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**CWC** Fashions A fashion show and luncheon sponsored by the Catholic Women's Club is scheduled

for Saturday, April 5, at 11:30 a.m. at the Marriott Inn on Ridge Road West. Members of the organizing committee are, from left; Mrs. Leonard G. Carrier. cochairman of publicity; Mrs. Melbourne J. Porter, co-chairman of the fashion show; Helen O'Harrigan, reservations chairman; and Mrs. Stuart A. Craig, fashion coordinator. Minimun donation for the event is \$10 and proceeds go to the scholarship fund of the CWC. Reservations can be made by calling the CWC office at 275-9173 or 271-4835.

## **Insights in Liturgy**

### What Is Lent For? By Father Robert J. Kennedy

It probably seems a little late to pose the question inthe title of this column. After all, Lent is almost over. Holy Week is upon us. So why discuss Lent now?

Part of the reason for raising the question now is that so often parishes and others regard Lent as an end in itself. Parish renewal programs, of either an educational or spiritual nature, are scheduled during Lent and when they are completed, we put Lent away for another year. We race through Holy Week, hold our breath in order to "get through" a seemingly overwhelming Easter Triduum, and breathe a sigh of relief when it is over:

This, however, is a misunderstanding of the Lenten Season Lent is not an end in itself, but a. preparation for something much more important. What is Lent for? Lent is for Easter, and specifically for baptism and the renewal of the baptismal commitment for all God's faithful. Lent. has been a time of intense. preparation and purification for those to be initiated or received into the Church at the Easter Vigil, and a time of renewal and reconciliation for those who on Easter renew their baptismal promises. So Lent is, first of all, for preparation and spiritual growth.

But there is more. Lent is

that celebrates in a special way the death and resurrection of Christ. The Easter celebration that Lent prepares for opens onto a full and joyous second half of the season that St. Athanasius calls "the Great Sunday." Lent is for the Easter Season, a time for singing full-throated "Alleluias" and for con-

templating the power of the resurrection in our lives. Traditionally, there are two elements that mark this Easter Season.

First, this season was a time of "post-baptismal catechesis" for those who had been newly baptized in the Easter Vigil. It was a time of instruction and prayer in which the neophytes reflected on the dramatic events that initiated them into the Church (their washing with water, anointed with chrism, and joining the faithful at the eucharistic table). Through this reflection they deepened' their understanding of the mysteries of Christ into which they had been initiated:. the power of the resurrection in their lives, how the death and resurrection of Christ was to be the pattern of their own lives, the responsibility of sharing in the mission of Christ which is a mission of reconciling God's People and uniting them in Christ. With the help of their sponsors, the newly baptized would also practice the new way of life, the/ Christian way, they had embraced. All this in the context of joyful

Alleluias, praising the Risen

Easter Season focused so strongly on the postbaptismal, instruction of the neophytes, preaching took a predominant role. This preaching had its "golden age" at the time of the Church Fathers when St. John Chrysostom, St. Cyril of Jerusalem, St. Augustine and others nourished the faith of their churches by their wonderful homilies. post-Easter preaching This opened up the mysteries of Christ for all to understand and rejoice in. It helped to articulate for the assembled congregations the ways in which the Risen Christ was present and active in the Church. the sacraments and in the daily life of Christians. One could say with assurance that the principal ministry of the Church in the Easter Season was (and should be) the preaching ministry, a time for speaking and hearing strengthening and encouraging words of faith.

Second, because the

Why raise all this? Because' we need to recapture these elements in our time. To understand Lent as a time of preparation for Easter; and to take a hold of Easter and its seven-week celebration as an opportunity for solid preaching. that nourishes faith, for growing in a realization of the presence of the Risen Lord and the power of his Spirit in our lives, and for rejoicing in the mighty works God has done for us in raising Jesus from the

Based on scripture readings for Sunday, March 30, 1988.

Following are key passages from Sunday's scripture readings. Fill in the

# **CO Board Fears** Tightening of Qualifications

Washington (RNS) — The National Interreligious Service Board for Conscientious Objectors says it is worried that qualifications for objector status and alternative service programs will be severely narrowed in the event of a military draft.

Board Director Warren Hoover said he anticipates a move to tighten Selective Service System rules to avoid a recurrence of the situation during the closing years of the Vietnam War when about 40 percent of draft-cligible young men claimed conscientious objector status. About half of them got it.

Given these assumptions, Hoover said, the government is likely to-devise an alternative service program that is "repressive in nature," so the option will become as unattractive as possible.

NISBCO, an anti-draft information and service coalition that represents 47 Roman Catholic, Protestant. and Jewish religious organizations, met recently in Washington with Selective Service officials. Afterward, Hoover noted that the meeting produced "no commitment to the use of any form of alternative service that was used during the Vietnam and Korean War eras.'

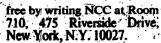
The government is still drawing up a new alternative service policy. Brayton Harris, agency spokesman, could not speculate when it would be finished.

In a Louis Harris Survey of 1,198 voters across the country, a 76 to 22 percent majority favored President. Carter's call to register young people. By 61 to 34 percent, those polled said they believed a general conscription should replace the present system of voluntary enlistments.

The National Council of Churches Division of Education and Ministry has established a draft information hotline and issued a resource booklet titled "Registration and the Draft: Time for Decision.'

Those interested in listening to a brief, taped message on the latest events relating to draft legislation in Congress may call (313) 995-0966 in Detroit. Single issues of the

draft booklets are available



2910 Dewey Ave. 



only one-half of the season

#### Lord for what he has done. déad.

## **Sunday Scripture Quiz**

missing words.

C Cycle.

I. Gospel Reading: Euke 22, 14-23,56 --- The Passion and Death of Jesus Christ. Below is a key passage from Sunday's Gospel reading. You can determine, what this passage is by finding the answers to the questions below the puzzle and then putting the letters in their appropriate box. The first one is done for you.

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	East Te m		•			15	58 6	7 63	39	-	` :	Entitled to: 24 28 87 To cry loudly: 7 60 47 19	Passage III words: God, born, attitude, slave, equality, Christ's, like- ness, ferm, emptied.		Number

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