

# Tributes to Nazareth College Alumni

The annual meeting of the Nazareth College Alumni Association, held during the Alumni reunion on May 2, was highlighted by the presentation of two awards.

The Distinguished Service Faculty Award was presented to Doctor Jane Yvonne Koenen and the Outstanding Alumna Award was received by Sister Marion Hoctor, class of '54. Both award winners have served on the Nazareth faculty.

Dr. Koenen has been a member of the college faculty since 1955. She is a professor in the Department of Philosophy and chairman of that department. She has served as chairman of the college Elections Committee, the Lecture Committee, and

the Interinstitutional Committee. She has prepared fifty book reviews of philosophic works for "Choice" an ALA publication of college and university book selections.

Sister Marion joined Nazareth in 1958 and has served as instructor, assistant professor, associate professor, professor, and chairman of the English Department.

From 1972 to the present, she has served as vice president of the college, and from 1973 to 1980 as vice president for Academic Affairs and dean of the college. In December she was appointed vice president for Academic Affairs and Provost. Her published works



DR. KOENEN

include several articles and a book on Matthew Arnold and two drama tests. She has



SISTER MARION

served on the Curriculum Committee, and the Rank and Tenure Committee.



## May Queen

Mrs. Josephine Maas has been named May Queen by the St. Philip Neri Women's Club. The mother of three, grandmother of nine and great-grandmother of two will crown the statue of the Blessed Virgin at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 26, at the church, 1776 Clifford Ave. Mrs. Maas has been president of the women's club and has been very active in parish work through the years.

## St. James Marking Hospital Week

Hornell — St. James Mercy Hospital began its observance of National Hospital Week Sunday, May 10.

Sunday, all patients and Meals on Wheels recipients got special tray favors. Monday there was a launching of helium balloons on the hospital's front lawn. The 575 balloons each had a tag with the name of a hospital employee, which also asks the finder to contact the hospital. A prize will be awarded to the employee whose balloon travels farthest, and to the finder.

On Tuesday, there was an outdoor hot dog roast during the lunch hour, and the Women's Board observed Auxilian Day.

On Wednesday, May 13, Joint Education Training "graduation" will take place, with certificates for continuing education presented to employees. In the evening, a recognition dinner will honor volunteers who gave 50 hours or more of service during 1980.

On Friday, students from

20 area high schools interested in learning about health careers will visit the hospital.

The week will close Saturday evening with the 11th annual awards banquet at the Hornell Country Club. Forty-eight employees will be honored for their service, in five-year increments. The "Employee of the Year" also will be named.

## Schweinfurth Art Gallery Opens Doors

Auburn — The Schweinfurth Memorial Art Center on Genesee Street here will open its doors in ceremonies from 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday, May 17.

The art center will include displays of paintings, prints, and sculpture by 20th century New York State artists.

In a related development, Heather Tunis has been named associate director of the institution. She is assisting with the initial exhibition and is arranging future shows and educational services.

## Insights In Liturgy

Sister Nancy Burkin, SSJ



## Psalm of Reponse

Tucked somewhat sandwich-like between the two readings of any liturgical celebration, we find one of the most important features of the Liturgy of the Word. There, sometimes greatly disguised by a lector's interpretation of it as another reading, lies the responsorial psalm, an actual part of the atmosphere of prayer in which the readings occur.

Even the title, "responsorial psalm," leads to some confusion in our understanding of this prayer. With such a title and its position in the liturgy, we are quick to label it simply as

our response to God's word as proclaimed by the lector. In reality, the word "responsorial" does not describe the function of the psalm but rather the way in which it is prayed, i.e. a common-repeated antiphon for the people, the verses for the leader. The psalm is not just our response to the Word, but "allows people to feel that the God who speaks to them through Scripture is present to them." (Ralph Keifer: To Give Thanks and Praise, p. 123.) The common antiphon serves as a mantra for the assembly both within and without the celebration. It gathers the Word for the day in a concise, rhythmic phrase that allows the assembly to make the Word part of their being, and helps them recall during the week the "mirabilia Dei" that caused them to make Eucharist on Sunday past.

If a responsorial psalm is to do this, it must first and foremost be true to itself as a psalm. A psalm is written to be sung. The psalter is not a book of readings but a collection of sung prayers. The importance of singing the psalm is emphasized by the allowances for adaptation given by the General Instruction: "The psalm is an integral part of the liturgy of the word and is ordinarily taken from the lectionary... To make the people's response easier, however, some texts of the psalms and responses have been selected for several seasons of the year... These may be used whenever the psalm is sung instead of the text corresponding to the reading." (Article 36.) The bishops of the United States reiterate the importance of singing the psalm by telling us: "The liturgy of the Word comes to life if... a cantor sings the psalm and all sing the response." (Music in Catholic Worship, Article 63.) To further facilitate the singing of the psalm, the bishops suggest other psalms, in addition to the one given in the lectionary, and the common psalms might be used "provided they are used in accordance with the principles of the

Simple Gradual and are selected in harmony with the liturgical season, feast or occasion." Should it be impossible for the verses of the psalm to be sung, the antiphon, at least, should be sung and the verses prayed with some instrumental background music.

If the Liturgy of the Word is to come to life through the singing of the psalm, our people cannot be buried in dull, lifeless pieces of paper. We must free our people from the deadly experience of reliance on the printed page and invite them to the life-giving experience of the person who both leads them and draws them into the Spirited prayer of the psalm.

Finally, if the responsorial psalm is going to do all that it is expected to do, it cannot follow the reading as though it were tied to it in railroad car fashion. The Word of God needs time to become part of us — we need time to become part of it. We need, then, to share a faith-filled silence pondering the Word. Out of this atmosphere of vibrant silence, pulsating with the presence of God, we sing, revealing our shared faith that the Lord is truly among us.

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