

COURIER-JOURNAL

Southern Tier-Auburn Geneva

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'Genesis 2' Attracts Ithacans

By Martin Toombs
Southern Tier Editor

Ithaca — In January, Immaculate Conception Parish announced that they would be scheduling religious education programs, and were seeking registrations to see if there was sufficient interest to conduct them.

One was "Genesis 2," a program written by Trappist Father Vincent Dwyer; the eight-week program was offered in three sections on consecutive Wednesdays.

Concern over registration turned out to be unnecessary, as 110 parishioners signed up for a session, and Sister Elizabeth Hughes, parish pastoral assistant who is coordinating the program, notes that the drop-out rate during the program has been slight.

The program began Feb. 14, and will finish April 4, when Sister Elizabeth is planning a closing liturgy that will involve all three sections of the course.

The 9:30 a.m. class is

being conducted by Father John DeSocio and Pat Tempesta, a parishioner. The 2:30 p.m. class is being conducted by Sister Campion, the school principal, and Sister Elizabeth is conducting the 7:30 p.m. session, which is the largest of the three.

The optional times, and child care provided during the sessions, made it possible for some to attend who otherwise wouldn't have been able to.

The program is based on

group discussion, but includes use of films by Father Dwyer, and tapes of Bible stories. Each session has a particular theme.

A discussion of love and related subjects occupied the 9:30 section March 14. They heard re-enacted on tape the story of Gethsemane, with emphasis on Christ's need for the love and support of the apostles.

Father Dwyer's film was devoted to the idea that for humans to love God fully,

they must first experience love for another human. He discussed the permanence of a love commitment, and that a loving relationship doesn't need to lead to marriage.

A strong love relationship, he pointed out, need not prevent persons from loving others; he said that a strong love will be the basis for including others, not excluding them.

Father DeSocio noted that the program is

"something new for the parish," and that it is "building toward a renewal" of the parish, and helping to "build community."

One participant, Jason Corina, noted that what he learned from the program "did ease my mind about Catholicism." He explained that he had been caught up in the rules, and the program helped him learn that he could "transcend rules and regulations and still be a spiritual person."

Chaplain Wins 'Oppy' C-S Region Schedules Workshop

Elmira — Father Timothy McGough, OCD, assistant chaplain at St. Joseph's Hospital, received the "Oppy" award in ceremonies at the hospital March 19.

Sister Martha Gersbach presented the discolored Carmelite with a plaque and pin following the announcement of his selection by the hospital's Operation People Committee.

The "Oppy" is given twice each year; nominations for the award are based on outstanding service to the hospital and patients, above and beyond expectations. Nominations for the award are made by fellow employees, patients and visitors.

After accepting the award, Father Timothy pointed out that he is not sure how he ended up a hospital chaplain, but he called the experience "one of the greatest blessings in my life."

He added that working with the hospital staff, many of whom were attending the



Father Timothy McGough being congratulated on winning the "Oppy" award by Sister Martha Gersbach, St. Joseph's Hospital administrator.

ceremony, has been a "humanizing" experience.

Father Timothy is a native of Philadelphia, Pa. He has pursued academic studies at several institutions. His studies in clinical pastoral education occurred at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington, DC, and at St.

Luke's Hospital in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Present for the award were Father Timothy's brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas McGough of Syracuse, as well as members of the Carmelite community from the St. John of the Cross Monastery, Waverly.

Horseheads — "The Intimacy of God with Humankind" is the topic for a workshop to be conducted by Joseph Kelly, continuing education director at St. Bernard's Seminary, at St. Mary Our Mother Church March 30-31.

No registration will be required for the program, sponsored by the Chemung-Schuyler Adult Education Committee. Friday evening's session will begin at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday's will run from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., concluding with a Mass celebrated by Father Kevin Murphy, regional coordinator.

Participants are asked to bring their lunch for a Saturday; beverages will be provided. There is no charge for the program.

Further information can be obtained by contacting Joette Knotte, 739-5341; or Hilda Stebbins, 739-5292.

