



Special Show-and-Tell

All of the inanimate objects in this photo and many other things will be on sale Friday, Nov. 4, at Good Shepherd in Henrietta. Showing them off are Marie and Lisa Casciano, their mother Johanna, and their friend Cassie Schmit. The craft show and sale will run from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the school gymnasium. The hand-made stock in 60 booths will include macrame, knit and crocheted items, corn dolls, straw wreaths and doll furniture. There will be food at mealtimes and free baby sitting throughout the sale.

Sister Anne Recites Vows

Walk Humbly with Your God was the theme of the recent commitment ceremony during which Sister Anne Curtis pronounced her first vows as a Sister of Mercy.

Sister Anne is the daughter of Col and Mrs. James F. Curtis of Ballston Lake, N.Y. Her parents participated in the profession liturgy, which took place in the Motherhouse chapel.

Father James Schwartz, chaplain at Rochester General Hospital was the principal concelebrant of the Mass. He was joined at the altar by Fathers Robert Kennedy and John Cavanaugh, CSB, who is Sister Anne's uncle. Sister Michael Lappetito preached the homily and Sister Jody Kearney led the St. Louis Church folk group in song.

Sister Anne is a 1970 graduate of Cardinal Mooney High School and a 1974 graduate of St. John Fisher College where she



SISTER ANNE

majoring in psychology and minored in religious studies.

She entered the Mercy congregation in 1975 and taught theology at Our Lady of Mercy High School for two years before making her canonical year. She resides at the Andrew Center and is on the faculty of the high school.

Insights in Liturgy

Christian Death

By MSGR. WILLIAM H. SHANNON

Summer flowers have all but disappeared. The leaves of autumn have begun to lose their beauty and are falling to the ground in disarray. All around us we see the death of nature: the flowers and leaves have had their moment and it is over and they are gone.

And so too it seems of us: we have our moment and then we are gone. We are born to die. There is a cruel truth in the words of the tombstone: "O gluttonous death that has not spared even one." Indeed our age is an age that has lived with death on a global scale: we have seen death in Vietnam, in the Middle East, in the North of Ireland - projected to us on our television screens. We have all experienced death in our families and the older we grow the more frequent becomes the experience. Death surrounds us on all sides. Faced with the inevitability of death we are constrained to ask the question: what do we believe in Christian faith about death? What is Christian death?

For a Christian, death is not simply something that comes at the end of life; rather it is something that comes at the beginning - in baptism. St. Paul gives us the Christian perspective on death when he writes to the Romans:

Are you not aware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Through baptism into his death we were buried with him, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead, we too might live a new life. If we have been united with him through likeness to his death, so shall we be through a like resurrection. (Rom. 6:3-5)

It is no exaggeration to say that a Christian's first act - in baptism - is dying: dying to selfishness and self-centeredness; but dying in order to rise to new life in Christ, a life of greater love for God, of greater concern for others. Baptism sets the rhythm of the Christian life:

it becomes a life of dying and rising. We die and rise in the making of friendships. We die in the making of a love-relationship and in maintaining such a relationship. We die and rise in accepting the pain and suffering that come into our lives. We die so many times that we have to learn to do it well. Thus when physical death comes at the end of life, the Christian is no stranger to death. He has experienced many deaths and risings. Physical death is the final dying in which a man affirms his real self. Physical death is a Christian's final act of choosing the person he will be - for all eternity. This is why some theologians maintain that death is an action, not a passion. It is not simply something that happens to a man. It is an action that he does. It is a conscious free choice - not of course in the sense that I choose to die or that I choose the hour of my death, but in the sense that in the act of dying I choose totally and completely the person I have gradually chosen to become through life.

In this life our energies are scattered: we are never fully ourselves. In the act of dying I become fully myself for the first time and forever. Is not this what we mean by judgment? Judgment is not a calling of witnesses or an opening of the book of life. Judgment means that in the act of dying I really come to know fully who I am - and who I will be forever.

Death for the Christian, then, is the culmination of a journey: beginning with the death and resurrection of baptism, experiencing the dyings and risings of daily life, and leading to final death and resurrection, in which the Christian experiences - perhaps for the first time - his full identity in Jesus Christ.

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Religious Ed. On 4 Tracks At Holy Name

An elaborate program of adult education at Holy Name parish has been announced by Denise Mack, religious education coordinator.

Bible study classes will meet Tuesday evenings through November, and again Jan. 10 through Feb. 7, 7:30-9:30. The instructor, Adie Menges, holds a master's degree in Old Testament Studies and Adult Education from Colgate-Rochester.

Dr. Dennis Boike.

marriage and family counselor, will conduct a course on child rearing on six successive Wednesdays, beginning tonight. Anyone interested may call him for details, at 385-1950.

On Wednesdays from 10 a.m. until noon, there are prayer and scripture gatherings in the chapel,

with baby sitting provided. A books-sandwiched-in program has been set up for the first Monday of each month, at 12:30 p.m. Sister Mary Jane Mitchell leads off Nov. 7 with a review of Colleen McCullough's Thorn Bird. Further information may be obtained at the parish's religious education office, 621-6343.

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