

Sarah Child



All in the Family

**Class, Style Not Same**

The Reagans, say their friends, are going to bring class back to the White House, the implication being, of course, that sometime in the past few years, it flew the coop. As proof they cite forthcoming grandeur in areas of interior decoration, entertainment and dress.

The media, bored obviously with such old-hat news as the hostages, inflation and the energy crisis, has made much of these pronouncements. And most readers have been terribly grateful. Diversion, after all, does not come easily these days.

The problem is, however, that both the Reagan intimates and the media appear to have confused class with style, a distinction that became muddled during the Kennedy administration which had some of each, but noticeably more style. Whether the new residents bring class, or only style, to

Washington, remains to be seen.

Style, as the dictionary points out, is flair. It denotes a mode of elegant, fashionable, luxurious living. And to those who pay it homage, appearance is everything.

Class, which comes from the Latin word *classis* for division and now means first or highest, is a mark of excellence or having exceptional merit.

Some people confuse the words class and classy. Again there is a definite distinction. (Those with class use neither label, the first deemed *declassé* and the second merely vulgar.) Restaurants boasting potted palms and haughty maitre d's are sometimes termed *classy*. So, too, are gentlemen who always grab for the check and gentlewomen who can't get dressed without the aid of Gucci, Pucci and Givenchy. This is pandering to one's personal insecurities, but it is not class.

Class is, if the reader will

excuse the term, top drawer, although it has little to do with one's origins or station in life. It is knowing what you are rather than who you are. It is refusing to deny those who are near and dear even when they are most troublesome or embarrassing.

Class demands the utmost of oneself in matters of morality, social consciousness, and private, as well as public, behavior. It shuns pretense, sham and artifice.

It does not worship excellence for excellence's sake but seeks it out because it exists in partnership with truth, beauty and goodness. It reflects the hand of a Divine Planner.

Class is being oneself and being comfortable with it, all the while striving for self-improvement.

People with class do not always succeed in what they set out to do, often because they set such high goals for themselves. When they fail, or it seems as if they have failed, they do not attempt to conceal or rationalize it.

Class has as its most intimate bedfellow, courage. These not-so-common qualities are inextricable whether dealing with garden party gossip or foxhole fire. And Hemingway's characterization of courage as "grace under pressure" might well be applied to class, as well.

**Sr. Jane Geiger Leaving Post**

Sister Jane Geiger, MSHS, consultant for adult, family, and special education for the Office of Religious Education, has announced her intention

to return to the Mission-Helpers of the Sacred Heart Motherhouse in Baltimore.

disabled, the bishop's TV task force, and the Sacramental Guidelines Committee.

Father Lewis Brown, director of the Religious Education Office, in announcing the resignation said, "We will dearly miss Sister Jane who brought to us 25 years of catechetical experience."

Sister Jane has served in her present capacity for over two years and her duties have included consulting with and providing resources for adult education committees, family catechesis, and the religious education office for the developmentally disabled. She has served on the bishop's task force for the developmentally

**Sister Honored On 90th**

Sister St. Clare, SSI, was recently honored on the occasion of her 90th birthday with a Mass at St. Joseph's Infirmary Chapel and a luncheon.

The Mass was celebrated by Father Leonard Kelly, a former pupil of Sister St. Clare, and a long-time friend. A luncheon followed at the Maplewood Inn, given by Sister's nephew Francis Casey and his wife Catherine for the close relatives. The celebration took place Dec. 18, 1980; Sister St. Clare's birthday was Jan. 10.

**Volunteer Training**

Volunteers are being sought by the American Red Cross to assist Red Cross personnel at bloodmobile sites and at the Blood Center on Prince Street.

A day-and-a-half training session will begin at 9 a.m. Jan. 27 and 28. Registration for the training class is made by calling 275-9800 before Jan. 22.

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**At Your Parish...**

**Turin Expert To Speak St. Lawrence, Greece**

Dr. Harry Gove, the internationally acclaimed nuclear physicist, will answer questions in his second field of competency, the Shroud of Turin, at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 28 at Blessed Sacrament Church.



DR. HARRY GOVE

Dr. Gove, chief of nuclear research at the University of Rochester, was a member of the team of American scientists who tested the cloth believed by many to be the burial shroud of Jesus.

Dr. Gove's experiment, however, was not permitted by the ecclesiastical guardians of the cloth. His would have been the only test to accurately determine the age of the fabric, thought by some to date from the 12th century.

His experiment would have meant taking a four-inch-long

thread from the cloth.

Turin authorities, however, refused on the grounds that such a move would damage the integrity of the item.

**Adult Ed Offered**

A special adult educational program is being planned at Our Lady of Mercy Parish.

The parish staff has issued invitations to Catholics, both active and inactive, persons interested in Catholicism and persons baptized but never raised as Catholics to a meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 11, in the

John Whalen Room at 36 Armstrong Rd.

The program, open to teens and adults, is designed to assist participants "to learn a little more about this family of believing people who help one another spiritually and socially, in times of joy and in times of sorrow, as together we journey toward our eternal destiny."

**St. Andrew**

The Rosary Society at St. Andrew's has set its yearly Tureen Supper for Tuesday, Jan. 27 following the 5:30 p.m. Mass. Admission is \$1 for those who bring a dish to

pass, and \$3 without a dish. Reservations should be made by Jan. 22. For reservations those interested may call Linda Contrino, 342-6059, or Ginny Janas, 266-2628.

The St. Lawrence Home School Association is sponsoring a roller skating party from 1-3 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 4 at the

**Abortion Film In Waterloo**

St. Mary's parish, Waterloo, will show a "true life drama" on abortion that "will give anyone viewing an overall look at the abortion issue," on at 8:15 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 21 in the school, according to a press release.

The film depicts a reporter assigned to do a story on abortion and includes interviews with a doctor who

performs abortions, abortion counselors, women who have had abortions, and young pregnant unwed women as well as anti-abortion leaders including Protestant ministers, Dr. Bernard Nathanson, Cardinal Manning and others, the release said.

All those interested in attending are welcome; the admission is free.



Father John O'Malley blesses the new library.

**Holy Cross, Rochester**

The new parish library at Holy Cross parish was formally dedicated on Sunday, Jan. 4 with a blessing given by Father John P. O'Malley, pastor. The library, located at the Mercy Prayer Center in the Holy Cross Convent, was refurbished by Brian Bacon, Religious Education coord-

inator, parishioners Richard Flanigan and Ed Finewood, and others.

The library offers a variety of books pertaining to theology, scripture, Christian living, church history, and parish history, according to a release.