

PASTORAL PERSPECTIVE

By Bishop Joseph L. Hogan

The Jewish People — First to Hear the Word

As we all enjoy these golden days of September, filled with sunshine and the fresh smells of the harvest, we cannot help but rejoice with our Jewish friends and neighbors. It is during this month of September that they celebrate some of the most important festivals of their religious calendar.



The first of these holy days is the celebration of the New Year, Rosh Hashanah, the year 5736 in the Jewish enumeration. On this day, the shofar is sounded in the synagogue, heralding the beginning of the penitential days to follow and calling Jews to new reflection on the quality of their lives. At dinner, Jewish people dip bread into honey and pray: "May it be your will, O Lord our God and God of our Fathers, to renew unto us a good and sweet year," and they greet one another with the words: "May you be inscribed in the book of life for a good year."

In the next ten days, a period of penance is undertaken which culminates in the most sacred day, Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. On this day, Jews confess their sins before God and are assured of His forgiving and cleansing love. It is a day of prayer and strict fast, but also a day of great joy in being reconciled with their God. The

day ends at sundown as the shofar is sounded again.

Five days later, another festival begins, this known as Sukkot. This is a seven-day festival recalling the days in the wilderness when the Israelites dwelt in tents. In some Jewish homes during this time, small huts or booths are constructed in the yard and covered with green branches. Meals are often served there and the people are reminded of their ancestors' time of hardship and simple lifestyle.

The final day of Sukkot brings the celebration of Simchat Torah, "Rejoicing in the Torah." It is on this day that the cycle of readings from the Torah is completed and the cycle is once more begun with a reading from the book of Genesis. The scrolls are all taken from the Ark and are carried joyfully around the synagogue while the people rejoice in the fact that God has spoken to them and has given them His Word.

I do hope that we Catholics, as we see our Jewish friends celebrating these happy days, are reminded that we are very much indebted to the Jewish heritage. Spiritually, we are all Jews. Jesus was born and raised as a Jew. Mary and all of the Apostles were Jews; the Father of Jesus is the Father of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Paul was a rabbi and much of his thinking (which has so influenced the Church) was learned in the Jewish tradition. Our liturgy of the Word is closely paralleled with the synagogue service. Readings from the Old Testament and the singing of Psalms unite us in prayer to the same God.

I remember very vividly the Sunday afternoon last October when we celebrated the Holy Year of Reconciliation at Sacred Heart Cathedral. I was dressed in a chasuble that had been made from a Jewish prayer shawl. As we entered the door of the Cathedral, Raddi Judea Miller blew the shofar, as had been the custom in the Old Testament at the beginning of the year of Release, the year of Jubilee. This was for me a forceful reminder of the fact that Jew and Gentile do indeed worship the "God of our Fathers."

As Jewish people around the world now begin a new year, they do so with many hardships. In many places, they are still persecuted either because of their religious beliefs or simply because they are Jews. Certainly there is no place in a Christian's life for any such persecution, even by the smallest remark that might embarrass or hurt other children of God. May we see to it that we remember this and teach it to our children, in order that hatred among God's people might cease. And may we resolve to pray often for the Jewish people, as we should for all people. Perhaps the prayer that the Church offers in the Liturgy of Good Friday would be the best words that could come to our lips:

"Let us pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the Word of God, that they may continue to grow in the love of His name and in faithfulness to his covenant."

Father Turner To Be Ordained

"If you remain in my love, you will reap a rich harvest," is the theme for the Friday evening ordination of Father John Turner to the priesthood.

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan will confer orders on the deacon intern at St. Margaret Mary's Church Sept. 26 at 7:30 p.m.

Father Turner attended St. Mary's School in Canandaigua, Aquinas Institute and St. John Fisher College-Becket Hall, where he earned a BA in Philosophy. He earned his M. Div. from St. Bernard's Seminary. Father Turner took his Clinical Pastoral Education at King's View Mental Hospital in Reedley, Calif., and pursued further studies in hospital ministry at Memorial Hospital in San Leandro, Calif., where he earned a certificate of internship from the Vesper Society. He has also worked with the Catholic Youth Organization as a regional youth coordinator.



FATHER TURNER

Father Turner's announcements were sent in the names of his father Thomas R. Turner, formerly of Canandaigua, and his sister, Sister Dolores Turner, SSJ.

Father Maloney Switches Parishes

Father John S. Maloney, the ex-paratroop chaplain who has spent the greater part of his civilian priesthood at Immaculate Conception in downtown Ithaca, will move to the suburban parish of St. Catherine of Siena on Oct. 1.

The pastoral Office appointed him last week to succeed Msgr. William Roche. His own successor has not been named.

Father Maloney has been pastor of Immaculate Conception since 1967. For the seven previous years he had been administrator of the parish, and from 1948 until 1954, an assistant there.

