

At Your Parish...

St. Helen's

Our Lady's Guild of St. Helen's Church will hold its annual tureen supper, starting at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 14. Admission is by presenting a dish to pass and a \$1 donation. The "Plunky Players" will entertain with a program entitled "The Women's Hour Radio Show."

St. Jude

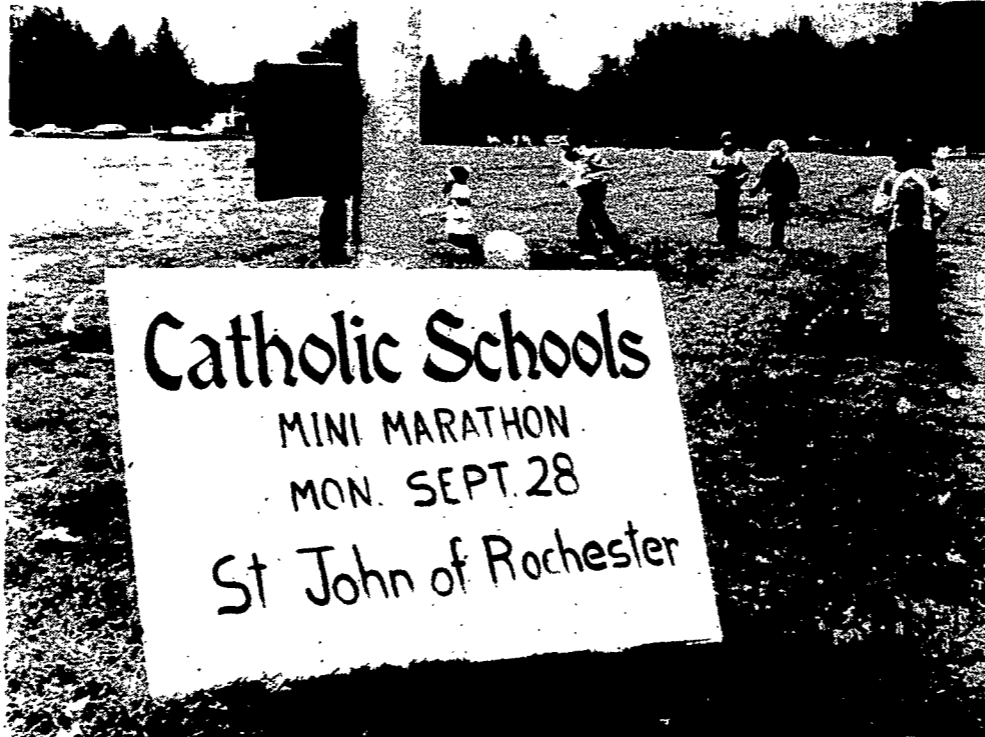
A solemn novena in honor of St. Jude the Apostle will open at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 20, at St. Jude's Church, 4100 Lyell Road.

The novena, which includes Masses and special prayers, will be conducted by Father John J. Sullivan, OP. On the Feast of St. Jude, the solemn closing Mass will be celebrated by Auxiliary Bishop Dennis W. Hickey.

The public is invited to attend the rites. Persons unable to attend have been invited to send in their petitions and intentions.

St. Cecilia

The Ladies Guild of St. Cecilia's Church will have a dinner, served by Bell's Market, at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 13, in the group's hall.



St. John of Rochester

Students in grades K-4 at St. John of Rochester School, Fairport, participated in a three-mile mini-marathon for Catholic schools on Monday, Sept. 28. The students ran, jogged and walked the course on the school grounds to raise almost \$600 in pledges for their school and the New York State Federation of Catholic School Parents.

Our Lady of Lourdes

The annual Next to New Sale of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish will open at 9 a.m. Friday, Oct. 9. The three-day event will be located in the school auditorium on Varinna and Rhinecliff drives in Brighton. Antiques, clothing, books, toys and household items will be offered for sale.

