

Monks Again Note Chapel Dedication

Big Flats—Mount Saviour Benedictine Monastery is sponsoring its 24th annual Fall Festival on Sunday, Sept. 18.

The annual event, which commemorates the dedication of the Chapel of Our Lady Queen of Peace and the founding of the monastery, attracts thousands to the monastery, on the Hendy Hollow Road in the town of Big Flats.

This year's festival is being planned under the co-chairmanship of Mr. and Mrs. T. Curran Sekella of Elmira. It will begin with a

concelebrated outdoor Mass sung by the monks at 10 a.m.; vespers will close the day's activities at 6 p.m.

Other chairmen include Francis Bodewes and Tony Ciccariello, food; Michael Gonta, music; Dr. and Mrs. Robert Hain, children's program; Marian Wingert and Barbara Sekella, arts and crafts; Mrs. Georgia Bottcher, street of shops; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ambrosone, raffles; and Mr. and Mrs. George Welch, publicity.

The street of shops will feature a bake tent, new and

SOUTHERN TIER AUBURN-GENEVA

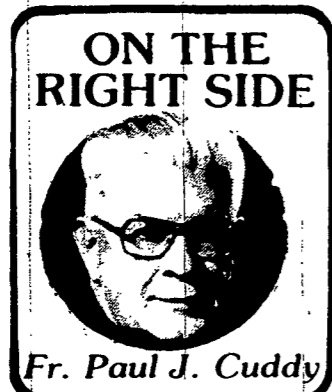
old, jams and jellies, handmade items, plants and flowers, mitten tree, and a try or buy booth, run by the Sisters of St. Mary of Namur from Buffalo.

Stanley Douglas will be the master of ceremonies for the events. The public is invited, proceeds from the day help support the monks during the year.



Bible School

Photos by Mary Ann Ginnerty
St. Joseph's Parish, Cayuga, has renewed a tradition this year. The parish sponsored a Vacation Bible School for its youngsters and it soon became a community project when the townspeople opened the doors of their town hall to the youngsters for arts and crafts. Shown above Father Ronald Gaesser, pastor at St. Joseph's, addresses some of the 44 participants in the sanctuary of the 125-year-old church. Sister Mary Paschal, right, conducts a class in rooms adjacent to the church.



In late May, Msgr. John Maney of Ontario phoned: "If I can get a priest to supply for me I can go to Spain for the month of August. Would you be able to supply?" "Yes. Glad to, but what do you want me to do?" It was arranged.

Communications is my great love and first apostolate. Priests are sent to preach the Gospel. This certainly includes the use of every means of communication available.

During my assignment in Hornell between 1967 and 1973 I got tangled up with the manager of radio station WLEA, Mr. Kevin Doran. He helped us to develop our region of Mary radio program, Magnify the Lord, now aired over nine stations; and Father Brown's Sunday School, aired over all the N.Y. State CBS system.

K.D. is an exaggerated Irish Catholic; i.e., violently devoted to God, Our Lady and the Church, to family life, beginning with his own patient wife and five beautiful children, to traditional American ideals. He also has a lot of Old Testament in his soul, and would like to see the hillelagh used as a substitute for the staff of Moses.

He phoned Ontario: "I have a great idea, now listen!" (He tends to be authoritarian.) "I want you to make a set of cassette tapes on the lives of saints. Our people don't know enough about them. Then we can get them circulating. I have two good outlets. This is not a profit-making venture, but a work of religion." "I like the idea but don't think I'm the person for it." Abruptly he replied: "We've got to start somewhere. When can I expect you? You'll have to spend nearly two days on the preparing and taping, and you must come well rested." Since associate pastor Matt Matuszewski and Deacon John Gagnier could take care of Ontario for two days, Aug. 3 and 4 were agreed upon.

St. Ann's, Hornell, is always a home for me. At 4 p.m. I blew into the rectory.

Secretary Mary Louise Mattie welcomed me with enthusiastic news. Her brother, Father Dick Mattie, is a Navy chaplain stationed at Bethesda Naval Hospital. Breathlessly she said: "I have great news. Father Dick visited Mother Teresa of Calcutta in New York last week!" "How did that happen?" "He has been an admirer and patron of her work for years. He has a friend who is an Indian priest, whose family in India are personal friends of Mother Teresa. The priest phoned my brother and said, 'Come to New York today and you can meet Mother Teresa. She is visiting her Sisters in Harlem.'" I asked M.L.M.: "When he phones Sunday, will you ask him to write an article about his meeting? Discouraged Catholics take heart from Sisters like her."

After a good supper whipped up by the glorious cook, Clara Sherman, with Father Don Schwab and Redemptorist Father McGreel (Father MacNamara was in Washington installing the new Bishop Kelly), off to WLEA. The taping session left me weary. But part was done. The next day was more of the same. The tapes are not good enough to market yet, but it was a good dry-run. As K.D. remarked: "We've got to start somewhere."

The next day to Auburn and Geneva. Then to Clifton Springs. Father Roach said: "Father McFarland played that cassette tape on Confession by Father Bassett, which you loaned him. It is very good."

"Yes," I said. "The Retreat Set has 12 conferences. It sells for \$27 a set. Fathers Walt Carron and Gerry Kelly each got a set. You don't have to buy the set. I'll loan one to you." (This is the communications apostolate.)

