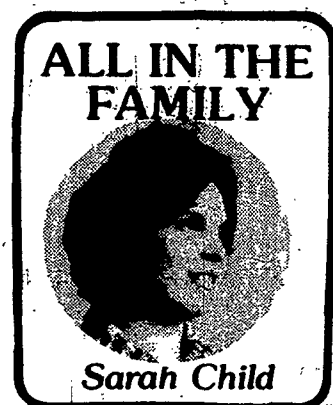


Musical Memorial

An organ given to Nazareth College by the family of the late Frank G. Staropoli will be dedicated at noon Mass March 27 in the new Multifaith Chapel in the Shults Community Center. Barbara Harbach, organ instructor at the college, is shown testing its tone for Sister Barbara Staropoli, an assistant professor in the music department. The family includes Sister Barbara's brother Frank and his wife, and their mother.



ALL IN THE FAMILY

Sarah Child

Recently in this space, I wrote, tongue-in-cheek about mental depression. Depression, of course, is no joke. Too many people in all stages of life have been incapacitated by this malady, sometimes briefly, sometimes for long periods.

Obviously no one would choose to be depressed. Or would they?

In an intriguing article in the March edition of Family Circle, Dr. Wayne W. Dyer believes that certain popular concepts regarding mental health should be challenged.

Says Dyer: "The simple fact is this: You can choose to think and feel as you desire." Counter to the belief held by many experts that it is only natural for many of us to be depressed, angry and guilty much of the time, Dyer contends that the natural state for a human being is a healthy and happy one. He says that people learn their self-defeating patterns. When they try to change, they often give up before they begin fulfilling their own prophecy that they are doomed to live unhappily ever after.

To say that everyone can change from a depressed to a sunny outlook merely by willing it is simplistic. On the other hand, it is clear that there are some people who, although confronted by a life style that is neither pleasant nor easy, manage to remain cheerful and optimistic. They have chosen to live in this manner.

The best proponent of this philosophy is my grandmother. The daughter of a poor immigrant farmer she worked physically hard as a youngster helping clear and plant fields. Married at a young age, she continued

to work hard all of her life. As a young mother she lost two babies — one to pneumonia, another to diphtheria. She was widowed at 46, left with a nine-year-old child to support.

Untrained for any kind of job, she took a job in a factory sustaining herself and her young daughter and remaining a bastion of strength for her other three children away from home.

Throughout the years, as her grandchildren grew to maturity, she was a constant in our lives. Humor, love, lively intelligence. She embodied them all. But mostly she exuded a toughness of spirit, a source of inspiration to all around her.

Once I watched her giving advice to a relative who was mentally down. "You must," she said, "fight with everything you've got and then fight some more."

Today at age 82, she has been slowed by arthritis and takes daily medication for diabetes. She lives alone in a house, her days punctuated by the frequent run-in visits by my aunt who lives a few miles away.

It was only a few years ago that she gave up taking in ironing but still makes bread for an occasional customer and as a gesture of thanks for the mission priest who comes faithfully to visit once a week and bring her Holy Communion.

Her great-grandchildren are treated to special, teeny pancakes when they visit and they take home bags of gnocchi, ravioli, bread she has made and stored in the freezer for them.

They write to her and are rewarded in return by cheery, sometimes funny letters showing interest in all they are doing. A maker of quilts and rag rugs, she is now completing a new coverlet, the first she has made in several years. She has been unable to step off her back porch all winter, but she has not been idle.

Grandma's secret: All her life she has met events, circumstances, head on, choosing to challenge instead of succumb. She is a winner!

IFCA Mass To Honor Bp. Kearney

Bishop James E. Kearney is to be memorialized by the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae, when it gathers at Corpus Christi for its monthly First Saturday Mass on March 5 at 12:05 p.m.

The deceased prelate, fifth bishop of Rochester, will be noted in the service in honor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The Mass text was chosen "as a fitting tribute to Bishop Kearney because of his devotion to Our Lady and his personal interest in the First Saturday observance of the Rochester Circle (of the IFCA) which was begun Dec. 7, 1947" according to a spokesman for the group.

Through the years 1947-1971, Bishop Kearney celebrated the First Saturday Mass, whenever his schedule permitted. His last appearance at the rites was on March 1, 1975 when he gave a homily on St. Joseph.

The public is invited to the services.

Bishop Hickey Slated for Irish Party

The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick and the Knights of Equity will celebrate St. Patrick's Day March 17 at the Rochester Club, 120 East Ave. The dinner dance is announced as "a living memorial to Bishop Kearney, national honorary chaplain to this fraternal order for decades." Festivities begin at 6:30 p.m.

Bishop Dennis W. Hickey will be the speaker; Supreme Court Justice Emmett Schnepf, the toastmaster. Bridget Hayes, Sister Shelia and Ann Neary will provide Irish music. Tickets may be obtained by calling Al Bennett at 244-7155; James Hasson, 482-2885; or George Moore, 671-5080.

Insights in Liturgy

Penance: Prayer and Praise

BY MSGR. WILLIAM H. SHANNON

The intent of the new rites of Penance is to offer us a new kind of religious experience. It would be a mistake, therefore, to see the new rites as simply the old form of penance we have been accustomed to — with some additions. Celebrating the new rites will require some changes of attitude on our part. This and forthcoming articles will suggest some of the changes of attitude we need to undergo.

In the first place, the new rites are intended to create an atmosphere of prayer that will make the celebration of the sacrament a truly prayerful experience. Heretofore we have not thought sufficiently of the prayer-dimension of the Sacrament. We have thought of praying before the Sacrament in preparation for it or after the Sacrament in saying our penance. But we have not given sufficient thought to the fact that the Sacrament itself is prayer — and prayer not simply in the sense of saying prayers, but prayer in the basic sense of listening to God and responding to Him. The new rite of Penance will involve dialogue prayer between priest and penitent. This will be a new experience for both.

