



The Parish Life Commission of Our Lady of Perpetual Help makes plans for the 75th anniversary of the parish. Members are (left to right) seated: Eleanor Treatman, Edna Barnard, Georgianna Nientimp, John Bittner (chairman), Msgr. Richard M. Quinn (pastor), Eva Schissl (vice-chairman), Lester Burke, Cecelia Bleier, Bernice Trunk; standing: Eugene Rizzo, Helen Bittner, Geraldine Hartman, Norita Darling, Michael Tedone, and Jack Gillman.

OLPH Notes 75 Years

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church has a year of activities planned to observe the parish's Diamond Jubilee.

The first event in the series will occur on Saturday, April 21 with a 5 p.m. Mass celebrating the 75th anniversary of the founding of the parish. That event actually occurred on April 24, 1904. It was announced six days later at St. Michael's Church.

Other anniversary events include:

A Mass for deceased Service men and women of the parish on Sunday, May 27, at 9:45 a.m.;

A parish family picnic on Sunday, June 3 at Webster Park;

A parade of uniformed units of the parish in the 14621 Community Association celebration of Saturday, June 9;

A memorial Mass for Msgr. John P. Schellhorn, founder

and first pastor, on Sunday, Sept. 30;

An anniversary banquet and dance on Saturday, Oct. 6;

A memorial Mass for a deceased parishioner of Sunday, Nov. 4;

A Mass of thanksgiving in commemoration of the church's dedication and first Mass. The commemorative Mass will be held on Sunday, Jan. 27, 1980. The original events occurred on Jan. 22, 1905.

The Open Window

By Father Louis J. Hohman

Benediction Symbolism Explained

Dear Father Hohman:

It was most disheartening to read in your Feb. 14 column, "I am not particularly impressed by the concept of Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament..." I can not comprehend that Father Hohman statement at all! Next to the celebration of the Eucharist itself, I feel the adoration of Christ in this beautiful sacrament that He left us, takes precedence over all other devotions, etc. I assume since you are an ordained priest that you believe that the Eucharist is truly the Body and Blood of Christ; yet you are saying, I am not impressed to see the One I pledged my life and love to honored, adored and glorified. If that is really true you might as well hang up your collar and travel another path!

What is Benediction? Is it not an eternal expression of our love, dedication and gratitude to the One who daily gives us life and love! Just because He chose this unique physical form does not lessen in any way who He is! Yes, I agree that it is a very consoling and beautiful way of coming into contact with Jesus Christ, but it is so much more than that.

All other devotions are peripheral. What brings one closer to Christ may not do so for another. What I cannot understand is that

you equate Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament with private devotions! The gift of the Eucharist is beyond our power of comprehension. Not only does He come to us during the celebration of the Eucharist, He physically remains with us in all the tabernacles of the world, and will until the end of time. We have public adoration to return our love, to honor Him, not to be impressed.

(Signed)JMF

Dear JMF

I admire greatly your faith in the Blessed Sacrament; but I sincerely wish that you wouldn't disparage mine on the basis of that particular phrase which you quote. Before you make a judgement about my lack of faith in the Blessed Sacrament, you need to remember the following things:

Reservation of the Blessed Sacrament in any form was held only in the early Church for reasons of bringing Communion to the sick and not as a matter of devotion. This prevailed for centuries.

Each baptized Christian is a temple of the Holy Spirit—therefore God dwells in each one of us, by reason of our Baptism.

Jesus makes Himself present in a special way in each of the seven Sacraments and while the Sacrament of the Eucharist is the Sacrament par excellence, we cannot deny His presence in each of the others.

By Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, I was not referring to the Eucharistic presence but rather to the

act of making the Sign of the Cross with the Eucharistic presence over the congregation. This making of the Sign of the Cross over the congregation is a humanly originated practice which had as its purpose the idea of expressing that Jesus by His love and presence in the Eucharist, wishes us happiness and will bring us happiness if we allow Him to. But I can know that without the symbol being applied. This is what I meant by not being particularly impressed. I know with all my heart how much Jesus loves me because He died for me and because He made Himself present for me in the Eucharist. I know also that the very fact of His presence there blesses me. Personally I do not need to be reminded by an external man-made symbol. However, that may not apply to others and I am not imposing my views upon you or anyone else.

