



Rebecca Dennis, left, and Ellen Prutsman, who received scholarship awards at St. James Mercy Hospital School of Nursing striping ceremonies Sept. 28.

## Student Nurses Cited

Hornell—St. James Mercy Hospital School of Nursing students were awarded stripes, and two awards were presented during ceremonies in St. Ann's Church Sunday, Sept. 28.

Mrs. Ellen Prutsman of Hornell received the Arthur R. Foreman Scholarship, presented to a junior nursing student "who has displayed a dedication to the profession

for which she is training and who has conducted herself in the best interest of the patient."

Mrs. Rebecca Dennis of Jasper was awarded the Hazel Stewart Award given to a junior "who has demonstrated dedication to the pursuit of a career in nursing and has high scholastic ability."

Fr. Albert Shamon



Word for Sunday

## Humility Is Truth

Sunday's Readings: (R1) Sir. 35:12-14, 16-18; (R2) 2Tim. 4:6-8, 16-18; (R3) Luke 18:9-14.

One of the first acts of John XXIII as Pope was to visit Regina Coeli, the prison of Rome. He wished to make the occasion memorable by giving freedom to a deserving inmate. As the Pontiff was escorted through the prison, he asked each man why he was there. Everyone protested innocence. One said he had been slandered. Another that he had done no wrong. A third that he was forced against his will. A fourth that justice had indeed miscarried in his case. Each claimed he should be free. Finally Pope John came to a young man who confessed, "I'm here because I deserve it. I have robbed, cheated, been the worst of men. Now I'm paying for what I've done." The pope called the jailor and said, "Release this man quickly, lest one so evil corrupt all these other good men who say they are here for no crime whatever." What the pope saw was that this man was the only honest one among them, and so the only one who deserved to be freed.

"The prayer of the lowly pierces the clouds" (R1). God is truth. He loves honesty and sincerity. That is why he exalts the humble. For the humble man is the truthful man. He sees himself as God sees him, and he is sincere enough to admit what he sees about himself.

In the parable of the Pharisee and the publican, our Lord wanted to correct the notion that grace is a human achievement. Some people honestly think they have what they have and are what they are solely because they have earned it. The Pharisee came to the temple to proclaim all he had done as though God

should be indebted to him. All his verbs are in the first person — only once does he mention God: five times he uses the pronoun "I." The remaining words are either a commendation of his minor pieties or a condemnation of his neighbor. His prayer was like a pillar of brass, which Trajan erected to himself in Rome and covered with a record of his own triumphs.

The poor tax-collector could claim nothing. He had heard the Pharisee denounce him, for in ancient times it was a common practice to pray aloud. Hearing himself condemned, the tax-collector prayed, "Lord, be merciful to me, for I am that sinner — the one the Pharisee is talking about."

Christ's judgment on the Pharisee is frightening. He did not say that the Pharisee did well, but should not judge his fellowman. No, he said that the Pharisee got nothing at all for his trouble. Zero. For God loves us, not because of what we do but because of what He does; not because of who we are, but because of who He is. The good we do is not to buy God off, but to express our response to His love.

The tax-collector who had nothing to offer God except a humble and sorrowing heart is proclaimed to have become "right with God." Maybe he did not know it. Maybe he did not feel it. Yet Christ said he went home "exalted," on top of the world.

The Pharisee looked only at his neighbor. He compared himself with others.

The tax-collector looked up only to God. He compared himself with God.

Once a burning candle said to the darkness, "I am better than both of you, for I am the brightest of all."

And all night long, the lighted bulb gloried in its light — till the sun rose.

With whom do we compare ourselves? To be humble, we must see ourselves in relation to God and to no one else.

# 'We Have a Common Treasure'

Following is the text of the address given by Pope John Paul II during an audience with members of the International Commission on Dialogue between the Catholic Church and the Anglican Communion.

Dear Brothers in Christ,

You are most welcome here. I greet you with honor, veterans, seasoned workers in a great cause — that unity for which Christ prayed so solemnly on the eve of his sacrificial death.



We know that this cause is the responsibility of all who are committed to Christ. It can be served in many ways, the way assigned to you by the Common Declaration of Paul VI and Archbishop Michael Ramsey was that of "serious theological dialogue based on the Scriptures and on the ancient common Tradition."

You see that the very words of this program are revealing. Unity is a gift of our Lord and Savior, the founder of the Church. Although it was marred by the sin of men, it was never entirely lost. We have a common treasure, which we must recover and in fullness of which we must share, not losing certain characteristic qualities and gifts which have been ours even on our divided state.

