

SOUTHERN TIER AUBURN-GENEVA

Politics of Change To Be CIM Topic

Elmira—Sister Madeleva Roarke will speak on "The Politics of Change," as the next speaker in the Christian Institute of Man lecture series. The third of the seven Monday evening lectures will be Jan. 23 at 8 p.m. at Park Church.

Sister Madeleva, a Sister of St. Mary of Namur, is on the staff of NETWORK, a religious lobby group based in Washington which seeks legislation for social justice. A graduate of Notre Dame University, she taught science for 14 years before joining NETWORK in 1974.

She has worked on food and farm policy for NETWORK, and has given workshops around the country on legislative process and agricultural legislation. Presently she is organizing outreach offices

around the country for local NETWORK membership.

On Jan. 30, Father Charles Mulligan, Rochester diocesan Director of Social Ministry, will speak on "The Challenge of World Hunger."

On Feb. 6, Dr. Kenneth Cauthen of the Colgate Rochester Divinity School, Rochester, will give a talk titled "Toward a Liveable Environment."

Dr. Gertrude Spremulli of Elmira College will speak on "Dilemmas of Scientific Research" on Feb. 13.

The final talk will be "Toward an Ethics of Personal Responsibility," given by Father Joseph Jankowiak, a faculty member of St. Bernard's Seminary, Rochester, on Feb. 20.



Celebrates 95th

Mrs. Margaret Burns of 631 Roe Ave., Elmira, a parishioner of St. Patrick's, celebrated her 95th birthday Dec. 7, 1977, at St. Joseph's Hospital where currently she is a patient. She is shown with sophomore nursing student Joan Weinman as she looks at some of her cards. President and Mrs. Carter were among those sending their best wishes. Mrs. Burns, who lived most of her life in Elmira, has four daughters, Mrs. Loretta Essen, Mrs. Marian Cox, Mrs. Margaret Cady and Mrs. Elizabeth Herron.

Sidney Callahan:

Families 'Are What Make Us Human'

By MARTIN TOOMBS
Southern Tier Editor
Elmira—"Probably more junk" has been written about the family than about anything else, Sidney Callahan told those attending the Christian Institute of Man lecture Jan. 9. Speaking on the "Once and Future Family," she said that a problem with discussing the family is that everyone considers himself an expert, because everyone is part of a family. Ms. Callahan's talk opened a seven-part series,

offered on Monday evenings at Park Church. A noted author, she currently is teaching at Fairfield University, Fairfield, Conn. Families always have interested her, she said, both professionally and practically. She noted that she has six children. Many have said that women's liberation and the increase in technology are factors that are hurting the family, Ms. Callahan said; she intended to show that "technology used in the proper way is good for the

family, and women's liberation is good for the family," she said. Often used when the modern family is discussed is the "nostalgia argument," she said, which starts with a description of the "glorious, wonderful 19th Century patriarchal family" where family members respected each other, obeyed the father and cared for older family members. "It so happens that this beautiful picture is a lie," she asserted. Not too many old people

were cared for, she said, because people didn't live long. Many died in childhood, and single-parent families were common as a result of early deaths. Many children began at an early age to work, supplying money to the parents, even "buying" their way out of the family. There also was a "great deal of desertion," she commented. Technology has been important, she said, as it helps to "keep the family intact," by reducing the number of premature deaths.



SIDNEY CALLAHAN

"Fathers can no longer be emotional," she pointed out, which is "very good for the child." Individualism can be a problem for families, she commented, saying that a family "can't go it alone." A child's first few years, she said, which have been called the "most important," are also those when a family receives the least support. She pointed out that "child abusers usually are "people totally cut off from any support system."

Auburn Food Programs Receive \$500 in Aid

By MARY ANN GINNERTY
Auburn—Five Cayuga County emergency Food Pantries received checks totaling \$500 Jan. 10 from the Office of Human Development and Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rochester. The checks, presented by Father George Wiant and Sister Anne Urquhart, SSJ Human Development representatives for the Northern Tier, will be used to provide emergency food supplies for the needy. The

money came from diocesans who contributed to the annual Courier-Journal Christmas Fund. Sister Anne indicated that the shared response by Catholic Charities and Human Development is one of many responses that the diocese makes to non-metro counties as part of decentralization of diocesan departments and programs. The Office of Human Development and Catholic Charities are part of the Social Ministry Department of the Diocese of Rochester.

Some have attacked the family, she noted, saying that it is the source of all problems in society. They say that a better situation would be "test-tube babies" that are raised by "serene socializers" rather than emotionally involved parents. "I'm making the case for un-serene socialization," she said. Emphasizing that the family is "what makes us human," it also is the "last place where it's okay to be little and dependent, okay to be old and dependent," she said, in a society that values winners and those able to accomplish tasks. The family also is one place where discussions and "un-serene socialization" can contribute to the total development of children.

"all began at once" in the development of the human race, and are all part of what it means to be human. The family "makes us what we are," she commented. "We need the bonds that only the family can give us."

While such things as education and recreation are no longer family responsibilities, she said, the "essential things are left to the family." Those things, the learning of values and moral obligations are the most important, she said; "without that you don't have human beings."

As for the argument that women's liberation has hurt the family, Ms. Callahan said that the greater awareness that there is no simple division between the personalities of the sexes "is something that is going to strengthen the family." Parents are now seen as two "totally human personalities," she said.

"Communal support structures have broken down," she said, and society needs to "recreate these family supports."

A problem for parents, she noted, is that they were "raised in one world, living in this one, and raising their kids for another."

Responding to questions, Ms. Callahan noted that another problem for the family is the low status of motherhood, a situation that is getting worse. She noted that the problem is now recognized by many liberation. Gloria Steinmen, a noted women's liberation leader, has called for the conferring of status on mothers through the Social Security and tax laws, as an affirmation of the value of housewives, she explained.

She noted that experts now feel that family, language and households



Emergency Food Pantry representatives receive their checks. Shown here from left are Charles Dennis, Father George Wiant, James Cowen, Sister Anne Urquhart and Sister Dorothy Quinn. Photo by Mary Ann Ginnerty

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