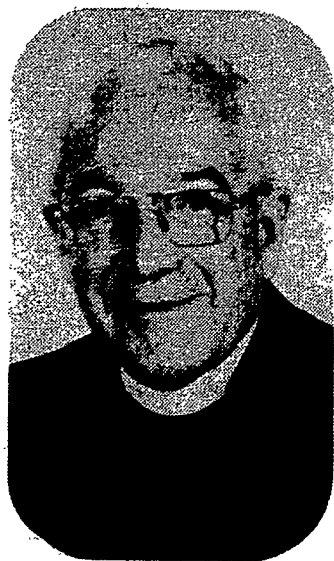


God has been good to us.....



Each priest indeed is... the mediator between God and man... chosen from among men, appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God.

- Pope John XXIII

From the program for Msgr. Burns' anniversary.

Msgr. Richard K. Burns, pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Irondequoit, will celebrate the 40th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on Dec. 8 and the parish has planned a week-long celebration.

An anniversary dinner is scheduled at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 6 at Sweets Farm in Webster. Parishioners, former parishioners, relatives and friends of Msgr. Burns are invited and reservations may be made by contacting Mrs. Edith Robinson at 342-3014 or Mrs. Sue Coyle at 544-1211. For those who may not have transportation, arrangements may be made with the reservations. No tickets will be sold at the door and reservations must be in by Nov. 27.

On Dec. 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, the student body of St. Thomas the Apostle School will join the celebration of the Eucharist

at 9 a.m. A special assembly program, "What Can I Give Him?" will take place in the parish hall after the Mass. The program will be repeated for parents and parishioners at 7 p.m., Monday, Dec. 12 in the school hall.

The Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) students will present a special program Saturday, Dec. 10 with a prayer service beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan will concelebrate the 12:15 p.m. Mass at the church Sunday, Dec. 11 and a public reception will take place in the parish hall from 3 to 5 p.m.

Msgr. Burns has been pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle since 1954. He was born in Rochester in 1912 to John H. and Adelaide Knapp Burns, parishioners of Blessed Sacrament. He was ordained Dec. 8, 1937 in Rome, Italy and assigned to Holy Rosary Church in Rochester.

From 1942 to 1945, he served on the faculties of St

Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries and with the diocesan Marriage Tribunal. In 1946 he was assigned to the Sacred Congregation for Oriental Churches at the Vatican and in 1948 was named vice rector of the North American College in Rome. He became a Monsignor in 1948. He was appointed pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle in 1953.

College Board Elects Mrs. Otto A. Shults

Mabel Perdue Shults, a former mechanical engineer and a long-time benefactor of Nazareth College, has been elected to the college board of trustees. The announcement came from the board chairman, Supreme Court Justice Emmett J. Schnepf.

engineer for 20 years with her father's firm, Perdue and Company.

Her first husband, Frank Eaton, died in 1968. Otto Shults died in December, 1975, after 35 years of service to Nazareth.

AREA COLLEGES

Mrs. Shults is the widow of Otto A. Shults, in whose name the new community center on the Nazareth campus was dedicated last month.

Moses S. Koch, president of Monroe Community College, has been elected president of Rochester Area Colleges, Inc. Other officers, all presidents of their institutions, are Robert MacVittie of SUC Geneseo, vice president; Paul Adams of Roberts Wesleyan, secretary, and Father Charles Lavery of St. John Fisher, treasurer. Sixteen colleges and universities are members of the organization, which proposes to make the best use of their resources through cooperative programs in a nine-county region.