Your method has been to go behind the habit of thought and expression born and nourished in enmity and controversy, to scrutinize together the great common treasure, to clothe it in a language at once traditional and expressive of the insights of an age which no longer glories in strife but seeks to come together in listening to the quiet voice of the Spirit.

I do not need to tell you — you can tell me — that the task is not easy. It is not a task for man unaided. In seeking unity, man must first imitate Christ in praying for it. You have grasped and practiced this, praying together, and you have reflected together, sharing in each other's liturgies and offices so far as is proper to our still divided state.

This support was put behind your work of study, reflection and formulation from the beginning, 14 years ago. You have prayed and countless others have prayed with you and for you.

Now your appointed task draws to an end. No doubt you look back in love and brotherhood on those years of labor. Some of its fruits are well known, some have been studied by many others, have influenced many. Now a time is approaching when you will make a final report, which the respective ecclesiastical authorities must assess.

Here is a great responsibility. Your work will be taken seriously — weighed with all the care and sympathetic attention it demands. I thank God for what has been achieved, and I thank you, who have worked in his Name, with a desire to be submissive to his Spirit.

## Stop Using Pope Ad, Carter Campaign Asked

Washington (RNS) —The Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights has asked President Carter to stop using a television commercial showing him with Pope John Paul II.

Father Virgil Blum, the league's director, sent messages both to the president and to Robert S. Strauss, chairman of the Carter-Mondale campaign. Father

Blum said use of the film, made when the pontiff visited the White House last year, was improper because the pope "was paying his respects to the office of the presidency. It was not his intention to lend himself to a partisan political campaign and the Democratic National Committee is abusing a courtesy by including the pope in a political advertisement."

## Terri Belli On TV Show

Look again! Yes, that's she. That's Teresa Anne Belli, formerly of St. John the Evangelist parish on Ridge Road, on the "We get letters" segment of "60 Minutes" on CBS Sunday nights.

She is the daughter of Mr.

and Mrs. Emil Belli and a graduate of Greece Athena High and the State University College at Brockport. She has been on the staff of the popular TV show for three years. Formerly she worked for GeVa and the Blackfriars and Community Players.

As the two men who commissioned you realized deeply, oneness in faith lies at the roots and fertilizes Christian life. Given that fact, there can be rich variety in growth. In three great fields of doctrine you have sought agreement in those matters in which doctrine admits no diversity. This effort calls for warm appreciation.

But you yourselves realize that much remains to be done. To understand the mystery of Christ's Church, the Sacrament of Salvation, in its fullness is an abiding challenge. Many of the practical problems which still face us (questions of Orders, of mixed marriages, of shared sacramental life, of Christian morality) can only move towards solution as our understanding of that mystery deepens.

But here and now we must think with gratitude of what you have done. Your work and its fruits are already in themselves manifestations of, and a contribution to, that "greater common witness" of which Paul VI spoke in Evangelii Nuntandi, and it is an enabling instrument for all Christians who increasingly feel the call to common witness.

It is a reminder that such witness is no matter of sentiment, but must be the fruit of prayer and hard work, of honesty and willingness to speak the truth in love.

With gladness I bless and thank you all. I pledge my concern for your work and my support for those who may continue it, and I join you in praying that the "Father of lights, in whom there is no variation or shadow due to change" may shed his light on us as we seek untiringly to reach full unity in his Son Jesus Christ.

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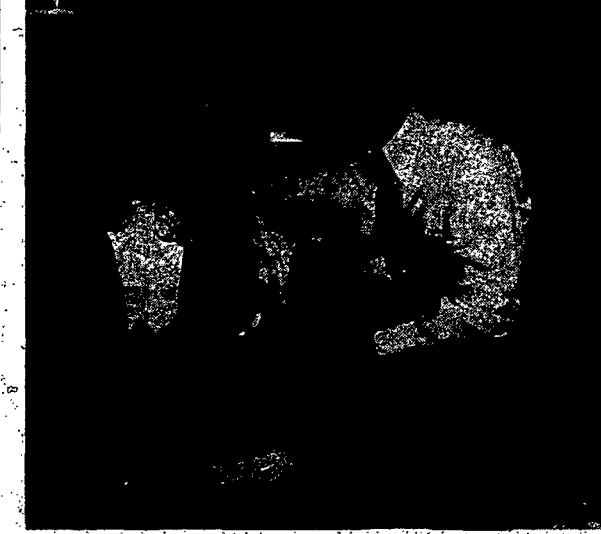


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## Judge Morris



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Irondequoit Town Justice

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