

Fr. John Reedy



Looking for the Lord

### How to Judge Judges

I'm uncomfortable about all those people who want Judge Sandra O'Connor to be quizzed about whether she is for or against abortion, for or against the Equal Rights Amendment, etc., to see whether she qualifies for appointment to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The word I used was "uncomfortable." Considering the length of time she will probably serve and the influence of the Supreme Court on the way we live, it seems right that such nominees should be examined very carefully. I would be reluctant to see whole categories of questions — such as those relating to the life issue — excluded from the hearings.

But it seems wrong to establish an ideological test for membership on this Court.

It may be naive, but it seems to me that the norms for such appointment are knowledge of and respect for constitutional law, a very good mind, great fairness and a lot of wisdom in applying the rule of law to the complexity of human situations.

I don't think we have all these qualities in some of the present Justices. Justice Brennan, for example, strikes me as a predictable liberal who is likely to decide for what he sees as the liberal position whenever he can.

Justice Rehnquist seems just the opposite, a predictable conservative who will support any conservative position he can.

If every appointment becomes a battle for an ideological majority, the whole concept of the role of the court, as a reasonably fair adjudicator of important disputes, will be lost.

Lord knows, I would oppose the appointment of any militant abortionist who was publicly committed to destroying any restriction on a mother's choice, using any opinion in which this position could be inserted.

But I would also oppose an anti-abortionist who approached the role of Supreme Court Justice with that intention. I view abortion as a direct attack on an innocent human life, but I don't think the function of the Supreme Court should be distorted to enforce my judgment.

In fact, this distortion is what seems to have happened in the decision which legalized abortion. A majority of the Justices seemed to conclude — for all kinds of reasons other than the merits of the case — that it was time to overrule the laws against abortion.

Once they decided what they should do, they had to come up with a legal justification, and it emerged as Justice Blackmun's tortured interpretation of the right to privacy.

From comments I've read, I gather that legal scholars

recognize the Blackmun opinion as flawed jurisprudence. I would be content to have the court reverse it for that reason.

And I suspect that a non-ideological court, looking fairly and wisely at the law and at human situations, would be able to recognize the rights of legislatures to enact laws to protect innocent human life in the womb.

Of course, every Justice comes to the Court with a set of values, a body of experience, a particular education and a personal conscience. They are not legal computers.

But I think it's worthwhile to strive for the ideal of a non-ideological Supreme Court. In spite of many failures, that ideal seems to have served our nation well.

And if the ideal is abandoned, if we clearly and openly set up ideological criteria for nominees, somebody is going to lose. Pro-life people might win on this one and lose, under different circumstances, on the next several appointments.

It's one thing to face a decision with which you disagree because the Justices seem to have interpreted the law badly. It will tear the structure of our government apart if large groups are convinced that their values are being trampled because the Court has been stacked through political pressures.

## At Your Parish. . .



### St. Pius Tenth

Father Gerald T. Connor, pastor of St. Pius Tenth Church, Chili, welcomes Laureen and Glenn Thompson to the United States. The children's visit was sponsored by the Rochester-Belfast Children's Vacation Committee, which raised funds to bring the children here from Belfast, Northern Ireland.

### St. Catherine of Siena

Ithaca — The annual Fiesta of St. Catherine's Church here is slated for Saturday, Sept. 12, and Sunday, Sept. 13, opening at 10 a.m. on both days.

Featured attractions are a white elephant room, a plant boutique, a craft room, and a variety of foods including a chicken barbecue on Saturday

### St. Nicholas

A Lebanese dinner with music and entertainment is being sponsored by St. Nicholas Church at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 3, at Bishop Kearney High School. Tickets are \$15 per person and are obtained at the rectory, 467-8925.

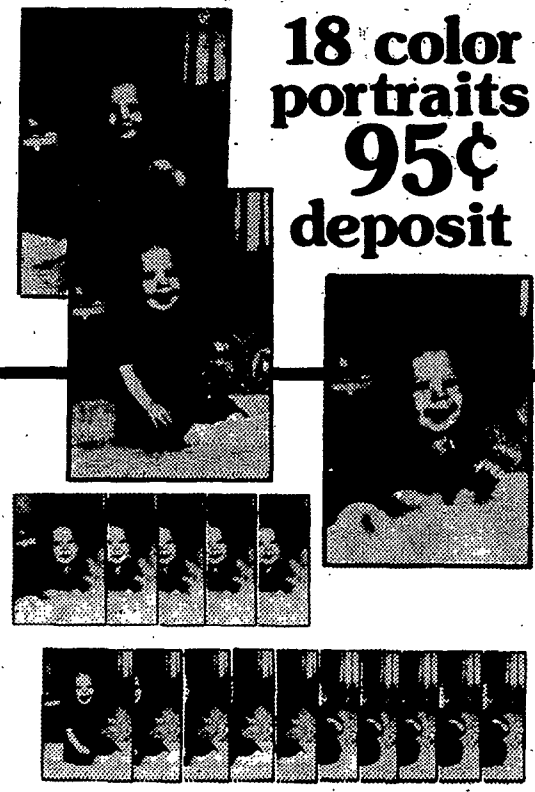
and a pancake breakfast on Sunday.

### St. Andrew's

The Rosary Society of St. Andrew's Church will hold a tureen supper at 6 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 22. Entry fee is \$4 or, with a dish to pass, \$1. Reservations are made by Sept. 16 with Linda Contrino, 342-6059, or Ginny Janas, 266-2628.

