

At Your Parish . . .

St. Michael, Penn Yan

Penn Yan — Nine major figures in the sports world will be featured at St. Michael's Church Sports Night, Feb. 7, in the church hall.

The roast beef dinner will be served at 7 p.m. At the head table will be Ed Ott, catcher for the Pittsburgh Pirates; Jeff Komlo, quarterback for the Detroit Lions; Joe DeLamielleure, pulling guard for the Buffalo Bills; Rick Dempsey, catcher for the Baltimore Orioles; Tim Waterman, center for the

Rochester Zeniths; Valerie Ann Nichols, senior center for the Keuka College Basketball Team; Anthony Collins, running back for East Carolina; Bill Hurley, quarterback for Syracuse; and Yagus Ferguson, running back for Notre Dame.

The master of ceremonies will be Wesley Allen. Tickets for the event are \$7 per person and are available at St. Michael's Rectory, 312 Liberty St., Penn Yan, N.Y. 14527.

St. Leo, Hilton

The Youth Group at St. Leo's parish in Hilton will sponsor a Youth Mass on Friday, Jan. 25 beginning at 7:30 p.m. All teens of the parish have been invited to attend and to bring a friend if they wish. The Mass will be celebrated by Father Donald Curtiss and a youth club meeting will take place afterwards. During the meeting activities for February and March will be announced.

Our Mother of Sorrows

A book about the 150 years of Our Mother of Sorrows parish is now available. The text was prepared by Father Robert McNamara, diocesan historian. Photos of the anniversary are included.

The book is available for \$10 and orders are now being taken. Those interested in purchasing the text may call the rectory, 663-5432 or Joan Stratton, 225-7259.

Holy Family

A Mardi Gras celebration will take place at Holy Family parish on Saturday, Feb. 16 in the parish auditorium. The Mardi Gras will feature live music and refreshments including a continental breakfast.

Tickets for the event are \$6 per person and may be obtained by contacting Dorothy Papineau, 235-6583 or Peggy Wamser, 328-6377. Deadline for reservations is Feb. 8.



Campus Fire

Members of the Ridge-Culver Fire Department were called to action last Wednesday morning at Bishop Kearney High School on Kings Highway in Irondequoit. Apparently one student's vehicle, a pick-up truck, caught on fire and had to be broken into to extinguish the flames.

St. Mary, Scottsville

St. Mary of the Assumption, Scottsville, will be the site of the second annual seminar for church women's groups on Sunday, March 23 from 1:30-4:30 p.m.

The meeting, "Spiritual Goals in the 1980s," will take place in Hartmann Hall at St. Mary's, 99 Main St.

According to a parish release, "Members of women's

groups and their moderators throughout the diocese are invited to attend. Msgr. Gerard Krieg, pastor at St. Mary's, will moderate the seminar."

Reservations may be made by contacting Nancy Bischooping, Rosary Society president, at St. Mary's, (716)889-2552 or Dorothy Plimpton, (716)889-3124. Reservation deadline is March 10.

St. Philip Neri

The St. Philip Neri Women's Club will meet tonight at 7:45. The meeting will begin with benediction in the church. After the business meeting a White Elephant sale will take place, refreshments will be available.

On Saturday, Jan. 26 the parish Women's Club will present a 50s Dance featuring live music and refreshments. Those interested in attending may contact Sandra Ferraro, 288-4491 or Yee Carlisimo, 288-4790.

Alumni Sponsor Courses

The Nazareth College Alumni Association is sponsoring seven non-credit courses this semester at the school. All classes will be held in the evening and are open to the general public.

The courses include Intermediate Bridge, Advanced Quilting, Needlework Sampler, an introductory course; Basic Federal Income Tax; Ornamental Penmanship, an introductory course; Slim and Swim, exercise and swimming under guidance; Cross Country Skiing, an introductory course.

Fees range from \$10 to \$40. Further information is available at the alumni relations office at the college: (716) 385-1490.

Cdl. Baum Gets Post With Curia

Vatican City — Cardinal William Baum, Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C., has become the highest ranking American in the Curia, the Church's central administration. Cardinal Baum was named last week by Pope John Paul II to head the Congregation for Catholic Education.

In recent years the distinction was held by the late Cardinal John Wright, as head of the Congregation for the Clergy.

Sr. Rosaire Home Awhile

Sister M. Rosaire of the Missionary Sisters of the Precious Blood, is spending a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edmund C. Bryant, Sr. of Conkey Ave.