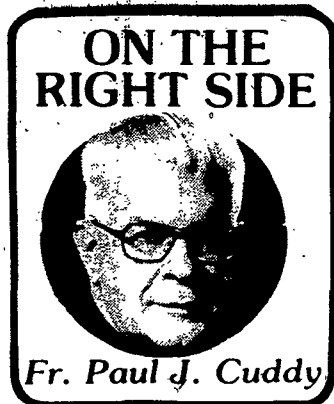
Secondly, the new rite is intended to create an atmosphere of praise and thus to banish the fear and anxiety that so often in the past have marked our approach to this Sacrament. This atmosphere of praise is created by putting us in touch with the Scriptures which reveal to us the undefeated and undefeatable love of God. There will be a Bible on a stand or table in the confessional room. A passage from the Scriptures will be read. Priest and penitent will listen to God's word and reflect on it together, perhaps voicing their reflections to one another.

Reading and listening to the Word of God will help priest and penitent to understand more deeply that God always comes to us as Saviour. They will be moved to praise God for His merciful forgiveness and for the grace of repentance that He has given.

This living encounter with the Word of God will help us to make "confession" mean what it meant originally, namely, praising God for His goodness, especially His goodness in forgiving our sins. When the

biblical writers, e.g., the psalmists, speak of "confessing" to God, they mean, not primarily a listing of their sins, but a praising of God for His mercy.

Prayer and praise — these are to constitute the joyful and unhurried atmosphere in which the confession of sins and the granting of absolution take place.



Fr. Paul J. Cuddy

Dear Father Fred (Straub), Well, the diocese is popping. The Holy See came out: "No priestesses in the Catholic Church." The newspapers and TV euchred our Ordinary into making a statement about the Holy See's statement. He commented rather mildly that it is not an infallible document and is still a question up for grabs. The diocese has become polarized.

Letters to the newspapers — pro and con — flow in. One group began to promote a published statement of loyalty to the Bishop. Many non-organized laymen began to organize to protest to the Apostolic Delegate the Bishop's statement. The best counsel I have read is from Father John Ready, CSC, published in Bishop Casey's Beacon. He says:

"Those who are deeply convinced that the Catholic priesthood should be open to women can be assured that the theological investigation which has begun will continue. If the bases for their convictions are sound, the supporting scholarship will develop

"In the meanwhile, it seems to me the welfare of the Church as a whole, and a legitimate respect for the proper role of authority calls for a cooling of the rhetoric, and easing of confrontation, a muting of anger and defiance" (Beacon: Feb. 17).

As you know I have become a kind of diocesan bung to fill in bungless ecclesiastical holes. Recently I took care of St. Ann's Home and Heritage for Father Hempel while he and Fathers Rosse and Holberton took a much needed R & R. I am greatly impressed by St. Ann's, and the fine care for the patients and residents. The administrator is a formidable Sister Marie Michelle, SSJ. She combines the qualities of a Commanding General and the old time Sgt. Major. In many ways she is like Bishop Casey — who has just published a very good paper-back, entitled The Heart Remembers, Too.

While at St. Ann's it was an awesome privilege to care for Bishop Kearney in

his last days. The poor man. Once so vigorous and so public. Finally, bedridden, blind, helpless; but thanks be to God, tenderly cared for.

His mind remained alert, but he had hardly the strength to utter "Yes" or "No." I would sit at his bedside and hold his so thin hand, and recite the rosary with the nurse, a graduate from his beloved St. Mary's Nursing School. Since his hearing was impaired we would say the rosary quite loud so he could share. He would become quiet during the recitation, evidently joining with his mind and heart what he could not with his voice.

He had a glorious funeral. A worse day could not have been had: freezing cold, strong winds, snow. Yet people came from all over to jam the Cathedral. The music by Sister Virginia Hogan's Chorale was beautifully sung and happily selected.

When the body was translated from the Cathedral rectory to the Cathedral, only a handful was expected to be there. Yet there were some 500 people waiting for their venerable friend. The Rochester papers were glowing in their tributes.

After St. Ann's took care of Rochester General Hospital for young Fr. Jim Schwartz. He does a fine job. Because of him, and also Fathers Dan Torney and Jim Marvin before him, the chaplaincy is greatly esteemed. Every one at Rochester General was most kind to me.

Father Henry Atwell is taking a group to the Holy Land April 23. He has invited me to take care of his Avon parish during his two week's absence. It will be an interesting assignment. And the housekeeper, the fabulous Aunt Louise Coyne, is an old friend of mine.

The Courier-Journal has asked me to be Tour Conductor (the fancy name for "Baggage Master") for a two week trip to Ireland, London, Scotland and Lourdes: six days in Ireland, with a different program than the previous ones; three days in London; three days in Scotland; and two days in Lourdes. The dates are May 14-18. Could you join us at Lourdes?

Well; do drop a line about your NATO assignment in Brussels. Thanks for your notes and sharp observations. Rather than make them to me, why not write a letter to the Editor of the Courier where the whole diocese can ponder over them? They would be a nice spice for the readers.

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CROSSWALK

The Stations of the Cross will be represented in poetry, song and dramatic sketches on Good Friday in Durand Eastman Park. The fourth annual Crosswalk organized by the Catholic Youth Organization will begin at 1 p.m. April 8.

Parish youth groups are asked to notify the CYO by March 15 if they intend to prepare a presentation. The office number is 454-2030.