## Planet Needs Moral About-Face

Following is excerpted from an address given by Pope John Paul II to scientists and representatives of the United Nations University in Hiroshima.

Our future on this planet, exposed as it is to nuclear annihilation, depends upon one single factor: humanity must make a moral about-face. At the present moment of history, there must be a general mobilization of all men and women of goodwill.



Sister Nancy

Viewpoint: Sisters Reflect

Ministry, for me, is a

personal investment in the

proclamation of the

kingdom through loving service of others. There is

only one ministry — the

What I may call my

Ministry arises

ministry is really His

out of my baptismal ex-

perience, my immersion in

the Paschal Mystery of the

Lord Jesus. From those

baptismal waters, I emerged

as a member of the Body of

Christ — I emerged as

Church, which means to be

for others. The kingdom

ministry of Jesus Christ.

Burkin, SSJ

**Ministry** 

Must Be

Shared

Humanity is being called upon to take a major step forward in civilization and wisdom. A lack of civilization, an ignorance of man's true values, brings the risk that humanity will be destroyed. We must become wiser.

Pope Paul VI. in his encyclical, "The Development of Peoples," several times stressed the urgent need to have recourse to the wise in order to

guide the new society in its development. In particular, he said that "if further development calls for the work of more and more technicians, even more necessary is the deep thought and reflection of wise men in search of a new humanism which will enable modern man to find himself anew by embracing the higher values of love and friendship, of prayer and contemplation."

Above all, in this country of Japan, renowned for its creativity, both cultural and technological, a country with so many scientists, scholars, writers and religious thinkers, I take the liberty of making a very special appeal. I wish to address myself to the wise men and women of Japan, and through them to the wise men and women of the whole world, in order to encourage them to pursue ever more efficiently the task of social and moral reconstruction, which our world so ardently awaits. Work together to defend and promote, among all people of your nation and of the world, the idea of a just world, a world made to man's scale, a world that enables human beings to fulfil their capacities, a world that sustains them in their material, moral and spiritual

We must say to the people of today: do not doubt, your future is in your own hands. The building of a more just humanity or a more united international community is not just a dream or a vain ideal. It is a moral imperative, a sacred duty, one that the intellectual and spiritual genits of man can face, through a fresh mobilization of everybody's talents and energies, through putting to work all the technical and cultural resources of man.

The people of our time possess, in the first place, tremendous scientific and technological resources. And we are convinced that these resources could be far more effectively used for the development and growth of peoples; let us envisage the progress made in agriculture, biology, medicine, the social communications media applied to education; then there are the social and economic sciences, and the science of planning, all of which could combine to direct in a more humane and effective way the process of urbanization and industrialization, and promote the new models of international cooperation. If all the rich nations of the world wanted to, they could call in an impressive number of specialists for the tasks of development. All of this obviously presupposes political choices, and, more fundamentally, moral options. The moment is approaching when priorities will have to be redefined For example, it has been estimated that about a half of the world's research workers are at present employed for military purposes.

Can the human family morally go on much longer in this direction?

There is also the question of economic resources needed for giving a decisive impulse to the integral advancement of the human family. Here too we are faced with choices. Can we remain passive when we are told that humanity spends immensely more money on arms than on development, and when we learn that one soldier's equipment costs many times more than a child's education?

**Formerly** faith with people intensely Married

> Invited Horseheads — "Footsteps on Shifting Sand." ecumenical program for the formerly married, is being conducted on four consecutive Friday evenings through the sponsorship of the Elmira Area Divorced, Separated and Widowed Catholics Group. The first program was March 20; the series will continue March 27, April 3 and April 10, with

The sponsors offer the program as an opportunity for\_ personal renewal; a team from Rochester will present the program.

each session beginning at 7

p.m. in the St. Mary Our

Mother Auditorium.

## **Scouting Dinner Scheduled**

The 34th annual Scouting St. George Emblem award dinner will take place at 6 p.m., Sunday, April 26, at the Carriage House, 525 Paul Road:

Bishop Dennis W. Hickey will make the presentations. The event is sponsored by the Catholic Committee on Scouting.

Tickets are available from Al Piccoli at 254-0438.

## CARD PARTY

The Catholic Mission Guild will hold a card party at noon, April 8, at the Knights of Columbus building at the corner of Thurston Road and Brooks Avenue.

