

Notre Dame High School: 25 Years, 25 Vocations

Elmira — As Notre Dame High School celebrates its 25th anniversary Feb. 9 and Feb. 10, among those being invited to the festivities are the 25 alumni who are fulfilling religious vocations.

Eleven sisters, eight priests and six seminarians spent their high school years at Notre Dame, an average of one vocation a year. As Sister Mary Walter, principal, stated recently, "We're doing our share."

The highlight event in the upcoming celebration will be a Mass celebrated by Bishop Matthew H. Clark Sunday, Feb. 10 at 4 p.m. in the school auditorium. Nearly 3,000 invitations have been mailed to Notre Dame graduates around the world inviting them to the celebration, which also is open to the public.

Many names appear more than once when the school's 25 years are examined. Nine graduates of Notre Dame currently are on the faculty, two of whom are Sisters of Mercy. Five original faculty members teach at the school. Sister Joachim Pearson and Sister Carmella Coene have been on the faculty the entire 25 years; and Sisters Beatrice Curran, Edmond Gauthier and native Elmira, Edwina Butler have returned to the school after stints elsewhere.

The two alumni sisters on the faculty are Sister Marie Catherine and Sister Arlene Semesky.

The first vocation from the school was Sister Carol Morgan, now in Buffalo. One other sister working outside the diocese is Sister Monica Loughlin, who is in New Orleans.

Sisters who have graduated from Notre Dame and who work in the Rochester diocese are: Sisters Alice McLaughlin, Janet Meeker, Kristin Malone, Miriam Nugent, Mary Ann Kosakoski, Patricia Frisk and Kathleen Wayne.

Diocesan priests who claim Notre Dame as their alma mater are Fathers Gerald O'Connor, Walter Wainwright, Lewis Brown, Thomas Wheeland and John DeSocio. Jesuit Father Jerry Hall and Father Saverino Vitterino of Maryland, also are Notre Dame graduates.

Six seminarians have graduated from Notre Dame: Michael Sullivan, Joseph Larrabee, Kevin Kubinski and George Gublo of St. Bernard's Seminary in Rochester; Christopher Harper of Brookline, Mass., and Brian Frawley of Washington, DC.

At Your Parish...



Winners!

The CYO basketball team at St. Salome's parish is enjoying a fine season. The team is undefeated thus far with only a few games left to play. Shown here with tournament trophies they have won this year are team members (top row from left) Matt Zweigle, Mike Moffitt, Kevin Healy, Tom Schleich, Bill Baller, Paul Hamilton and Carl Musto. Bottom row Peter Geremia, John Tette, Eric Miller, Darren Hall, Bob House and Bill Maier.

Celebrate Life Schedules Concert

Horseheads — It will be a bit of a homecoming Saturday, Feb. 2 when Celebrate Life, the parish's young singing group, presents its 1980 concert in the new St. Mary Our Mother Church.

While Celebrate Life has led congregational singing every other week at the 12:30 Sunday Mass, it has been more than three years since the singers have performed their concert program within the home parish.

In its 11-year history, more than 700 teenagers have performed in more than 800 shows and led worshipful singing at more than 575 liturgies. Performances have

been under the sponsorship of churches in Connecticut, Maryland, New Jersey and throughout the Rochester area. While Celebrate Life has presented its annual concert and its kenten production of Godspell locally at the Clemens Center, many St. Mary Our Mother parishioners have never seen a performance.

"We hope that many from the parish will be present," said Ann Fedele, the group's 17-year-old pianist and the arranger of much of the concert's music. "It often seems like we get to sing our best shows far away from home. Many of our friends at school and church aren't

aware of the really great show we present."

The 8 p.m. concert is the first of its kind in the new St. Mary Our Mother church. The building committee designed the church with provisions for more than liturgical events. A Blessed Sacrament Chapel is separate from the main assembly area of the church and special lighting, sound and rear screen projection systems provide a versatile performing area.

While the concert is free and open to all, a free-will offering will be collected to help pay for the church's sound system.

Insights in Liturgy

By Father Robert J. Kennedy

Liturgy And Family

The National Conference of Catholic Bishops has designated 1980 "The Year of the Family." It is the bishops' concern that we grow more aware of the needs of family life in our time and find ways together to strengthen and affirm that family life.

Inevitably, the liturgy will be seen as an instrument for this pastoral work, the vehicle for addressing family concerns and celebrating family vitality. This is both good and bad. It is good because the liturgy is not isolated from life, and so it should address real life concerns (family included) and celebrate the presence of the Lord in our real life experience. But it is bad when liturgy is made to serve certain issues or when issues or themes so dominate the liturgy there is room for nothing else.

Let's look at the dangers first.

Liturgy is the expression of worship of the whole Church always and without exception. It is true that particular groups get together on certain occasions to celebrate the liturgy, but they never do so forgetting their connection with all their brothers and sisters in faith. Neither can a theme so dominate a liturgical celebration that some of the members will feel excluded or alienated.

Thus in planning celebrations around this year of the family, liturgy

committees and preachers should keep in mind their responsibility to all their congregation. While there is much goodness and vitality to be celebrated with gratitude in family life, there are also broken or alienated or one-parent families who struggle for some measure of happiness, unity and peace. There are families facing crises over multiple issues with family members. The image of family to be projected in liturgical style and preaching should be carefully considered. Compassion and healing might be more in order than the presentation of the ideal. Even the Holy Family of Nazareth had its crises, doubts and difficulties.

