy has woven together the major religious thinkers of our time — Ricoeur, Whitehead, Lonergan, Rahner, Tillich, Pannenburg, Scott, Ramsay — and some of the most influential modern writers who are not theologians — Geertz, Luckmann, Berger, Richards, Black. He has also managed to include the latest exegetical work on the parables and at the same time do full and appropriate honor to Thomas Aquinas.

Not exactly light reading for the beach, perhaps, but "Blessed Rage for Order" is nonetheless always clear and comprehensible. It may take two readings, but it's worth at least that many. And Bernard Lonergan's pledge to return the favor and translate David Tracy's thought into English will not have to be redeemed.

3 to Attend Nuns Meeting

Three women religious leaders in the diocese will attend the annual National Assembly of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) in St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 24-28.

They are Sister Mary Judith Heberle, superior general of the Sisters of Mercy; Sister Jamesine Riley, superior general of the Sisters of St. Joseph; and sister Rosalma Hayes, a member of the Central Team of the sisters of St. Joseph.

They will join 500 major superiors, representing 365 religious congregations of women in the United States, to probe the assembly theme, "Promises to Keep."

Sister Mary Daniel Turner, executive director of the LCWR National Secretariat in Washington, D.C., and Sister Nadine Foley, member of the General Council of the Dominican Sisters of Adrian, Michigan, will deliver the keynote addresses.

GOLDEN AGERS

The Southwest Golden Age Group will meet Friday, Aug. 22, at 34 Monica St. at 1:30 p.m.

BARBECUE, FESTIVAL

Trumansburg — St. James Parish will hold a beef and pork Barbecue and Festival at the Trumansburg Fairgrounds from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 23. Features of the event include the Camp McCormack

"Mountaineers" Drum and Bugle Corps, display and sale of arts and crafts, an all day tag sale, a farmers market and a blood pressure booth. Also included are a frog jumping contest, races for children, a cake booth, and a pantry sale of homemade foods.



21st Annual COUNTRY FAIR

●

St. Pius Tenth Church
3000 Chili Ave.

Sat. & Sun.
Aug. 23 & 24

Featuring a Ham Supper!

WHEN YOU FILL OUT THIS COUPON

YOU ARE SAVING A LIFE



It's as simple as that!

Missionaries carrying the teachings of Christ to those who have not heard... also do many other things. They work as the hands of Christ, bringing His love and consolation to the sick, the starving and the poor. They, with your help, help save lives.

When you HELP the missionary, by filling out this coupon, **YOU ARE SAVING A LIFE.**

TO HELP YOU HELP THEM

...because we are one in the faith, because I want to share my blessings with all God's people, I am pleased to send my gift of \$ _____ C/ 8/20/75

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH



Send your gift to:
Most Rev. Edward T. O'Meara,
National Director
Dept. C, 366 Fifth Avenue
New York 10001

OR:

Rev. Joseph F. Reinhart
Diocesan Director
123 East Avenue
Rochester, New York 14604
716-454-2926

M. L. ALLEN & SON

Corning, N.Y.

Quality Furniture

62 Bridge St.

Phone 936-8431

A. W. BEILBY & SON

Funeral Home

James Rotsell
Darrell O'Brian
Arthur Grabowski
139 Walnut St.
Dial 936-9121
Corning, N.Y.