The sale, under the egis of the Parish Life/Soubirious Society will run 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. on Friday; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

St. Andrew's

The Rosary Society of St. Andrew's Church will hold its annual card party at 8 p.m., Oct. 9, in the school hall. Tickets, at \$1.50, will be sold at the door.

Proceeds will be used to meet the expenses of the church and school. Men are welcome to attend society programs.

Precious Blood

The Sacred Heart League of Most Precious Blood Church will hold a garage sale from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 10, in the school hall, 179 Stenson St.

Fr. John Reedy



Looking for the Lord

Muddy Rhetoric In Chicago

At the time of this writing, things have simmered down a bit in Chicago. The Sun-Times seems to have run through its initial series of stories on Cardinal Cody. The U.S. Attorney is saying very little about any official investigation. A number of prominent Catholics, clerical and lay (especially lay politicians) are testifying to their confidence in the Cardinal's character and actions.

But in the heat of the initial reports, a number of comments were made which should not have been made.

A number of spokesmen for the Archdiocese attributed the actions of the Sun-Times to religious bigotry, anti-Catholicism. The Cardinal, himself, remarked, "When they cannot disunite the flock, they attack the shepherd." He suggested that this was a form of religious persecution.

The Sun-Times might eventually be charged with sensationalism, with character assassination through innuendo, with journalistic irresponsibility. This will be determined by an evaluation of the facts which emerge.

But it is simply not

convincing to argue that the paper is anti-Catholic. It might well be hostile to the personality and policies of Cardinal Cody, but that is not the same as being anti-Catholic.

In its editorial policies, the paper tends to be liberal or progressive. In its religious coverage, Roy Larson tends to be sympathetic toward people and causes which would generally be identified as progressive.

As with many religious writers, he is skeptical about and unsympathetic toward the personalization of religious authority and prestige.

You might argue that these attitudes flaw his objectivity, but he is not anti-Catholic. He simply is not.

Moreover, whatever the personal attitudes of staffers might be, the Sun-Times is a huge commercial enterprise. In a market like Chicago, it would be suicidal for a daily newspaper to engage in blatant anti-Catholicism. And the management of this paper is not about to fall on its sword even if particular staffers did want to vent hostility toward the Catholic Church.

Nor is it true that an attack on the Ordinary, whether justified or not, necessarily amounts to an attack on the Catholic community, a desire to interfere with its religious freedom.

The leader of a diocese might be defamed; he might suffer unjustly. But he is still a human being, subject to all the weaknesses of other human beings. His appointment is not a surrender of his right to his good name, his right to fair and responsible treatment, but neither is it a shield from public comment, from public accountability.

This leads to the remark of the Cardinal's attorney, Don H. Reuben. He was quoted as saying the Cardinal is "answerable to Rome and to God, not to the Sun-Times."

There is a technical sense in which this is true, and perhaps it is unfair to expect sophisticated theology from a lawyer. But there is an important sense in which it is very bad theology.

Vatican II emphasized that the exercise of all authority in the Church, from pope to pastor, is a ministry of service. A bishop is not accountable to his local Church in the sense that a majority can vote him out of office, but he certainly is accountable to his people insofar as the welfare of the local Church calls for such accountability.

This accountability can involve honesty and candor in facing the problems of the local Church, in explaining the reasons for official policies, in openness to the concerns and needs of his people. It's not just a matter of having an audit of diocesan funds.

Unfortunately, this conflict is likely to drag on, but the heat of emotion should not excuse us from the effort to think clearly — and speak clearly — about the issues.

Holy Family

The Rosary Society of Holy Family Parish will hold a tureen supper beginning at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 14. The parish priests' birthdays will be celebrated at

the event. Admission is by presentation of a dish to pass or \$3. Reservations are made by today, Oct. 7, through Mrs. Anthony Mastrella, 235-2761, or Miss Mary Ann Walter, 436-8878.

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