Charismatics Slate Mass

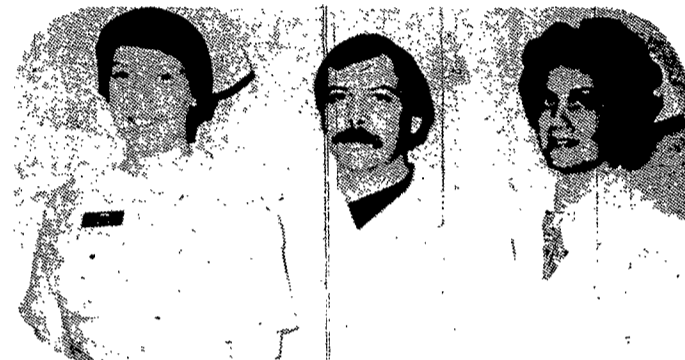
Ithaca — A Charismatic Mass will be celebrated Friday, March 30, at 7:30 p.m. in the Anabel Taylor Hall Auditorium on the Cornell University campus. The Mass, sponsored by the Southern Tier Charismatic Prayer Groups, will be on the theme, "In our weakness, we find the Lord's strength."

Father James Connolly, SJ, Cornell chaplain, will be the celebrant and homilist.

The event's host, the Cornell Charismatic Prayer Group, also will offer a reception in the One World Room following the Mass.

Another Hat

Los Angeles (RNS) — Cardinal Giovanni Benelli of Florence has joined the editorial board of the National Catholic Register, an independent national Catholic weekly published here.



St. James Mercy Hospital School of Nursing students who received awards are, from left, Elaine Averill, Terry Mescham, and Judy Jansch.

Nursing Students Receive Awards

Hornell — Thirty-two freshmen at the St. James Mercy Hospital School of Nursing received gold crosses signifying successful completion of the first semester of study at ceremonies March 18 in St. Ignatius Church.

Annual awards were presented three class members during the ceremony. Mrs. Margaret Welch presented the Ethan Welch, MD, Scholarship Award to Mrs. Judy Jansch of Wayland. Established in 1972, the award is given by the Welch family to a freshmen.

Terry Meacham of 66 Elm St., Hornell, was awarded the Reidman Agency Award. The award is presented to a student who has scholastic ability.

Elaine Averill of RD 1,

Lenten Drama Set At St. Patrick's

Seneca Falls — Members of St. Patrick's Parish are busy preparing for the second annual production of a Lenten dramatization depicting the life of Jesus Christ. The production "Unbounded Love" will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 4 in the church.

Three viewing screens will be used simultaneously to show over 300 slides of the life, teachings, death and resurrection of Christ. Musical selections will be from Jesus Christ, Superstar, Godspell and Celebrate Life.

Participants in this year's program include Mary Capparelli, Kathy Cole, Judy

Wayland, received the Jan R. Travis Award. The award is given by the school in the memory of the late Mr. Travis, who served as school secretary. Awarded for humanitarianism and kindness, the recipient is chosen by a vote of the student body.

The welcome and congratulations were given by Sister Mary Rene, hospital administrator; Father Eugene Eno, chaplain, gave the invocation and blessed the crosses.

Loretta Haefele, nursing school director, spoke on the history of the Gold Cross ceremony, and, assisted by Sister Georgia Seibold and Othonia Viray, she presented each student a gold cross.

A reception was held following the ceremony in DeSales Hall.

Auburn Pro-Life Groups Discuss Common Problems

Auburn — The Auburn area Right to Life and Family Life committees met recently to discuss mutual cooperation at the Salvation Army Building here. The cooperation involves providing each other with

information and education materials on life issues.

Father Louis Sirianni, associate pastor at Sacred Heart, Auburn, and Arthur and Kathleen Dandino, representing the Cayuga-

Seneca Region's Family Life committee, met with the Cayuga County Right to Life committee and described their committee's programs in ministering to families which include the Pre-Cana conferences and Marriage Enrichment series.

Judith McKay, chairperson of the Cayuga Right to Life committee, described the group's concern about abortion. "We see abortion as a threat to family life ... and would like to help the educational efforts of the family life programs," she said.

Other speakers included Mary Ann Tefft of the Speakers Bureau who announced that a new presentation on euthanasia will be reviewed at the April 19 meeting. James Tracy, political action chairman, reported on the group's attempts to prohibit Medicaid funding of abortions in the 1979-80 state budget.

Health Seminar Session Slated

Elmira — The next "To Your Health Seminar," titled "How to cope with your children while aging," will be Wednesday, April 4, at 7:30 p.m. in the Doctors Meeting Room of St. Joseph's Hospital.

A panel led by Dr. Frank Brand will respond to questions after the presentation. The program is free. To assure a seat, interested persons should call St.

Joseph's Community Relations Office, 733-9137.

Novena

Auburn — St. Hyacinth Church, 61 Pulaski St., is now sponsoring a weekly novena to St. Anthony of Padua. The novena is held each Tuesday evening beginning with the 5:30 p.m. Mass, followed by novena prayers and benediction. Services will be a relic of St. Anthony. The novenas will continue for 13 weeks until June 12.

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