

Sr. Kate
Vaeth, RSM

Viewpoint: Sisters Reflect



Ministry To Women

Today, more and more, we see the plight and misery of suffering women and children. We see women prostitutes, some only 11 years old. We see the scars of physical abuse and rape. We see our mental health institutions filled with lonely, confused and forgotten

women. We see women running away, evicted from homes, jailed, drugged by pills or alcohol. We see women whose life's belongings are contained in one shopping bag. We see women shoplifting, only to be arrested in order to have a place of shelter for a few days of relief.

The stories of their lives are written not only in their hearts but on their faces.

Deaths

Edward J. Hahn Sr.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Thursday, Feb. 12 for Edward J. Hahn, Sr. at St. Andrew's Parish. Mr. Hahn, a former Democratic Party leader in the northeast part of the city and a member of the Holy Name and Nocturnal Adoration Societies, died Feb. 9 at his home.

The funeral Mass was concelebrated by Father Frederick L. Walz, Mr. Hahn's brother-in-law, and nine area priests.

In addition to his political activities, Mr. Hahn was a member of the Daily Mass League and served as president of the Edgerton Park Senior Citizens' Stardust Club.

He is survived by his wife Dorothy; five sons, Edward J. Jr., Robert F., Gerald L., and Herbert of Rochester, and



EDWARD HAHN SR.

James A. of Indiana; two daughters, Virginia Mosher of Rochester and Lorraine Hahn of Miami, Fla.; and 23 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

The story is one of loneliness, alienation and lack of feelings of self-worth. Many of the faceless poor do not claim a bed, food, education or family. They suffer economic, educational, religious and racial discriminations.

As I listen to the "faceless poor," they do become a face, a name, a person whose rights include dignity and life. I must be included among them, for I suffer; I am alone. Through my involvement with them I identify more fully with others.

Our lives are touched by those unclear, unloved, unwelcomed and disturbed. The hunger goes beyond hunger for bread; the hunger is hunger for love. For those to whom much has been given, much will be asked. It is through the works of mercy that our love is expressed. Then people are converted and hearts and minds are changed.

The liberating love of God demands that we cry out against systems that deny life. It demands personal action, not only to help but also to be committed to those broken in mind, body and spirit. The gospel imperative reminds us that when we feed those hungry, clothe those naked, shelter those homeless, visit those sick and imprisoned, we in fact visit Christ and He us.

Let us be reminded of the sacredness of those in need, those who are hurt and oppressed. They are God's gift to us.

(Sister Kate Vaeth, RSM, is coordinator of Bethany House and Melita House.)

Catholic, Episcopal Dioceses Plan Conference on Marriages

J.C. Wynn, professor of Pastoral Theology at Colgate-Bexley Hall/Crozier seminaries, will be the keynote speaker at a March 27 conference on ecumenical marriages. Sponsored by the Rochester Roman Catholic and Episcopal dioceses, the conference is open to all clergy.

According to Margery S. Nurnberg, director of the diocesan office of ecumenism, the conference was arranged so that clergy can obtain current information about what is and is not possible in interfaith marriages, in terms of canon, liturgy and premarital counseling. The two dioceses are preparing a common statement that will be published after the conference.

Bishop Matthew H. Clark and Episcopal Bishop Robert Sears will attend the conference.

Members of the joint committee are Father Robert Kennedy, Office of Liturgy; Father Robert O'Neill, Tribunal; Frank Staropoli, Office of Family Life; Donna Ritch, Pre-Marriage Ministry; and Father John O'Connor, clergy conference committee.

Father Bruce Hansen, rector of St. Luke's and member of the Episcopal Liturgical Commission; Father Thomas Hanson, counselor at Catholic Family Center; Father Robert Vainwright, rector of St. Paul's and canonical expert; and Father Jasper Pennington, associate ecumenical officer of the Episcopal Diocese.

The March 27 conference will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Sacred Heart Cathedral. Coordinators are Isabel Calkins and Ms. Nurnberg, ecumenical officers respectively for the Anglican and Roman Catholic dioceses.

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Irene Lussier

Funeral services were held Feb. 19 for Irene K. Lussier, who died at St. Mary's Hospital Feb. 17, at St. Philip Neri Church. Father Charles Connell, pastor, celebrated the Mass of Christian Burial.

Mrs. Lussier helped organize the Rochester Association of Industrial Nurses. She was employed for 20 years as an industrial nurse for the Rochester Manufacturing Corp.

She was a member of St. Philip Neri Parish and belonged to the parish's Women's Club. She also helped found St. Philip Neri School in the mid-1950s.

Mrs. Lussier is survived by a daughter, Joan Thompson

of Rochester; a son, James L. Lussier of Dallas; a sister, Theresa O'Connor of Mequon, Wis.; a brother, James Kelz of Lindsay, Ontario; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Mr. Leo Lussier, her husband, died in 1933.

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