

Mission Sunday Oct. 22

In the last century, Charles Dickens told A Tale of Two Cities and his opening words are familiar to most of us - "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times."

"So we might speak of the world today," said Father Joseph F. Reinhart, director of the diocesan Society of the Propagation of the Faith.

"Around the world, advances in technology, science and medicine are improving millions of lives. Scientists are attacking the problems of hunger; medical research and improved health care have controlled and even Eliminated many deadly diseases; technology allows us to telephone Taiwan, watch the Olympics half a world away, and fly cross-country in a matter of hours. It is the best of times.'

"But," Father Reinhart continued, "it also is the worst of times. With all the good at our disposal, the world is in turmoil. We 'think thoughts of peace' and yet affliction surrounds us." Countless refugees wait for a homeland; assassination, genocide, kidnapping and war are daily in the news; and in spite of a tremendous advance in communications, loneliness is the greatest heartache of millions as we take the final steps to the year 2000."

"The world has no better consolation," Father Reinhart said, "no better assurance than Christ's words to his apostles: 'Peace I bequeath you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give. . do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.'

work of the Church, today as always," Father Reinhart said, "is to invite the world to Christ: to share his promise of peace and to share his life and love.

"Since we who follow Christ are the Church," he said, "we are the ones chosen to extend this invitation to all the world. Our major opportunity to do this is on Mission Sunday, Oct. 22, a day of worldwide prayer and sacrifice for the missions."

Father Reinhart pointed out that there were thousands of missionaries, hundreds of local churches and millions of people on every continent relying on the spiritual and financial resources gathered on Mission Sunday.

"How blessed we are with "The greatest and holiest 138,000 serving in the

missions, giving up their homes, families, language and culture for just one reason: to extend an 'invitation to Christ' to all in their care," said Father Reinhart.

The diocesan missions director said that what used to be called mission dioceses are now referred to as "local churches" because very often the parishes, schools and hospitals there are staffed by local priests, Religious and the liturgy reflects local customs and tradition.

Speaking of the millions of people served by the Mission Church, Father Reinhart said, With few exceptions they are poor; they are suffering in body, mind and spirit. The physical search for food, employment, health and shelter is inseparable from the spiritual search for faith, hope and love.



The Mission Church looks on each person with the eyes and compassion of Christ.

Stewardship Implementation Phase Ends

By MICHAEL GRODEN

Christian The Stewardship Program ended its Program Implementation phase parishioners. Some 64 homes never received the mailing that contained information about the program and a commitment card facsimile until this week due to a different postal delivery schedule.

certain programs conducted. They will also have a better idea of what ministry needs the respondents have and are urged by the Stewardship



Benelli



As of Courier-Journal presstime Monday afternoon no successor to Pope John Paul had yet been named.

The cardinals had taken three votes but the smoke signals from the Sistine

Thus, in Maurovich's viewpoint, the majority of cardinal electors were looking not for another "smiling Pope" but for a leader indeed like Pope John Paul --who is willing to share the Church's authority more fully

Sunday as volunteers from 40 parishes visited families to determine what ministry needs they may have as well as what skills parishioners might be interested in donating to their Church.

A random survey of Churches in the diocese show very positive results. Many diocesans have been contacted by parish stewards and the stewards have indicated the program is working well.

Father Conrad Sundholm, executive director of diocesan development and pastor of St. Salome's Church, reported that this year's program has s produced the "best results yet." This year marks the third year St. Salome's has conducted a stewardship program.

Msgr. John Duffy, pastor of St. Francis Church, Phelps, reported similar results. He said that he was "very delighted" with the results of last Sunday's family visits It was successful in spite of a problem they had when contacting

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They will be contacted this week however. Msgr. Duffy likened the parish office to a political headquarters on election day. Volunteers were coming and going determined to make contact with as many families as possible, he said.

Father Daniel Holland, associate pastor at St. Thomas the Apostle, Irondequoit, said that 198 volunteers contacted nearly 65 percent of the 1350 families they had scheduled. There was a "wide range of reactions" from people contacted, including some who were opposed with being contacted at all. The general reaction from parish stewards, however, was "very positive."

All 40 participating parishes will now begin the third phase of Stewardship, Follow-up. Commitment cards will be tabulated so that each parish knows who will be available for

Office to act on them.

Stewardship ٠A spokesperson said that simply having this information available is not enough. Parishes should use these newly found resources and develop positive programs to improve the service provided by that parish.

Five Follow up workshops have been scheduled for those parishes that have participated in this year's program. Workshops will provide some ideas on how to process the information gathered and how they might use the information, and keeping the con-fidentiality of commitment cards.

The workshops are scheduled to grun from 7:30-9:30 p.m., Oct.16-19. They will be held at St. Patrick's, Owego on Monday night; St. Ann's, Hornell on Tuesday night; St. Anne's, Palmyra on Tuesday night; St. Salome's, Rochester on Wednesday night; and Sacred Heart Cathedral on Thursday night.

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Chapel were black.

Though taking more than a day is hardly unusual in the selection of a pontiff, it nonethelss provided more time for speculation.

Though the actual name was yet to be announced, the type was becoming clearer. According to Frank Maurovich, Religious News Service, the cardinals followed a Vatican II blueprint in the selection of Albino Luciani.

This blueprint called for many qualities - for a man who can read the signs of the times in the light of the Gospel, who can dialogue with the modern world, who is committed to ecumenism, who is as interested in social justice as the sacraments, but above all, it calls for a Pope who regards his brother bishops as more than advisers.

The common description of Vatican II as "pastoral" rather than "doctrinal" overlooks the fact that the council did add to doctrine. The most significant development was "collegiality." This is the teaching that the Roman Catholic Church is governed by the Pope with the bishops, not by the Pope alone.

with the bishops while preserving the singular impact of the papacy.

Among the Italian churchmen who have exhibited that kind of leadership are Cardinals Giovanni Benelli, 57, of Florence; Giovanni Colombo of Milan; Salvatore Pappalardo of Palermo; Sergio Pignedoli of the Vatican Secretariat for Non-Christians, and Corrado Ursi of Naples.

Outside of Italy such leaders are Cardinals Johannes Willebrands of Holland, Leon Suenens of Belgium, Basil Hume of England and John Dearden, considered the only American with an outside chance for the papacy.

Mass on TV

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan is scheduled to celebrate the Mass and deliver the homily for the Mass for shut-ins over WHEC-TV, Channel 10, at 8 a.m., Mission Sunday, Oct. 22.