



Cambodia Benefit

Janis Ian will perform in a benefit concert for the orphaned children in the refugee camps of Thailand at 9 p.m. Friday, July 3, at the Nazareth Arts Center. Principal beneficiary of the concert will be Catholic Relief Services, according to Jerome Vaiana, local CRS promoter, who has worked in the camps for Cambodians fleeing the war in their country.

Fr. Albert Shamon



Word for Sunday

Discover Third Choice

Sunday's Readings: (R3) Mt. 13:44-52. (R1) 1 Kgs. 3:5, 7-12. (R2) Rom 8:28-30.

Hubert Humphrey's father was a druggist in a small town in South Dakota. Hubert liked to tell the story of another druggist who was dissatisfied with the profits at the soda fountain. To up the sales, he suggested to his clerks to ask customers if they would like an egg in their malted milk shakes. This would cost more and the sales would rise. But sales did not rise — people, offered the choice of an egg or no egg, generally opted for the usual: no egg.

So the druggist revised his question and instructed his clerks to face their customers wanting a malted milk with an egg in each hand and ask, "Would you like one egg or two in your malted milk?" When the question was put like that, the customers lost sight of their third option — no egg — and the sales receipts began to rise!

Life usually comes at us in this polarized fashion: two choices, either/or, this way or that, one egg or two. The result is we often lose sight of the fact that more often than not in cases of moral judgment there is a third choice. And often it is in discerning, discovering, this third choice that many a knotty problem can be satisfactorily solved.

In next Sunday's first reading, Solomon asks God for discernment as he begins his kingship. His prayer is beautiful: "Give your servant an understanding heart... to distinguish right from wrong." (R1)

Discernment is the ability to come up with that third choice when only two seem to present themselves. Two harlots came to Solomon; both claimed to be the mother of one child. Only two choices seemed present:

give the child to one or the other. With discernment, however, Solomon was able to come up with a third choice, and it was a wise and clever way to settle the case.

Jesus evidenced this same discernment when confronted with the woman taken in adultery and with paying taxes. The Scribes and Pharisees seemingly had Him cornered with just two options: stone her or free her; pay taxes or don't. But with discernment, Jesus came up with third choices: "He who is without sin, let him cast the first stone"; and, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

I think there is such a hassle over "birth control," because seemingly there are only two choices that present themselves. Thanks to Dr. Billings, a third choice has been discovered: Natural Family Planning or the Sympto-Thermic, Double-Check Method.

Of course there are some areas where there are only two choices — a right and a wrong one. Winston Churchill once faced with such a choice said, "You cannot ask us to take sides against arithmetic." In logic, philosophers put it this way: "Against a fact an argument is not valid."

But still, most of life's decisions, especially in the area of moral judgment, are multiple choice. Military men have an old saying: "There is the right way, the wrong way, and the Army way."

"Choice is at the center of life," wrote Toynbee. "Civilizations rise or fall on the basis of great decisions. And sometimes those important decisions aren't always the most viable ones."

At Your Parish . . .

St. Mary's, Waterloo

Waterloo — Bob Martin of WSWF played records from his collection of golden oldies; hundreds of hot dogs, hamburgers, sausage sandwiches and pizzas were consumed; three full evenings of fun, rides and music were in the wind as St. Mary's Church celebrated its annual fund raiser Summer Festival last weekend.

Committee chairmen for the event were Tom Gross, Pete Pioli, Jim Mooney, Sandra Boyes, John and Ida French, Herb Meyer, Jim Wood, Bob Rodger, Judy Young and Carmen Speno. Father Albert Shamon is pastor, Father Stephen Kraus is associate pastor.



St. Patrick's, Victor

Victor — Fun Fest '81, St. Patrick's annual parish festival, has been termed an overwhelming success by Jim

Schill, chairman. Crowds exceeded last year's on both nights and gross receipts also were higher.

