

Archbishop Raya Slated to Speak At Prayer Center

Archbishop Joseph M. Raya, former Archbishop of Akko, Haifa, Nazareth and all Galilee, will open the Lenten series of talks at the Prayer Center, conducted by the Sisters of St. Joseph on Mt. Vernon Avenue.

The archbishop will speak on "Prayer: Finding Yourself in God," on Thursday, Feb. 28 at 7:30 p.m.

The archbishop is well known for his perception of Eastern spirituality. He was born in Lebanon and was

ordained there in 1941. He later served as assistant pastor and as pastor for churches in New Jersey and Alabama. For 10 years he served as the official delegate of the Patriarch Maximos IV to the United States National Liturgical Conference. During the Second Vatican Council he served as a peritus.

He was elected and consecrated Archbishop, a post he resigned in September 1974 because of political pressures in his archdiocese. Since that time, the archbishop has lived at Madonna House, Combsville, Ontario, and has lectured in the U.S. and Canada. He is presently teaching Eastern spirituality at Christ the King Seminary at East Aurora.

The Lenten speaker series at the Prayer Center also includes Sister Nancy Burkin, SSJ, speaking on "Lent, Life and Liturgy," March 13; and Sister Joan Sobala, SSJ,

"Jesus, Model of Our Life with God," March 27.

The evenings offer time for reflection and discussion and are open to the public.

Church Women's Gathering Set

Sister Mary Bride, RSM, of the Mercy Prayer Center will be guest speaker March 23 at the Second Annual Church Women's Seminar, scheduled for March 23 at St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Scottsville. Her talk is entitled "Spiritual Goals of the 1980s."

The meeting, sponsored by the Assumption Rosary

Society, will open with a prayer service at 1:30 p.m. and close with a social hour at 4:30. All women interested in church groups are invited. They are asked to register with the society's president, Nancy Bischoff, at 716-889-2552, or Dorothy Plimpton, 716-889-3124, after 4 p.m.

Insights in Liturgy

By David E. Nowak

Spirituality Of Preface

Through our observance of Lent you correct our faults and raise our minds to you. You help us grow in holiness and offer us the reward of everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (P. 11)

Many traditional Lenten "observances" have been shed in recent years. And very little has replaced them in our fast moving, fast food economy. Self-denial and self-restraint only find us further behind in a cost of living—quality of life crunch.

On the one hand, there is a sense of "good riddance" about our loss. Generally speaking, the penitential practices of the past have tended to rely on a sentimental rather than a spiritual atmosphere. They expressed feelings of remorse, dwelling upon the horror of sin and how deeply it "wounds the feelings" of Christ, or "grieves" the Holy Spirit, while all too often neglecting the need for spiritual conversion.

Many Christians failed to recognize that shame, horror or guilt is not a cure for sin. In fact, it may be merely a selfish reaction to social rejection. In that case, it would not be the wounded Christ for whom we grieve but for our own wounded pride.

Like the swing of the pendulum, we often moved from one self-centered decision, our sin, to another, our guilt. We fixed our gaze firmly on our personal failure and not on Christ. And we believed we could restore ourselves to grace by performing acts of penitence and piety. For we sought to convince God of our worthiness, rather than turn to Him in helpless abandon.

The purification we seek during Lent is not of our own making. It is not a time to put ourselves to the test for God. It is God's time for testing us, and our time for rediscovering His love.

The Preface of Lent is clear. God "corrects our faults," "raises our minds" and bestows upon us the reward His Son has won. Our responsibility centers on being ready to receive his "life" He has promised.

Our need to fast, pray and give alms this season is not

for relieving self-imposed remorse. These observances are ways of preparing ourselves for communion with God. Abstinence from food and drink is not a debt we pay, but a reminder of our total dependence upon God, the sole source of life.

We do not abstain from something because it or we are bad. We abstain so that we never lose sight of what is good, and good for us. Neither do we need to make a good impression on God. He already loves us. We are simply making it easier for Him to do so without having to compete for our attention.

Spending our time at prayer, fasting or almsgiving is an act of attention and consent. It is at once our appeal and our susceptibility for divine mercy, forgiveness, and conversion. It is the chance we give ourselves for turning our lives around and orienting ourselves in loving, healing service.