The desire to use the liturgy to strengthen and affirm family life should not unwittingly exclude the other important members of our parishes: childless couples, single adults, the widowed, the aging. Over-emphasis on marriage and family can alienate those who do not or choose not to fulfill someone's ideal of these experiences or who have lost that experience.

Finally, a word of caution about speaking of the parish as a family. The close knit family sharing of a wide range of needs and concerns is impossible for the large parish group, and to try to achieve it is unrealistic, frustrating and ultimately futile. The parish is a community. We have the personal and joyful bond of being brothers and sisters in Christ but we have the narrower focus of sharing the common task of

proclaiming the reign of God at hand. We share what we must know to achieve this mission. We support and challenge one another, and recognize that each member is indispensable whether he or she be married, single or widowed, black or white, attractive or plain, gay or straight, bright or simple.

Thus, much can be done in our liturgies to affirm and strengthen each person, as well as all our families. For example, in this "Year of Luke," liturgy planners and preachers should take seriously the Lucan themes that the good news is addressed to all, without exception and that it has to do with the real lives of real people. The Word of God proclaimed each week of 1980 is a word of hope, but not so ideal a word that it is unsympathetic of the crises of each day. On the contrary, its power to save is all the more felt in these times.

There are, of course, needs for special celebrations, too. A family service of reconciliation could be planned for Lent. Family Sunday during Easter time could celebrate the power of the Risen Lord in the formation of each community. A special wedding anniversaries liturgy with the renewal of wedding vows could be celebrated in June. Pentecost could revel in the gifts of all the members of the community. Families (and others) could be encouraged to pray Evening Prayer together or reflect on the Sunday readings together. And on and on...

Some resources for doing this will be discussed next week.

Most Precious Blood

A five-week spiritual renewal program is slated at Most Precious Blood parish beginning Feb. 10. "Families for Prayer," a program founded by Father Patrick Peyton, CSC, is designed to "highlight the necessity, the timelessness and value of daily family prayer," according to a parish release.

The first week of the program will concentrate on the family and its growing in love and understanding.

St. Boniface, Rochester

The musical "Godspell" will be presented at the St. Boniface School Auditorium on Friday, Feb. 8 and

St. Gregory, Marion

St. Gregory's, Marion, was the site of an ecumenical gathering Jan. 21 that involved representatives from St. Gregory's, United Church, the First Reformed Church and the Second Reformed Church.

According to Mr. E. Christianson, a St. Gregory spokesman, the purpose of the meeting "was to strive for a unity among the churches, not a uniformity."

A number of "positive suggestions were made," including an exchange of pulpits between the pastors, three joint ecumenical services per year, joint community projects and joint church suppers.

Representatives at the meeting included Father C. Richard Nangle, pastor at St. Gregory's; Rev. David Van Arsdale, United Church; Rev. Robert Willett, First Reformed Church and Sister Anne Helene, St. Gregory pastoral assistant.

St. Mary, Scottsville

Paul Woerner, a seventh grader and a member of St. Mary of the Assumption parish, Scottsville, recently won a national art contest sponsored by the publishers of Our Sunday Visitor.

Paul entered a drawing in the contest through his class in the parish School of Religion. The drawing will appear in a new textbook series titled "And These Thy Gifts" to be published later this year, according to a parish release. Paul also received a cash award.

St. John, Humboldt

A workshop on the metric system will be held this evening, Jan. 30 at 7:30 p.m. at St. John the Evangelist on Humboldt Street, for families associated with St. John's Blessed Sacrament consolidated schools. Mrs. Sue Seidenburg of the junior high mathematics department will discuss metric measurements and perform some practical experiments.

Lady of Victory St. Joseph's

The women of the Archconfraternity of the Holy Family of Our Lady of Victory-St. Joseph's Church have scheduled their next regular Mass and Breakfast celebration for Sunday, Feb. 3. Mass will begin at 9 a.m. and breakfast will follow at the Holiday Inn on St. Paul Street.

Saturday, Feb. 9 beginning at 8 p.m. The presentation is produced and directed by George M. Ringholz.

The St. Boniface auditorium, located at 15 Whalin St. off of Gregory Street, has a limited seating capacity and reservations should be made early. No tickets will be sold at the door.

Those who wish to attend may purchase tickets at the rectory, 330 Gregory St. from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Monday through Friday, or the school from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Friday. Reservations can also be made in the back of Church after all Masses.

St. Rita, Webster

The annual Family Communion Breakfast at St. Rita's, Webster will take place on Sunday, Feb. 10 after the

St. Charles, Rochester

The Human Development and Human Life committees of St. Charles Borromeo Parish are sponsoring a program on Teenage Pregnancy and Pastoral Care, this evening, Jan. 30 at 7:30 p.m. The program will feature a panel discussion. Participants will be Father William Barrett, Miss Angelina Boella, Howard and Margaret Ritchman and Dr. Joseph Mancini.

9:15 a.m. Mass. Those interested in attending may contact Janet Kuhn, 671-7319, or Miriam Kennelly.

Holy Family, Rochester

The next business meeting of the Rosary Society of Holy Family parish is scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 13 beginning at 8 p.m. Services in the church will precede the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Nominations of officers for next year will take place, and a Valentine Party, hosted by Mrs. Albert Brunette, will follow.

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