While waiting for sleep that night, there went a good "Thanks be to God. Series on the saints started; hopefully an article from Father Mattie on Mother Teresa coming; Bassett tapes for Father Roach; Sheen, Mother Teresa and HalRoach tapes for Hornell nurse Dorothy Duffy; Suenens and Flanagan charismatic tapes for the Hornellian Bertha Logan. Oh, yes. Send that Barclay scripture book on St. Timothy to nephew Tim Loretan at N.Adams. Thanks, Lord."

Any reader wanting to order: Bassett, \$27; Mother Teresa, \$3; Sheen, \$20 — write me at Holy Trinity Church, Webster, N.Y. 14580.

Cayuga Pro-Life Gathers

Auburn—A special slide presentation on the recent National Right to Life convention in Chicago highlighted the August 18 meeting of the Cayuga County Right to Life Committee.

Frank McKay, co-chairman of the committee, gave the presentation which featured pictures of the nationally televised convention parade and an interview with Father Charles Carroll, who was an official at the Nuremberg Trials after World War II.

McKay stated that Father Carroll talked about the reasons for Nazi persecution of the Jews and related it to some people's attitudes towards abortion. "He said that the Nazis admitted that they began their persecution by attacking the language. They surrounded the Jews as a group with a cloak of evil, making them seem like a natural enemy, that it was only right to eliminate them," McKay said.

"Father Carroll said that the same thing is being done to unborn children in some sectors of our society. They're calling pregnancy 'a disease.' The child is considered an inconvenience, if not a divisive influence in the family," McKay said.

The Cayuga County Right to Life Committee is planning to send a delegation to Albany on Oct. 1 for the New York State Right to Life's Tenth Anniversary Convention.

Archbishop Alter Dies

Cincinnati (RNS) — Archbishop Karl J. Alter, who led the Cincinnati archdiocese from 1950 until his retirement in 1969, died Aug. 23 at Providence Hospital here. He was 92.

Active in educational, social welfare and ecumenical causes throughout his long episcopal career, Archbishop Alter was a prominent member of the U.S. Catholic hierarchy, having served as chairman of two departments, treasurer and chairman of the administrative board of the former National Catholic Welfare Conference.

Child Report

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"people representing a lot of different sources" in the community, he said, including school personnel, headstart staff members, day care workers, and members of the child protection unit.

Barry noted that some "communities were having a lot of trouble with" what to do after child abuse is found. Most communities "aren't set up to be responsive" to the needs of the family, he said. "We found that when we offered" the task force to deal with the problem, "they responded well" and "people quite eagerly started to work out the details." The center then assists the task force in organizing, and acts as an advisor for its efforts.

Barry cited the task force in Chemung County as having done "many things in a very short time," and said that the vigorous public information effort in the county "has got to pay off."

The task force coordinates the resources in the community, and insures that families receive the help they need without duplication, Barry explained. Such services as parent aides, foster care, family counselors, Parents Anonymous, big brother and big sister programs and other social services that would assist the family are investigated.

Barry noted that the follow-up on cases of abuse and neglect are necessarily very different.

Abuse seems to occur, he said, when people are "going through a hard period in their life," and occurs when "things are really bad." Abuse, possibly spurred by the child's behavior, is more often caused by the adult's feelings and lack of control, he explained. He related that some persons participating in Parents Anonymous, a self-help group for parents with

difficulty dealing with their children, have said that they "blacked out, not even remembering" their abusing episodes.

Barry traced the abusing pattern, noting that it often begins when the baby is born. The parents see the baby's crying as a rejection of them, he said. Later, the child finds that he can't get emotional support from his parents. For example, Barry noted, a child needs sympathy when hurt. A child that can't get that sympathy from his parents is left very isolated. The result is that the child "grows up without learning trust," and a child who "can't trust somebody" can't make friends, and will become isolated further. Such a child is likely to become an abuser, Barry noted, and to raise his own children the same way.

"One exciting thing about the field" of child abuse treatment is that through Parents Anonymous, many such abusing parents have gained trust, Barry said, Childhood damage, often thought to be permanent, has been corrected through the support of such groups, he noted.

Child neglect, which is more common than physical abuse, is much more frustrating to those who deal with it, Barry observed. Neglecting parents are "a lot harder" to help, he noted, and "programs that work for abusing parents don't work for neglecting parents. While abusing parents realize that what they are doing is wrong, he explained, "neglect is a chronic way of life" for some parents. They don't

see why anyone should be concerned about how they raise their children, Barry noted.

The best way to prevent neglect is to improve parenting skills, Barry said. Parenting skills education and the availability of information on parenting can be valuable, he noted, as could a greater effort to assist parents during the first five years. Day care "can be an element of prevention," he said, especially for the mother who otherwise would be isolated with the child.

Foster care for the children is the last measure taken in abuse or neglect cases, Barry noted. One alternative being developed, he reported, is foster care for the entire family. The abusing or neglecting family moves in with another family with the space and expertise for the job. The change can relieve much of the pressure on the family, Barry explained, and the foster family can work to improve family relationships while the family unit is intact, without endangering the children.

Barry observed that many new efforts are being made to fight the child abuse problem, and that possibly the task forces have assisted in speeding up the progress.

NEXT WEEK: A look at child abuse and neglect services in Chemung, Tompkins and Steuben Counties.

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