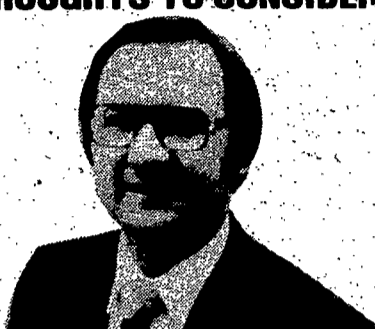
These are actions which signal our desire to share in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection, and to disavow the claims of self-love.

Our Lenten observances, like any human act, can be spiritually dangerous. They may be performed as a personal achievement for one's own advantage. Our Lord warned His disciples, "When you fast do not put on a gloomy look as the hypocrites do." (Mt. 6:16). Fasting is a sign of conversion to God. It should be done with all the joy and charity of bringing new wine and of believing in total transformation.

Our Lenten practices can no longer be characterized by self-renunciation and self-discipline forged by our own will. Our penitential practices are an aftermath. They are a response to knowing and living in Christ. They are our way of sharing the power of His suffering and His resurrection.

Above all, Lent is not a time for pitting the soul against the body, the mind against the heart, or my salvation against the needs of the community. Lent is a time for integration. It is a time for gathering together, being made whole, and sharing with others. When somebody asks what you have "given up" for Lent, tell them what you have "given for" the coming of the Kingdom.

THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER



EDWIN SULEWSKI
FUNERAL DIRECTOR

If you are the wife of a farmer or rancher, and your husband dies unexpectedly, many immediate responsibilities — planting, harvesting, buying and selling — may be familiar to you. With some help from friends and neighbors, these functions will probably not present any great problem.

Never-the-less, you will be faced with a number of decisions that have little to do with the everyday running of the farm or ranch. Will you have to pay estate taxes? Will the mortgage insurance return the debt? Will you continue to operate the farm — and hire someone to help maintain it? Will you rent the land or a part of it?

These questions, and many others, are much more easily dealt with while both partners are living. Taking the time to plan together for future security can make the decisions and responsibilities at the time of death much easier. One part of planning ahead you may wish to consider is funeral pre-arrangement: If you have questions concerning this possibility, we would be glad to visit with you.

Use our lending library, audio visual aids, and audio cassettes on dying, death, bereavement, and related subjects. We are available for group discussions.

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

Brighten-up your lenten menu with this special offering from Cable-Wiedemer

Soufflé For Two

Cheese Soufflé For Two

Preheat oven to 375°
Butter and flour two (2 cup capacity) souffle dishes

1 Tb butter	1/2 tsp cayenne pepper	1/2 cup grated Swiss or Gruyere cheese
1 Tb flour	2 egg whites	4 Tb grated Parmesan cheese
1 cup milk	3 egg whites	
1 tsp Dijon mustard	1/2 tsp cream of tartar	
Freshly ground black pepper	1/2 tsp salt	

Heat the butter in a small, heavy saucepan. Stir in the flour. Add the milk gradually. Stir with a wire whisk until a medium-thick, smooth sauce has formed. Remove from the heat. Stir in the mustard, black and cayenne pepper. Stir in the egg yolks.

Put the egg whites, cream of tartar and salt in a small bowl and beat until they stand in soft peaks. Fold in the Swiss or Gruyere cheese and 2 Tbs. of the Parmesan cheese. Fold in the milk mixture. Divide between the prepared souffle dishes and sprinkle the surface with the remaining Parmesan cheese.

Place in a baking dish and add sufficient hot, not boiling, water to come 1/2 of the way up the sides of the dishes. Bake in the preheated oven for 20 minutes.

Souffle set shown: \$6.30

Cable Wiedemer's Gourmet Gallery
2179 Monroe Avenue in Brighton
271-1789
Open daily 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

FAMILY CAMP

Christian Family Renewal

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#2 - July 6-July 12	#5 - July 27-August 2
#3 - July 13-July 19	#6 - August 3-August 9

OPTIONAL

#7 - August 10-August 16

★ COST PER FAMILY, INCLUDING ALL MEALS, PROGRAMS, AND USE OF FACILITIES: \$275⁰⁰

FOR INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION:
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