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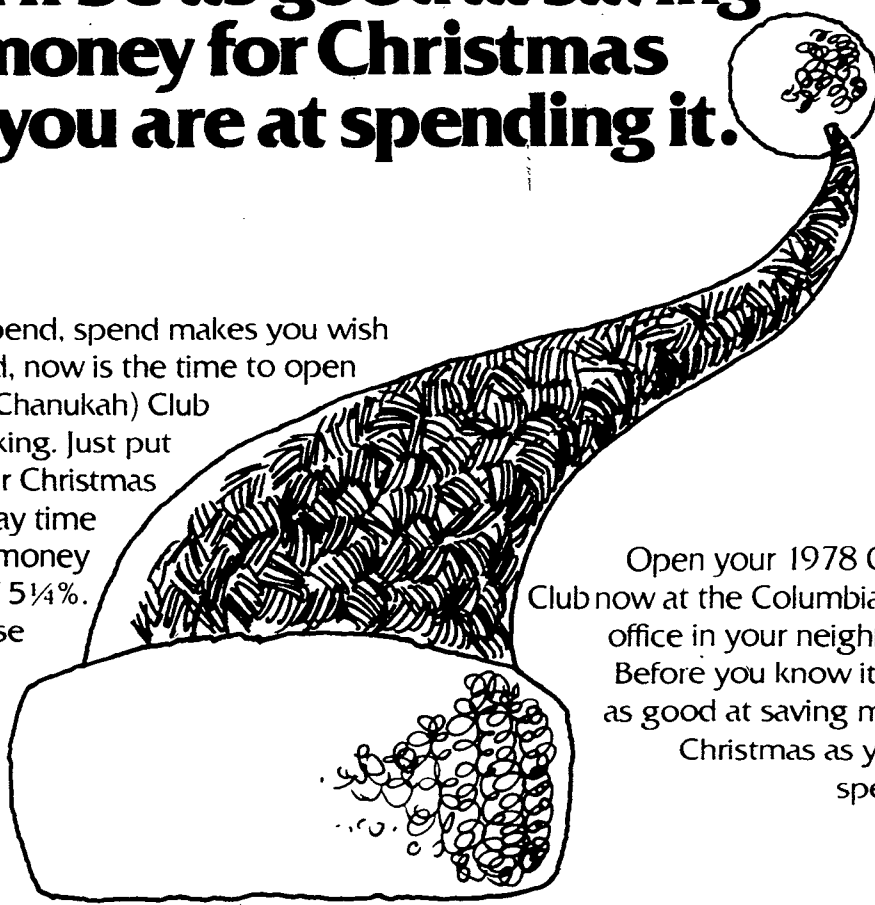
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THE OPEN WINDOW



Fr. Louis Hohman

Dear Father Hohman,

This is hard for me to believe, but I heard of a wedding that took place in a Protestant church and a priest took part because the groom was Catholic, and that now the groom still belongs to the Catholic Church. Father, could this be true?

(Signed) C.M.

Dear C.M.,

Your letter came in the mail just two days after I had assisted at a wedding in Trinity Lutheran Church in Spencerport, along with the Rev. Charles Goehring. I have no idea whether that is the one you are referring to, or another one, since this is a relatively common occurrence at this time. It comes under what is known as a dispensation from form. The ordinary form for a marriage is before a priest and two witnesses, and the ordinary place for a marriage involving a Catholic is a Catholic church. However, in this day of ecumenism the Church is much more lenient in granting permission for a wedding in a place other than a Catholic church or even to have a minister as

the official witness recognized by the Catholic Church. The former requires a letter to the bishop asking permission to be married in a Protestant church and giving the reason why. The latter, where the minister becomes the official witness of the marriage, requires a dispensation in form. A Christian marriage, after all, consists of two people marrying each other in Christ. There is but one Lord and one baptism, therefore there is only one marriage in Christ. The priest or minister is merely the official witness of the Church and ordinarily the witness for a particular tradition, but in this case there is simply a sharing of this witness with another Christian denomination.

STROKE GROUPS

The Genesee Valley Heart Association has organized discussion and recreation groups of men and women recovering from stroke. The group that meets weekly at Bethany Presbyterian Church, 3000 Dewey Ave., will hold open house from 10 a.m. until noon Saturday, Nov. 19. The program the groups follow will be explained in a documentary film, Through a Special Door Into Life Again.

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