

St. Agnes Memories

The Parents' Club of St. Agnes High School will sponsor a dinner dance March 12 at the Carriage House, 525 Paul Road, as a moneyraiser for the school. Memories 33 is the theme. The planners pictured above are Tom Hall, Arlene Imhof and Sister Anne Guerin, principal (seated); Bernie Imhof, Pat and Jim Keating (standing).

Eucharistic Congress Film Available

A movie of the 41st Eucharistic Congress last year in Philadelphia has been produced by Mrs.

Anne M. Scheurman, associate professor at Monroe Community College and parishioner at St. Louis

in Pittsford.

In color with a sound track, the 23-minute Super 8 film covers many of the highlights of the congress. Scenes at convention hall include Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, Mother Teresa, Princess Grace Kelly and others.

An American Mohawk Indian native Mass and traditional Indian dances also are featured as is the closing Mass at JFK Stadium with 200,000 in attendance.

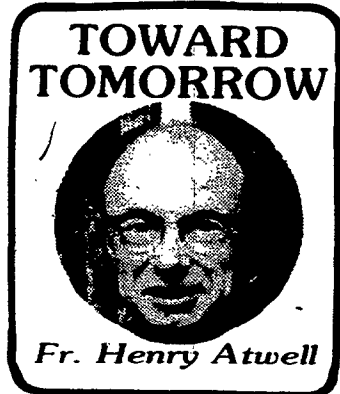
It is available from Mrs. Scheurman at 716-381-5998.

WROC to Air Carter Call-In

WROC Radio will broadcast for Rochester area listeners the much-publicized call-in program in which President Jimmy Carter and newsman Walter Cronkite will answer questions from citizens around the country.

The program is scheduled to be presented live from the Oval Office of the White House on Saturday, March 5, from 2 to 4 p.m.

WROC Radio broadcasts at 1280 on the AM band.



Fr. Henry Atwell

And now in this no-women-priests statement, it is significant that no women were consulted in its writing.

The Vatican just shuts its eyes and ears to, half the human race, to the more than two billion loving people who are women. You just can't be seen or heard if you are female.

How differently Jesus chose to act!

Were it not for the "yes" of Mary's voice, the incarnation would not have taken place. Were it not for the voice of Mary at Cana, Jesus would not have performed his first miracle. Were it not for the voice of Martha at Bethany, Lazarus would not have been raised from death. Were it not for the voice of Mary Magdalene on Easter morning, the apostles would never have known of the resurrection.

The Church ignores the voice and ministry of women only to its own impoverishment!

Meantime we witness day by day the flushing out of men priests from the Church by death, by exodus and by the erosion of vocations. Pope John said we must "read the signs of the times." Someone else has said there is no way to stop an idea once its time has come.

Whether women should really become Roman-collared kind of clergy or not, I am far from competent to decide. But this I do know: the Pope and his Church must soon open the Vatican to the voice and ministry of women and begin to learn honesty and common sense rather than chattering on in its own involuted ecclesiastical and antiquated rhetoric.

What Pope Paul obviously needs most these days is a woman with common sense to talk to him. The latest Vatican gaffe which says women can't be priests because only men can look like Christ could never have happened if our venerable Pope had listened for even 10 minutes to any reasonably intelligent woman.

This one more disastrous "no" from the Vatican reveals that the Pope is still a captive of advisers, including some Americans, who are simply afraid of women.

We can't put in print here what the Vatican used to do to young men so it wouldn't need women to sing soprano in its choir.

More recently, when the Second Vatican Council was already three fourths finished and women were at last admitted to its sessions, not to express their opinions but only to watch the bishops pray and make all the decisions, on the first day women were present some of them headed for the altar at Communion time. A Vatican Monsignor stopped them, sent the women back to their places without Communion, and the reason he gave them was "because of the bishops."

Scouts Do Their Bit For Safety

Some 17 members of Scout Troop 101 at Holy Rosary Church, under Scoutmaster Pat Dugan, exemplified all that is good about scouting in the aftermath of this winter's spate of blizzards.

The Scouts, working in conjunction with the city and the fire department, rolled down their sleeves on Saturday, Feb. 12, and went to work on snow and ice covered fire plugs in the Driving Park, Emerson Street, Mt. Read Boulevard section of the city.

Working from 9:30 a.m. to noon, they managed to free some 42 hydrants, which had been covered with up to six feet of snow and ice.

The project was part of activities highlighting Scout Month.

Coordinator Named For VIP

Ernesta Walker of Rochester has been named the new community resource coordinator for Volunteers in Partnership.

VIP is a non-profit organization that pairs youths who are on probation or potentially delinquent with adult volunteers on a one-to-one basis.

Miss Walker will work to inform the community about VIP and will compile a handbook that will provide program staff with a source of services to benefit the youths and their families. She is looking for volunteers who should call the VIP office in the Hall of Justice at 546-7025 for information and an interview before a March 19 training session.

SCOUT CAKES

Spencerport— A cake auction, of items baked by the Cub Scouts and their fathers of Pack 84, will be held in the John T. Trowbridge School on Monday, Feb. 27 at 7 p.m. As in the past, all proceeds will benefit the Spencerport Volunteer Ambulance.

TUTORS SOUGHT

Warren Smith, youth ministry director at Immaculate Conception, is looking for volunteers to help with his tutoring program. One-to-one sessions in reading and mathematics are held at Phyllis Wheatley Library and in the parish school building, afternoons and evenings. Both elementary and high school students are enrolled, and there are 50 youngsters on the waiting list, Smith says. He may be reached through 546-1474 or 546-5513.

PRAYER DAY

Friday, March 4, has been designated World Day of Prayer by Church Women United. Approximately 30 area churches of various denominations have scheduled services on the theme Love in Action. Information on times and places may be obtained by calling the CWU office, 454-6443.

This year's service was written by women of East Germany.

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THE OPEN WINDOW
Fr. Louis Hohman

Dear Father Hohman,

I have some questions about the Ashes for Ash Wednesday. I was leafing through the Missalette and saw the formula for blessing and distributing them and this is the first time I noticed that the Priest can change the words "Remember man that you are dust" to "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel." What really is the meaning of the ashes? I always thought it was simply a reminder of the fact that sooner or later we were going to die. And I always have been bugged by the idea of people bringing little babies up to the altar to have ashes placed on their foreheads. It just didn't seem appropriate to me. How do you feel about it? And is there really a new meaning for the imposition of the ashes?

Signed, C.R.

Dear C.R.,

The obvious symbolism of the ashes is mortality. They remind us that that is the stuff of which we are made and the stuff which will ultimately degenerate. But if that were all the symbol would be indeed a weak one. Besides being reminded of our mortality we need to be reminded of our immortality. There is that within us which cannot die and which merits much

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more attention from us than the dust of which we are made. So the accompanying meaning of the ashes is: take care of the needs of your soul because they are so much more important than those of the body.

In the new rite there is also the aspect of change of heart in a very special way. There is the significance that we should leave our past in ashes so that we can live for God in the future. It therefore sums up the Lenten theme that we die to our lower selves in order to live more fully in our higher selves, whereby we are children of God who is love.

I agree with you about the imposition of ashes on children. It obviously can and has at times degenerated into a form of superstition. I never could figure what parents thought it would do for their children. But I suppose it would remind the parents of their obligation to bring discipline into the lives of their children so that they might be better persons.

NEW DATE

A meeting of the Rochester Federation of Catholic School Parents originally scheduled for this month, has been postponed to Thursday, March 3. It will begin at 8 p.m. at St. Ambrose School, 31 Empire Blvd.

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