

At Your Parish . . .

St. Mary, Scottsville

Scottsville — A Parish Renewal Weekend has been slated for St. Mary's Church here for Sept. 25, 26 and 27. The program will be conducted by Msgr. Gerard Krieg, pastor, and Father

James Schwartz. Registration for the event is under way. Registration details and further information are available by calling the parish, (716) 889-3100.

Immaculate Conception

The Mother Cabrini Circle Scholarship Benefit will be staged at the Immaculate Conception parish center on Glasgow Street, from 3 to 6 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 20.

The program includes

musical entertainment and refreshments. The circle, headed by Ms. Nola DeRouen, provides tuition help for black students to Catholic high schools.

St. John, Greece

"The Bible and You," an evening of reading, listening to and sharing the Bible will be held at 7:30 p.m., Friday, Sept. 25, at the new parish

center of St. John the Evangelist in Greece. Klaus Schultz of St. Lawrence Parish will be the guest speaker.

Precious Blood

Registration for Confraternity of Christian Doctrine classes at Most Precious Blood Church runs from 10 a.m. to noon on Sept. 26. A fee of \$12 per-child is charged. CCD classes start at 10 a.m. Oct. 3. Persons

wishing to enter either the second or eighth grade sacramental preparation classes are required to furnish baptismal certificates if they were not baptized in the parish.

St. Jude's

Family dinners will be featured at St. Jude's Church

festival slated Sept. 18, 19, and 20 under the big top at 4100 Lyell Rd. off Elmgrove.

St. Patrick's

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

A fish fry will be served from 5 to 8 p.m. on Friday; roast beef, 5-8 p.m., Saturday; lasagna, 3-8 p.m., Sunday.

The festival opens at 5 p.m. on the first two days, and at 1 p.m. 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.

The admission for the event is \$1 with a dish to pass, or \$4 without. Reservations are made by today by calling Linda Contrino, 342-6059; or Ginny Janas, 266-2628.

St. Philip Neri

The St. Philip Neri Women's Club meeting will open with benediction at 7:45 p.m. Sept. 22 in the church, followed by a meeting in the school hall. The event is open to all women, both within the parish and outside it. Sandy Ferraro will act as hostess for the evening.

St. Nicholas

A Lebanese dinner will be served by St. Nicholas parishioners at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 3 at Bishop Kearney High School.

The event also features music and entertainment. Tickets, at \$15 a person, are available by calling the rectory, 467-8925.

Good Counsel

Our Lady of Good Counsel School will celebrate its 50th anniversary with a Mass on Sept. 26. Following the Mass will be a buffet dinner in the school auditorium. Tickets, at \$10 a person are available from Vivian Kurdt, 328-7924.

Fr. Paul J. Cuddy



On the Right Side

A Letter About Two Churchmen

Dear Bishop Hickey,

I have been thinking of that book you lent me, "Dagger, John," the biography of Archbishop John Hughes by that Albany priest, Father Richard Shaw. What occasioned these recollections is my renewed interest in Cardinal John Henry Newman. To prepare our parishioners for coming expositions, I have explained: "Cardinal Newman was an Englishman born in 1801. He was a great scholar and church leader at Oxford University. He was a leader in the Oxford Movement which veered much of the Anglican Church to High Churchness, and brought many others into the Catholic Church. Newman became a Catholic in 1845, and was subsequently treated shamefully by many bishops and clergy, English and Irish, until he was made a cardinal by Pope Leo XIII in 1879. When he died at the age of 89, he was held in esteem and reverence by all England: Catholic, Anglican, Protestant and

non-believers. Pope John Paul II has ordered that his cause for canonization be reopened. And if I am alive, I hope to attend his canonization, even if in a wheelchair. He is NOT the Bohemian Bishop John Neumann of Philadelphia, who was canonized in 1977."

Your Dagger John seems a composite of Moses, Daniel O'Connell, Torquemada and Cardinal Spellman. While I do not like the man, I admire him despite his brawling and arbitrariness. This man responsible for St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York is worthy of great honor. He won't be canonized, but let us praise him for his goodness and his leadership.

I am finishing my third book on Newman: Masie Ward's "Young Mr. Newman." What has reawakened my interest in Newman were frequent references to him by Jesuit Father Bernard Basset in his conferences and books. Last June I wrote Father Basset: "Would you be willing to make a cassette tape of Newman which would introduce him to the grass roots Catholics?" In July he replied: "Your letter, so totally satisfying to me, is

answered by one which should prove totally satisfying to you. Last night I finished a retreat that was recorded in our Demonville Jesuit Retreat House chapel near Minneapolis. It will be called 'A Weekend With Cardinal Newman.' All 14 conferences were based on Newman's sermons and books. I added only cruder asides and jokes. One is never satisfied by one's own stuff but I feel a certain contentment, for I presented a very original anthology of John Henry which should do much to introduce him to the ordinary listener who buys tapes . . ."

Minister-O-Media in Maryland, which markets the Sheen tapes, is marketing the Basset tapes. My friend, Angela Noel, who is the business manager, wrote to me: "Father Brady has completed the edits of the test cassettes of Father Basset's Newman conferences. He is going to prepare a pre-marketing for you. As soon as the art work is completed, marketing will begin. God bless your apostolic work."

My dear bishop, it was through cassettes that Khomeini got back into power in Iran. I do consider this cassette-ministry a most effective apostolic work. And I ask your Lordship's assistance in promoting it, both by your interest and your blessing. If enough sign up for the Kenya tour in Africa, Oct. 16, we plan to visit some of the missions there. I will be in touch with you regarding this for your help and recommendations.

Pre-Seminary Programs Aid Men Discerning Vocations

By John Dash

One of Father Thomas Valenti's more delicate jobs as diocesan director of vocations to the priesthood is helping youths and men discern whether they indeed have a calling to ordination.

In that duty he is helped by two programs, one designed for high school students and the other for collegians.

The first, he said last week, "Project Leadership, is designed to assist men of high school age to discern whether they may have a vocation to the priesthood."

The project is essentially a weekend in February spent at Becket Hall, during which juniors and seniors in high schools visit with Becket seminarians. The schedule is prepared by the seminarians and includes talks by them on seminary life and on their own sense of vocation. Also included are opportunities for private conversations and recreation. "It's a pretty good weekend," Father Valenti said. "Last year we had 22 students who attended (four

of whom are now students at Becket).

"Our other program is new last year, a Program of Vocation Discernment, offered for college men; and the basic idea is to assist a young man while in college to discern whether or not he is called by God to the priesthood," he said.

The effort last year drew 15 men.

The program was developed for men not ready to commit themselves to a seminary program, and covers a number of activities devised by Fathers Michael Mahler, John DeSocio, John Firpo, Louis Sirianni, Edward Zimmer, Thomas Streb and James Boyle.

In that program, the activities are tailored to each person's needs. There are, however, some communal events such as a three-day retreat at Christmas time, a day of recollection at the end of the school year and a visit with parish priests in a parish setting.

In addition, men who have completed college are an-

nually invited to a retreat in January. The retreat drew seven last year, four of whom are now in seminary programs.

"The point in all the programs is to help the man discern where the Lord is calling him, and the program is intended to assist him in discerning that vocation," Father Valenti said.

Men interested in pursuing such a discernment program were asked last week to contact Father Valenti, in Rochester, 328-3210; Father Zimmer, in Auburn, 252-9545; Father Streb, in Ithaca, 274-3184; or Father Boyle, in Elmira, 734-6254.

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