



Alumni Officers

The 57th annual gathering of the Notre Dame University Club of Rochester took place recently. Members heard David T. Link, ND Law School dean, speak, and elected officers for the coming year. Shown above are from left Ralph Taccone, treasurer; Gail Burke, secretary; Dean Link, Paul Knipper, president; and Ed Nowak, vice president.

Fr. John Reedy



Looking for the Lord

A Long View of Vocations

There is a vocation boom emerging in parts of Central and South America. This was a St. Patrick's day report of Vatican Radio.

And it is a report which should prompt us to take a longer view of some of the problems and developments in the life of the Church.

Historically, the dearth of local vocations in Latin America was so great that in 1961 the Vatican issued an emergency appeal, calling for religious communities in the United States to assign 10 percent of their personnel to South America to provide necessary staffing for the essential work of the Church.

Twenty years later, Catholics in the United States are worrying about a critical decline in the number of priests and religious, and the Vatican reports a boom in Latin America.

Taking an even longer view, think of what the

Trinity Alumnae To Meet April 29

Sister Rose Ann Fleming, president of Trinity College in Washington, D.C., and Mrs. Anne Marie McGovern, director of Alumnae, will be guests of honor at a dinner meeting of the Rochester Chapter of the Alumnae Association Wednesday, April 29 at the home of Mrs. Henry Hanford, 1180 Clover St.

Sister Rose Ann has been president of Trinity since 1975. There are 40 alumnae in the area.

Other guests at the dinner meeting include charter members of the Rochester Chapter, Mrs. J. Leo Calihan, Mrs. George F. Doyle, Mrs. Francis J. Dwyer, Mrs. Sadie M. Hahn and Mrs. Cyril J. Noonan.

Seven area students attend Trinity. Their mothers, Mrs.

situation must have looked like to Catholic leaders in the latter decades of the 1700s and the early decades of the 1800s.

At that time, almost every diocese of this young nation was appealing to Europe for religious personnel. The developing territory was vast; the Catholic population was submerged in a nation which was predominantly Protestant and barely tolerant of people and beliefs associated with the Pope of Rome.

To Catholic leaders in the Vatican and in Europe, it must have seemed obvious that those scattered communities of Catholics in the United States would remain long dependent on the priests and religious who could be sent out from Europe. Within 200 years the Catholic communities in the United States would become a major resource for the work of the Church throughout the world.

Twenty years ago which Catholic leaders would have anticipated a surge of religious vocations in Latin America and a similar surge in parts of Africa?

Gerald Curran and Mrs. Joseph Hammele of Penfield, Mrs. Donald Falconio of Fairport, Mrs. Carolos Jimenez-Rueda of Webster, Mrs. Charles Kenning of Pittsford and Mrs. Richard Kurz of Greece, will be present also.

Mrs. Rosemary Buck O'Brien is chairperson of the dinner, assisted by Mrs. Calihan, her daughter, Mrs. Joseph H. De Noon, Mrs. William Modney, Mrs. Robert C. Napier, Mrs. Hanford and daughters, Mrs. A. Michael Hanna and Ms. Martha M. Hanford.

Sister Rose Ann and Mrs. McGovern will be house-guests of Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Napier of Pittsford. Mrs. Napier is president of the Rochester Chapter.

Each religious vocation, we believe, involves a very personal response to God's invitation, but there are cultural factors which surely influence the initial attraction which prompts a man or woman to consider this kind of a commitment.

It's an oversimplification, but until fairly recently the leadership of the church in Latin America was identified with the minority of the wealthy, the powerful, the educated. This group, with all its options and material concerns, has rarely been a rich source of religious vocations.

On the other hand, the circumstances of the poor in Latin America — the vast majority of the Catholics — were so remote from the education and the cultural situation of their priests and religious that there was too great a chasm to allow many of these people to consider a religious vocation as a real possibility.

They also faced the urgent pressure of survival needs. You can't give much thought to vocational ideals when you are preoccupied with the search for minimal food and clothing for those you love.

During the past two decades, the social, political and ecclesial situation has changed drastically in Latin America. In many countries, the Catholic Church has been identified with the struggle for justice and human dignity. Many of the poor people have come to see their priests and religious as admirably committed to their welfare. They have come to know their ministers in a more intimate, more personal way, not simply as representatives of an alien culture who have volunteered to deliver sacramental services.

And Church leaders have searched out ways to make possible the vocational commitment of men and women who have come from the families of the poor.

None of this is a prediction that Catholics in the United States will soon see a surge of religious vocations. It is only a suggestion that cultural and social change can have a major impact on vocation statistics.

And after all the changes this generation has seen, it requires a special kind of arrogance to think that you can predict the conditions that will exist 20 years from now.

Religious to Note Feast Day

Bishop Matthew H. Clark will join the Sisters of the Cenacle at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, May 30, for a celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of the Cenacle.

and will not be offered after May 17.

The feast commemorates the presence of the Virgin among the disciples in the Upper Room where they had frequently gathered to pray during the time between the

resurrection and the ascension, as recorded in Acts.

The ministry of the diocese of the Cenacle in the diocese is principally providing spiritual and prayer counselling.

Tickets to the event, which includes both Mass and a luncheon, are available by contacting Miss Peggy Lester after 6 p.m. at (716) 225-8608. Tickets are also available at the Cenacle, 693 East Ave., (716) 271-8755.

According to Carolyn Schulte, spokesperson for the renewal center's activities, the number of tickets is limited

Musical Benefits Autistic Children

On Sunday, May 17, the Country Warehouse, 104 N. Water St., downtown Rochester, will host a special musical event. "A New Day for Autistic Children" is the second annual musical benefit to be held in behalf of the Rochester Area Chapter of the National Society for Autistic Children.

Disc jockey, the Big A, will emcee the show that will feature seven area bands who will play 4 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Tickets are available in advance for \$5 at these locations: Country Warehouse, House of Guitars, Record Theater, Buzzo Music, and the Guitar Center. On the day of the show, tickets will be \$6.

RTS Offers A Lift-Line

A total of 7,469 disabled persons and senior citizens rode Lift-Line buses during the month of March, according to a Rochester-Genesee Regional Transportation Authority release. During the 12-month period ending March 31, Lift-Line carried 69,146 passengers, an increase of 20 percent over the previous year.

Disabled persons and those 65 years of age or older are eligible for Lift-Line service. Reservations are made by phoning 546-4500 at least 24 hours in advance. The one-way fare is 50 cents. Lift-Line operates Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Post Given Golden Ager

Thomas D. Hinton, retired executive officer for Catholic social services programs on national and international levels, has been named a member and vice president of the Board of Directors of Catholic Golden Age.

Hinton, a graduate of the University of Scranton in Pennsylvania, served for seven years as director of finance and administration of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops-United States Catholic Conference. He served with that organization for 36 years.

Hinton and his wife, the former Mary McHale, reside in Chevy Chase, Maryland, and have seven children.

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PARENTS — Register Early to Avoid the disappointment of your child not being able to attend.

OPEN HOUSE

All Parents are invited to Camp Stella Maris June 7, 1981 from 10:00 to 3:00 p.m. You may tour our facilities and meet the staff of both boys and girls encampments. Some refreshments will be available. Parents may also register their children that day for camp.

For Further Information Contact the Secretary

CAMP STELLA MARIS

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