Sister Rosaire, a graduate of Nazareth Academy has worked the past eight years in the Generalate of her congregation in Rome, Italy.

Word for Sunday

By Father Albert Shamon

Unlikely Spot For The Church

Sunday's Readings: (R2) 1 Cor. 12:12-30; (R3) Lk. 1:1-4; 4:14-21. (R1) Neh. 8:26; 8:10.

Last Sunday, we explained briefly what the spiritual gifts of the Holy Spirit or charisms are.

Too often we isolate what Paul says about these gifts from the rest of his letter to the Corinthians.

By attending to the rest of the letter, it will become clear why God endowed the Church at Corinth so openly with His Spirit and why this endowment led to problems.

The Church at Corinth was founded by Paul on his second missionary journey, about 50-52 A.D. He stayed in Corinth about a year and a half, and supported himself by tent-making.

Corinth was one of the most unlikely spots for Christianity to take hold. It was the Singapore, the sin-city of the ancient world. Situated on an isthmus, it was the bridge over which most traffic passed from West to East and from East to West. Consequently, peoples of all nations could be found in Corinth. To cater to this melange of

sailors, traders and merchants, Corinth served a smorgasbord of vices. The term "a Corinthian girl" was Roman slang for prostitute. Paul wrote his letter to the Romans from Corinth. In that letter he catalogued a horrendous list of pagan vices (Rom. 1:24-32). Very likely, he drew this list from what he had observed in Corinth. So vice-ridden a city would naturally be hostile, to say the least, to Christianity.

Besides its vice, Corinth was a pot-pourri of religions: Jewish, Greek, and pagan cults that not only condoned vice but sacralized the grossest immoral practices. From a human viewpoint, Christianity would not stand a chance in such an environment.

No wonder Paul came to Corinth in fear and trepidation (1 Cor. 2:3). Not only did the task of evangelization seem hopeless, but he himself seemed inadequate to the task. He had flopped flat on his face, you must remember, at the university town of Athens. There, he had relied on "wise" argumentation, human resources, his own ingenuity and intellectuality. And he was laughed-out of Athens.

But Paul was not the kind of man to let failure stop him. He assessed the situation only to discover that he had failed, because he had trusted too much in himself! At Corinth, therefore, Paul made a right-about-face. He realized that

in so hostile an environment as Corinth — with its 600,000 people full of every vice and corruption and with pagan religions catering to human frailty — he needed the intervention of God more than ever before. So he turned to the Holy Spirit.

And the Spirit did not fail Paul. The Spirit exploded among the Corinthians, endowing them with every spiritual gift: some he made apostles, prophets, teachers, miracle workers, healers, etc. Thus Paul could write: "Your faith rests not on the wisdom of men but on the power of God." "My preaching had the convincing power of the Spirit."

Yet these very gifts, meant to help establish Christianity in a hostile environment and to upbuild the Church, went to the heads of some of the Corinthians. Some became proud. Pride as always harbingered a fall. At Corinth, it led to dissension and division. "You are quarrelling among yourselves," Paul charged. "Let there be no factions. You are breaking up into opposing schools, like the pagan Greeks — as though Christianity were a philosophy. Christianity is Christ! Is Christ divided?"

Then to the Greeks who practically worshipped the body beautiful, Paul asked his Corinthians to work for the same kind of unity in the church's body as prevails in the human body.

How foolish for any Christian to be proud of the graces given him. Grace is a gift of God. Gifts are gifts — things freely given. If given, who can boast? (1 Cor. 4:7).



HOW TO BE HAPPY

THE HOLY FATHER'S MISSION AID TO THE ORIENTAL CHURCH

When are you happiest? Happiness lies in giving. You're happiest when you give yourself to the people who need you most...A mother, for instance, hums with happiness when she bathes and dresses her baby. A good nurse always has time for a smile. Good fathers whistle at their work...The best sort of giving involves more than writing checks—still, how better can you help the children now who need you overseas? Boys and girls who are blind, lepers, deaf-mutes, orphans—your money gifts, large and small, will feed them, teach them, cure them, give them a chance in life...Want to be happier? Give some happiness to a child. You'll be happy, too!

HAPPINESS IS A SISTER

In Marathakara, south India, a young Indian girl in training to be a Franciscan Clarist Sister will learn, among other things, how to care for orphans. Her training costs \$300 all told (\$12.50 a month, \$150.00 a year), a small investment for a Sister's lifetime of service. Like to be her sponsor? We'll send you her name and she will write to you.

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HAPPINESS IS A SCHOOL

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