Catholic Scouts to Be Honored

Catholic Scouts will be honored at the St. George Awards Dinner scheduled at 7 p.m., Sunday, April 23, at Our Mother of Sorrows on M. Read Boulevard.

Two awards will be presented — St. George medals for Scouts and Pelican Awards for priests — as part of the program.

Tickets are still available by contacting Ed Sloan, 472-4782; John Reed, 554-3192; or Al Piccoli, 254-0438.

Adoration

The monthly adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held at Our Lady of Lourdes Church on Friday, April 6, beginning with exposition at 9 a.m. Rosary is recited at 9:15. The rites conclude with Mass at 5:30 p.m.

Pontiff's Schedule For Holy Week

Vatican City (RNS) — Pope John Paul II's Holy Week schedule: April 8, Sunday of the Passion: the Pope will bless palm branches at an open air ceremony in St. Peter's Square, then march into the basilica where he will celebrate Mass.

April 12, Holy Thursday

Pontiff: Pray for Peace

Vatican City (RNS) — Pope John Paul II has called for fervent prayer for the success of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

The treaty was signed March 26 in Washington, D.C.

The pontiff said, "Let us pray intensely that this event, which formalizes peace between two nations after several decades of war and tension, might signal a decisive step in the dynamic process of creating that peace which all people wish for in the entire Middle East — a peace respecting the rights and the well-being of all the peoples in the area."

The pontiff exhorted the faithful to pray fervently for the success of the Middle East peace efforts so that "brotherhood and harmony may return to reign once again in the blessed land where Jesus was born and lived."

Vatican Aide Praises Plan on Disarmament

New York (RNS) — The Vatican's observer at the United Nations has described a U.N.-sponsored global referendum on disarmament as "an imaginative and attractive idea" for advancing peace.

Archbishop Giovanni Cheli, permanent observer of the Holy See to the U.N., made the observation after meeting here with T. James Stark, director of Operation Dismantle. The U.N. group was seeking the support of the Vatican for a "Draft Resolution for a Global Referendum on Disarmament."

The resolution calls for a worldwide, country-by-country referendum on "general and complete disarmament."

The hope is to achieve "a strong mandate" from the people of all nations that would provide an "irresistible" demand for a "truly disarmed world of cooperation and co-existence."

Archbishop Cheli agreed with Stark that the current escalation in nuclear arms is suicidal and said that the Vatican is vitally interested in all efforts to further the cause of world peace.

Focus

St. Thomas More Church, 2671 East Ave., will be the site for an evening of Focus on the Eucharist, April tomorrow, April 5.

Father Frederick Helfrich, associate pastor, will officiate at the rites which begin with Evening Prayer at 7:30 p.m. Mass will be celebrated at 8:15 p.m. with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament following.

Concelebration of Mass with cardinals, bishops, priests in morning. In the afternoon, the pontiff will celebrate Mass of the Supper of the Lord in St. John Lateran Basilica. He will wash the feet of 12 persons.

April 13, Good Friday, The only day of the year when the Eucharistic liturgy is not celebrated in the Roman Rite. The Pope will preside over observances commemorating the Passion and Death of Christ in St. Peter's Basilica.

April 14, Holy Saturday, the Pope will preside over the solemn Easter Vigil

liturgy, at night in St. Peter's Basilica.

April 15, Easter Sunday, the Pope will celebrate Mass at 10:45 a.m. in front of St. Peter's Basilica. At noon, he will deliver his apostolic blessing to the city of Rome and the world.

Adoration

The diocesan Nocturnal Adoration Society will hold a special Holy Hour on Palm Sunday, April 8 at 3 p.m. at Christ the King Church, 445 Kings Highway South. Father Thomas B. Mailloux, CSB, pastor of the church, will preach.

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