Precious Blood

The Church of the Most Precious Blood will hold its summer festival July 24-26. Features of the event include a rides matinee from 1 to 4 p.m. and a foot race at 3:10 p.m. on Saturday, July 25.

Persons wishing to enter the race are asked to contact Tessie Cenname, 254-2261, or the rectory. Dinner tickets are available at the rectory or at the door on the day of the event.

A Mass in honor of St. Anne will be celebrated at 12:15 p.m. on Sunday.

St. Margaret Mary

Sister Janice, Steve Gerkin, Brian Lamendola, Jon Rivers, Tracey Polidor, Sylvia Gallo, Stacy Flynn, and Laura Dorgan, all of St. Margaret Mary School, eye two of the five cakes that were featured at a 50th anniversary party teachers planned for the school children June 17.

Blessed Sacrament

At the June meeting of the Blessed Sacrament Parish Council, the following officers were elected: Bill Wynne, chairperson; Barb Clark, vice chairperson; Kitty Jensen, secretary.

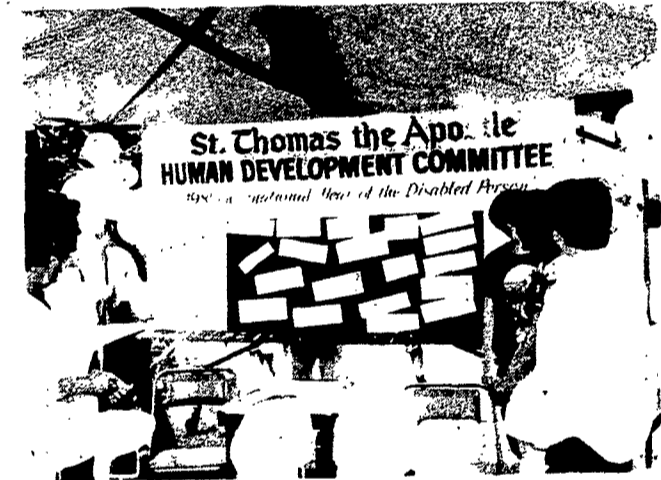
Ending their terms of office this year are Mike Keller and John Lentricchia. Ending council membership are John Lentricchia, Ed Slagis, Pete Romeo and Pete Messner.

New council members elected to three-year terms were Ron Miner, Eileen O'Connor, Peter Hahn and Joe Iocolano.

Good Counsel

The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be stationed at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 630

Brooks Ave., from 1 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 28.



St. Thomas the Apostle

The St. Thomas the Apostle Human Development Committee sponsored a pro-life booth at the Iron-dequoit Fourth of July celebration. The theme of the booth was the disabled person from conception through old age in conjunction with this being the International Year of the Disabled Person. Parishioners who worked on the project were Loretta Bernardo, Edith Arganbright, Bob Kerry, Bob and Mary Walsh, Jean White, and Joann May. Several parishioners from neighboring Christ the King also participated: Joan Rand, Jean Sweeney and Maura Sweeney. Most of the literature distributed was donated by The Rochester Right to Life Committee, Inc. Education Fund.

CEPHAS Gets Housing Grants

CEPHAS/ATTICA, a volunteer organization that helps former Attica Correctional Facility inmates make the transition from prison to community life, has received the first of five \$10,000 checks from the United Way's Martin Luther King Housing Fund.

United Way is loaning the money to CEPHAS for a renovation project at abandoned property at 258-272 Arnett Blvd. It plans to convert the building into four second-story apartments and several storefront businesses, including a bakery, a woodstove store and a furniture store.

Rochester Savings Bank will provide permanent financing to CEPHAS once the project is complete, probably in the Fall. Former Attica inmates will do much of the renovation work.

ANNUAL MEETING

The third annual meeting of the Queen of the Americas Guild will be held Aug. 15-17 in Techny, Ill. Persons desiring to attend the program dedicated to Our Lady of Guadalupe have been asked to contact Mrs. Mary Kelly 586-1664.

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