### St. Patrick

Mt. Morris — "Free to Be Me," a film series by Father John Powell, SJ, will be shown at St. Patrick's Church here in three parts, at 7:30 p.m., Sept. 20, 21 and 22.



18 color portraits 95¢ deposit

Full package \$8.95  
Less deposit .95  
Balance due 8.00

\$8.95 TOTAL

Includes three 5x7 and fifteen wallet size color portraits • money refunded if not satisfied • second subject in portrait 95¢ • full package orders only • no age limit • choice of backgrounds • poses our selection

offer good for portraits taken Mon. Sept. 7 thru Sat. Sept. 12

Children's Photographer

LONG RIDGE MALL Monday through Saturday 10 A.M.-8:30 P.M.

**Seneca Leather 'N' Lace**  
ALL of Seneca's Services Plus . . . LATEST LEATHER SPORTSWEAR FASHIONS  
PERINTON SQUARE SHOPPING MALL MIDTOWN PLAZA 454-6189

For Suede & Leather Cleaning See Us. We're Experts  
1227 Maple Street 328-1736  
Seneca Dyers, Inc.  
Mon.-Fri. 8 to 5:30, Sat. 8 to 1

**Have a Priest In Your Family**  
It Only Costs \$10 a Month

Did you know that, to attend but modestly to the needs of the faithful, there are 320,000 priests lacking here in South America? As you are aware, the ability to finance the achievements of one's goal doesn't always accompany a vocation. And this is where you come in. Are you willing to give financial assistance to help a young apostle realize his dream? Adopt one of our needy seminarians and have YOUR PRIEST who will pray for you daily, correspond with you regularly and whose priestly studies you can help to pay for with as little as \$10 a month. Or, instead of paying by installments, persons of means may prefer to pay \$1,000 once and for all. The boy himself pays a little and we complete the cost of his board and tuition and other expenses with donations from our benefactors. Only \$10 a month and one of our boys may prepare to give a lifetime to God and to his fellow countrymen.

For further information or initial payment, contact:  
**FR. JOHN PORTER**  
Don Bosco College, Box 2303, Quito, Ecuador.  
or  
Salesian Mission Office  
143 Main St., Box 30, New Rochelle, N.Y. 10802 U.S.A.  
• GIVE A PRIEST TO GOD  
• IN MEMORY OF YOUR DEAR ONES

**NOW AT THE SAME LOCATION**  
2 OF ROCHESTER'S FINEST NAMES IN FUNERAL SERVICE  
**AT THURSTON FUNERAL HOME INC.**  
**John L. Lioi & William P. Cass II**

**Thurston Funeral Home Inc. Welcomes William Cass . . . . .**

and all the Cass friends and families to our new funeral home in Greece at 2636 Ridgeway Avenue. The Thurston Funeral Home Services will be further enhanced by the addition of Bill Cass as an associate.

**WILLIAM P. CASS II**  
William Cass is a second-generation funeral director for Rochester families. Bill Cass' father, William Pomeroy Cass, established the Wynn and Cass Funeral Home in 1951 at 1429 Ridge Road (later known as the Cass Funeral Home). Mr. Cass Sr., was born and raised in Charlotte and is well-known to families all over Rochester.  
In 1965, Bill Cass Jr., became a licensed funeral director and took over management of the firm in 1974 upon his father's retirement. The Cass family has long been known for their family-to-family personal service and Bill will be continuing these close personal relations at Thurston Funeral Home.

**JOHN LIOI**  
John L. Lioi is also a second-generation funeral director.  
The Thurston Funeral Home Inc., began serving Rochester in 1962 under the direction of John's father, Anthony L. Lioi, and Louis D'Ovidio. John Lioi assumed the management role at Thurston in 1968.  
Thurston Funeral Home relocated in 1980 in the town of Greece at 2636 Ridgeway to serve closely the families of Greece, Gates and Rochester.  
Thurston Funeral Home is easily reached from the Ridgeway Avenue exit off Route 390.

2636 RIDGEWAY AVENUE • GREECE • PHONE: 227-2700  
(near Long Pond Road)

**COURIER-JOURNAL**

sell, outg, thir, with WAN

**ALARM**  
CITY APPROVE alarms. Free Systems, 328-

**WANT!**  
Jewelry, silver, clocks, wate lamps, gun, furnitur ANYTH 2

**AUT**  
CARS BOUGH Junkers want auto repairs. son Avenue. 2

**BUYING WRECI**  
Nicholas Sw

**FETZNER**  
FOR! Dependable Quality work glass repls estimates. 2485 Dew

**Complete Insurance E**  
Rustproofing Wax Jobs Side Moulding Pin Stripping TONY 6C (near St TOWN

**REASONABLE**  
Repairs, n 352-3447.

**OPPO**  
HOMEWORK money eas time by sim ing envelop Everything 1 day rush addressed Dept. 195, F FL 33318.

**CARPEN**  
CARPENTER windows 4 254-8420.

**ADDITIONS.**  
Change a room. 654-1

**Carpenter**  
enclosures downs, elec penance. Check ou BROTHER! 227-4635.

**CARPENTRY**  
inside trim locks and c 872-1205.

**REASONAB**  
Small rep tions. 352-

**CHILD CARI**  
Brighton-P

**19th WARD:**  
Weekdays 6:30 a.m. t

**CHIMNEYS**  
plastered, town. 28 estimates DiNapoli 226-7681.