He was a World War II chaplain, from 1942 until October 1945. As a member of the Army's 101st airborne division, he parachuted into Normandy on D-

Day and later was decorated for that action and for heroism during the Battle of the Bulge. He holds the Distinguished Service Cross, the presidential Citation with Oakleaf Cluster and the Purple Heart, as well as citations from the governments of Belgium and the Netherlands. He is a member of the Legion of Valor and was named its national chaplain in 1970. He retired with the rank of major.

Father Maloney is a native of Elmira. He prepared for the priesthood at St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries and was ordained in 1936. He has served as an assistant at Blessed Sacrament, Rochester; St. Patrick's, Elmira; St. Margaret Mary, Irondequoit; Our Lady of Lourdes, Elmira and St. Mary of the Lake, Watkins Glen, and also, briefly, as spiritual director at St. Bernard's.

NEXT WEEK:
Special Section on Canonization of St. Elizabeth including complete Text of Homily of Pope Paul VI.

'Wake-up' Forum Set for Greece

Operation Wake-Up will present an educational forum on "The Hidden Dangers of ERA" at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 30 in the Greece Town Hall. Mary Margaret Hober, Wake-Up chairman, and these guests will speak: State Senator Fred Eckert, Leo Kesselring, chairman of the Conservative Party, Michael Macaluso Jr., chairman of Citizens for a Decent Community.

Operation Wake-Up is a coalition of organizations united to defeat the Equal Rights Amendment. Their stated purpose is to inform the public on how the ERA may threaten privileges and protections traditionally granted women by law.

DeValera Mass Set

A Memorial Mass for the late president of Ireland, Eamon DeValera, has been scheduled by the Ancient Order of Hibernians at 11:15 a.m., Sunday, Sept. 28, at Sacred Heart Cathedral. Father Joseph Dorsey, president of St. John Fisher College, will celebrate Mass and deliver the eulogy.

All Irish Societies and everyone else are invited to commemorate the Irish leader whose ambition was for the welfare and freedom and the uniting of all Ireland.

All are asked to assemble at 11 a.m. to march in a body into the Cathedral, to seats reserved in the center aisle.

Mr. DeValera died Aug. 29 at the age of 92.

Celebration to Mark Hospital Restoration

Elmira — St. Joseph's Hospital has scheduled dedication ceremonies of its life supporting facilities for 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 28. The event, billed as a Celebration of Life, marks the restoration of the hospital's lower level that was ruined by the flood of 1972. Damages at that time were estimated at \$7 million.

As a reminder of that catastrophe the ceremonies will be held, if weather permits, on the Rehabilitation: Roof Garden, from which patients were evacuated during the flood.

The dedication coincides with the week of the 67th anniversary of St. Joseph's Hospital and the completion of renovations and

DSC Seats New Members

The Diocesan Sisters Council seated several new members, Sept. 13 and resumed discussion of bread-and-butter issues left over from last term. The problem closest to solution seemed to be the sisters' "living needs."

All the sisters in the diocese will be asked to comment on current salary proposals at a

series of regional meetings scheduled for the next few weeks.

Bishop John E. McCafferty and Sister Jamesine Riley, superior general of the Sisters of St. Joseph, the order which operates the hospital, will attend the ecumenical service. Father Richard Armstrong, MM, director of the Christophers, also will participate in the celebration. The Celebrate Life folk group from St. Mary Our Mother Parish in Horseheads will perform.

Fathers Douglas Hoffman and Daniel Brent talked about the report on Long-Range Ministerial Needs, and the sisters recommended that their council and the Priests Council set up a committee to study ways of implementing the report's 32 proposals. This committee would report to Bishop Joseph L. Hogan.

The DSC has arranged a workshop on matters of intimate concern to women in religious life. It is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 19, 1-5:30 p.m., at Mercy High School. Some topics are: Vows in Today's World, Relating Prayer and Ministry, and Coping with Change. Commenting on the program after the meeting, Sister Mary John, SSJ, pointed out that there would be no "outside" speakers. "We are tapping our own great reservoir of talent," she said.

Sister Mary Judith Heberle, RSM, and Sister Jamesine Riley, SSJ, superiors general of their congregations, became ex officio members of the council under a change in the by-laws.

The meeting took place at the St. Joseph Motherhouse.

Monroe County Hibernian president Thomas McGuigan sent a telegram expressing the sympathy of the Hibernians and other citizens of Rochester to Dublin Castle, where the late president lay in state. It was sent to Vivian DeValera, the oldest son.

On Sept. 2, Mayor Thomas Ryan issued a proclamation of mourning for the City of Rochester, and at City Hall the Irish flag was flown at half mast, on the day President DeValera was buried in Dublin.

DeValera was born in New York City. His mother, Catherine DeValera Whellright later lived here. She attended Blessed Sacrament Church and is buried in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.