

Word for Sunday

By Father Albert Shamon

Saints Incarnate The Faith

All Saints: (R3) Mt. 5:1-12. (R1) Rv. 7:2-4. 9:14. (R2) 1 Jn. 3:1-3.

November first is the Solemnity of All Saints ("All Hallows" in Middle English). On All Hallows Eve, people masqueraded as the saints after whom they had been named.



Fr. Shamon Someone asked, "What happened to the saints?"

"Nothing shocking," answered Fr. Robert McNamara, when 200 of them had been removed from the calendar. "From time to time, Popes revise the calendar of saints, excising those who have ceased to be, or are not truly, of universal importance. It's routine." When this happened to St. Christopher, however, there was a mighty rumble.

Fr. Salvatore Fink said, "We like to assure you that nothing has happened to the saints. They are alive and well and living in heaven."

But a question remains: how are the saints doing on earth?

Today, more and more articles are appearing on America's need for heroes.

Evangelist Billy Graham declares that America needs heroes, and the reputations of its past leaders, such as John F. Kennedy, "should not be destroyed by allegations and rumors."

William J. Bennett wrote, "Let's bring back heroes. The idea that it is not proper to have heroes—or worse, that there are no heroes, or only shabby ones—is dangerous. Children need to know what deserves to be emulated and loved and nurtured."

C.S. Lewis anticipated today's concern when he remarked, "The task of the modern educator is not to cut down jungles, but to irrigate deserts."

The Church in her age-old wisdom has always given heroes to her children—the saints; given them as intercessors and for imitation.

When things get lost, who has not earnestly pleaded, "St. Anthony, St. Anthony, look around—something's lost and has to be found."

What young French girl has not prayed, "Good St. Anne, get me a man, as quick as you can—and good St. Anne, a rich man, too."

How many children have gone to bed praying, "Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, bless the bed that I lie on. One to watch and one to pray; two to carry my soul away."

How many a mother has been encouraged by a St. Monica to pray perseveringly for a wayward son; or to grapple with praying because St. Teresa of Avila did just that for over 12 years.

Lives of great men (and women) all remind us: We can make our own sublime, And, departing, leave behind us Footprints on the sands of time.

Footprints, that perhaps another, Sailing o'er life's solemn main, A forlorn and shipwrecked brother, Seeing, shall take heart again.

What wonderful saints have been given to us today to pray to and to imitate: Maria Goretti, victim of rape; Elizabeth Anne Seton, founder of the parochial school; John Neumann, the humble immigrant bishop; Mother Cabrini, and others.

In our Confirmation classes we make it a point to have our students read the biography of at least one saint. Saints incarnate the Faith.

Everyone else, too, should read the lives of these heroes of God. Knowledge leads to admiration, admiration to imitation.

Store Fair Focuses On Quality of Life

Scientific exhibits, cooking demonstrations and daily performances of music and dancing are among the highlights of Sibley's Fall Fair, now in progress at the downtown store. The ninth annual fair, labeled "Quest," focuses on cultural phenomena that historically have enhanced the quality of American life.

people dance through the main aisle of the street floor at 11:55 a.m. every day, through Oct. 28, and Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7:15. On show in the fifth floor Ward Gallery is an historical fashion exhibit from the Rochester Museum and Science Center. Performances by the Eastman Jazz Singers

are scheduled daily. There are daily demonstrations of cookery and home crafts.

The traditional gala preview Sunday evening, Oct. 14, was for the benefit of the Susan B. Anthony Scholarship Fund at the University of Rochester.

The grand processional, a fixture of the celebration, is called The Lively Arts this year. Fifty costumed Sibley

Spanish Films

Four prize-winning Latin American films will be shown on the Saturdays of November at the Puerto Rican Arts and Cultural Center, 938 Clifford. Cosponsor with the center is the Manuel Alonso Library. The shows, at 5 p.m., are open to the public free of charge. First in the series, on Nov. 4, is Blood of the Condor by Jorge Sanjines, a 1969 Venice Film Festival winner, which focuses on the Kechua and Aymara Indians of Bolivia. The Spanish language films have English subtitles.

THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER

"A Friend and Listener"

By Ed Sulewski

Comforting someone who has just lost a loved one is difficult. Often the bereaved are emotionally unable to express what would make them feel better—or how you might help.

Realize though, that your presence, as a friend and listener, is important and appreciated. To resolve any strong emotion, it must be released—expressed and shared. Your words of comfort, your love and friendship, are all a part of the process of learning to adjust to the death. If you, yourself, have experienced the death of someone close to you, you will remember how much the concern of others meant to you at that time.

The time you take to be with those who are grieving, to share with them your own feelings and to allow them to express theirs, will be of more value than anything else you can do. We can answer many questions on how to deal with grief—please call at any time.

SCHAUMAN FUNERAL HOME, INC. 2100 St. Paul St. 342-3400

Women Ministers Open New Office

The Organization of Women Ministers, representing about 150 women in professional ministry in this area, opened an office Oct. 5 at Calvary-St. Andrew's Church, 68 Ashland, at Averill. A service with music, homily and prayers was followed by a press conference and luncheon reception.

Michele Daviau, convener of the steering committee, said the occasion signified the group's growth in two years from an informal association of interested women to a representative organization with programs geared to the needs of members. Among the programmed activities, she said, are weekly studies of the Scripture readings appointed for each Sunday, monthly luncheons with women speakers of note and an annual conference on some pertinent theological topic.

The OWM board comprises representatives of seven Protestant denominations, three Catholic organizations and two graduate seminaries. Ms. Daviau said. The membership includes pastors, chaplains, religious education directors, social agency workers and theological students.

Deadline!

Deadline for news copy for the Courier-Journal is noon Thursday, the week before the Wednesday publication date.

Barber Conable ... Your Man in Washington ... Has a Couple of Questions for You ...

"You like double-digit inflation flattening your wallet? You like the biggest tax increase in history knocking on your paycheck this January as social security deductions skyrocket? You can thank your friendly Democratic Congress for both of these tasty treats. The Democrats have controlled the Congress for all but 4 of the past 46 years, including the last 24 in a row! Republicans have a better idea. It's called getting government off your back! I'd like your help and your vote on November 7. You'll find my name on Row B, along with the names of some other good Republicans. Thank you."



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