# **Bishop to Dedicate New St. Salome Altar**

Bishop Matthew-H. Clark vill dedicate the new altar at St. Salome's Church at 10:30 a.m., Sunday, March 29. A feature of the rites will be the installation of three relics in the base of the altar, Father Conrad Sundholm, pastor, said last week.

## Sr. Kane To Speak Here

Sister Theresa Kane, the former president of the National Assembly of Women Religious who addressed the topic of opening more ministerial posts to women in the Church at the time of Pope John Paul II's visit to Washington, will speak at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, March 28 in the chapel of the University of Rochester's Interfaith Center.

Her address has been sponsored by, among others, the Rochester Regional Task Force on Women in the Church and the Diocesan Sisters Council.

### **COUPLES RETREAT**

Father James Mason, CSSR, a Toronto-based priest, will give a two-day retreat for Couples, "Bloom Where You Are Planted," April 4 and 5 at the Cenacle Renewal Center on East Avenue. Reservations are made by calling the center, (716) 271-8755.

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The refurbishing of the sanctuary, he said, was the parish response to the theft of its tabernacle some months

In the new rites to be used for the event, relics of Saints Oliver Plunkett, John Neumann and Conrad (John) Birndorfer will be sealed in the base of the new altar.

Father Sundholm credited Father Robert McNamara. diocesan archivist\* and historian, with arranging for the proper disposition of the relics in the church.

The altar itself, Father Sundholm said, is a one-ton slab of granite surmounting a brick support. The relics will be sealed, in a copper reliquary, in the support by a mason during the ritual. The recess for the relics will be faced with black marble.

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## **HOLY HOUR**

Father Robert Miller will lead the Peoples Eucharistic League Holy Hour at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 26 at Holy Trinity Church. Webster.

that I have invested myself dering where to go next. in proclaiming is this: a kingdom that is unity-in-Weekends may find me the Body of the Lord, a giving more extensive kingdom that lives the training sessions to dying and rising of the Paschal Mystery. Ministry liturgical ministers or involved in a parish evaluation of liturgical celebrations. Weekdays are is not a job but is at the core of who I am as a baptized woman. It is a gift filled with preparing for-I share with others — a gift mation programs, listening that has no meaning apart to people who are attempting to provide authentic worship experiences for their parish, writing articles for office publications, and keeping up with current liturgical

from a relationship with

God, a gift that must be

shared to be worthwhile, a

Living out this vision of

ministry in the area of

liturgical formation is the

particular way I live out

my baptismal commitment.

I am involved mainly in

parish worship and thus

work primarily with parish

liturgy committees and

liturgical ministers, namely

lectors, eucharistic

members of the assembly.

Working through the

diocesan Liturgy Office, I

may give an evening of

recollection to eucharistic

ministers, a formation program to lectors, analyze

performance and prayer for

choirs, or listen to a parish

liturgy committee won-

theology and practice. In all

these experiences and many

more, I am caught up in

the mystery of resurrection.

I am privileged to share

musicians, and

gift of myself.

ministers.

serious about their proclamation of the kingdom and, at times, to celebrate that faith in authentic celebrations of the Eucharist.

The Paschal Mystery involves dying, too, and I must admit that liturgical ministry includes that aspect of Christian living. For one who is trained in liturgy, it is difficult to worship in churches where authentic. meaningful liturgy is replaced by a hurried, half-hearted, even careless celebration, based on pre-Vatican II theology and ecclesiology. It is painful to listen to and witness that segment of the people of God who gather Sunday after Sunday, only to be submitted to the poorest of liturgical celebration. It is frustrating to see decisions regarding liturgy made without pastoral considerations. It is devastating to have to tell a person she may not perform a liturgical function for which she is adequately prepared only because she is not male, and to be told that because I am not. ordained, I can't possibly answer a question about liturgy.

Yes, the ministry of liturgist involves the Paschal Mystery. Yet, for me, it is the best way to respond to the challenge of Baptism to which I have committed myself in my profession as a religious woman. It is the best way to proclaim that kingdon which, as I move among the people of God, is definitely "near at hand."

Sister Nancy Burking SSJ, is associate director of the diocesan Office of Liturgy.