



Planning the Crystal Ball are Mrs. Agnes Schiano, Mrs. Ann Tuttle, Mrs. Thomas Kelly, and Paul Tuttle.

Crystal Ball On Aquinas Agenda

Feb. 1 is the date for the Aquinas Parents Association annual Crystal Ball. The

Communication

A special retreat, Communication for Couples, will be held at the Cenacle, Feb. 6 to 8. The retreat will be led by John and Elizabeth Barnoski, Sister Margaret Mary Mattie, RSM, and Sister Elizabeth Frawley, RC. Further information is available at the Cenacle Ministry Office, 693 East Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14607; (716) 271-8755.

dinner-dance will be at Logan's Party House on Scottsville Road. Cocktails will be served from 7-8 p.m., followed by a steamship round of roast beef buffet at 8 p.m. Dancing to the Len Hawley Band will begin at 9 p.m. and continue to 1 p.m.

Tickets, \$12 per person, are still available. For ticket reservations call Mrs. Agnes Schiano at 621-1874. Parents of students, alumnus, and friends of Aquinas are all invited to attend.

Insights In Liturgy



By Barbara D. Englert

Reflections Of Eucharistic Minister

"Lord, I am not worthy . . . When asked to be a special minister of the Eucharist in our parish, this was my immediate action. Is any of us ever worthy to be what the Father has called us to be? Yet, I reflected, he has chosen to make us in his image. "You are precious in my eyes and glorious and I love you." (Isaiah 43:4) And so with humility and trust I responded: "Yes, Lord, only say the word and I shall be healed."

My faith has been enriched and deepened through this ministry. The dimensions of what Eucharist is have exploded for me. The moment of Communion is no longer a strictly personal encounter with the Lord. Now it is an encounter with the Lord and with the whole Church. As we share the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation, we become one in the Lord.

What a tremendous moment! Only through the grace of God can a eucharistic minister possibly participate in this moment in a way which helps the Christian believer to more fully experience the presence of the Lord in Sacrament and in Community. As I present "The Body of Christ . . . The Blood of Christ," I try to convey with my eyes, my voice, my touch, my full presence: This is Jesus . . . he wants to be with you . . . you are precious . . . what a joy it is that we are joined in the Body of Christ!

For the eucharistic minister this is not only a moment of giving, but also of receiving. As I give a

person the Body of Christ, I receive from that person the Body of Christ. For me, if only for a fleeting moment, this is a time when vision and reality touch: The Christ in others, which is often clouded by my sinfulness, leaps forth for me to touch and feel and experience. The person in front of me is Christ in a real way, and for a moment I am united with each person through Christ. I wish it were always this way.

On occasions when I have brought Eucharist to the sick, I am even more strongly reminded of the union we share. For through Eucharist the sick person is linked with the worshipping community in a symbolic, yet tangible way. It is when one is infirmed that the presence of the Lord and the community is so affirming — to know they still belong, they are still one with us.

I believe that I can be an authentic eucharistic minister only if I strive to live what I profess in worship. The Lord said to Peter: "Do you love me? . . . Feed my sheep." Our love of the Lord must be manifested in our love and concern for others. In the fullest sense we are called to be eucharistic ministers — to be the Body of Christ for the Body of Christ. We must continually nourish each other through the seemingly ordinary means of daily living: a smile, a helping hand, a comforting hug, a listening ear, an understanding word. True eucharistic ministry is a way of life.

Barbara Englert is the chairperson of the Liturgy Committee at St. Christopher's Church, North Chili, and exercises her Eucharistic ministry in that community.

Fr. Paul J. Cuddy

On the Right Side



Building God's House

How can we justify spending millions of dollars on magnificent churches when faced with God's command to care for the needy?

The Bible praises the beauty of God's house. "I have loved the beauty of thy House, and the place where thy glory dwelleth" with evident approval. The Lord praised the woman who poured out the expensive perfume on His feet, saying: "The poor you always have with you. Me you will not always have." It is significant that the chief objector was Judas Iscariot. Magnificent churches not only give glory to God, but they bring reverence and solace to men.

One of the most beautiful countries in the world is Austria. During a European tour for the Courier-Journal group, we admired the lovely village churches in the rural areas. I commented on their beauty to the pastor of St. Anton's Church, in a ski village in Austria. He remarked, "They are always on a high spot where all can see, reminding people of the greatness and holiness of

God." I was scandalized when the Riverton village which was proposed near Rochester deliberately planned not to have a church; just some kind of multi-purpose building where services could be held by different religious denominations. The most important building in a community should be the church of God.

Even in countries where poverty is general, the magnificent churches are a solace and a comfort to the poor. I recall being in the old basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico and was greatly impressed at the ease and tranquility of the poor Indians from the countryside in their Mother's house. My first pilgrimage there was in 1954, when I was stationed at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. Joskie's department store ran a tour to Mexico City from San Antonio: four days and three nights, most meals provided, for about \$79. Times have changed! I wanted to go to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and did. The most vivid memory I have is of a large Mexican-Indian woman, seated in a pew in the middle of the church nursing her baby. The mother was gazing in wrapt devotion upon the miraculous picture of Our

Lady of Guadalupe. The baby was sucking intently and enthusiastically at his mother's breast. It was an inspiring sight. Do you think God or that mother and child would have been better served by some stark, cheap, utilitarian church building?

And don't you think that that peasant Indian mother loved the beauty of the basilica and considered it as her own church, in which she was greatly at home? My experience is that all good parishioners are proud to have a worthy parish church which stands out giving glory to God and an evidence of their own devotion.

Are there plans for new churches in the diocese?

There are several in the diocese who are doing fine work among the poor: St. Joseph's Hospitality House, Bethany House, Melita House for pregnant girls; Corpus Christi parish programs; The Human Development programs are active in the Southern Tier in many parishes; and St. James Hospital, Hornell, has an important outreach clinic run by Mercy Sister Scholastica Caufield. The work for the poor must go on; but so must the building of churches. St. John in Perinton, St. Rita's in West Webster, and Assumption in Fairport all plan needed new church buildings. I do hope they will be large and beautiful, worthy of God Our Creator, and an inspiration to the parishioners. To share in the building of a House of God is a privilege.

Medieval Pageantry of Fisher Rites

St. John Fisher College will be the site for some extraordinary Medieval pageantry this afternoon as Father Patrick Braden, CSB, is formally installed as president of the institution.

The ritual begins at 3:30 p.m. at the student life center. A fanfare will herald the start of a procession, in full academic regalia, by delegates from colleges and universities in the northeast and Texas, officials from Basilian institutions, Fisher faculty, and representatives from organizations who have an historic relationship with the school.

In that procession, Jack Taylor, associate professor of economics and faculty marshal, will carry a processional mace, designed for the occasion by Rochester artist John Menihan. The club



FATHER BRADEN is decorated with images from the college seal and is topped with a replica of Kearney Tower, along a landmark identifying the school.

After the St. John Fisher Glee Club sings the National

Anthem and the Fisher Alma Mater, Martin F. Birmingham, chairman of Fisher's Board of Trustees, will place a large medallion of the college's seal on Father Braden's shoulders.

Designed originally by Father Hugh Haffey, CSB, a founding member of the College, the seal incorporates the coat of arms of St. John Fisher, Bishop of Rochester, England. Incorporated also is the Basilian motto, "Bonitatem et disciplinam et scientiam doce me (Teach me goodness, discipline and knowledge)."

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