

Bishop Anoints 150 at St. Mary's Rites

Elmira — More than 150 people were anointed and 25 were commissioned as

Eucharistic Ministers in rites at St. Mary's Church recently. Presiding over the rites was

Bishop Matthew H. Clark.

According to Father James Boyle, pastor, the anointing ceremonies had not been celebrated in the area in several years, and the occasion marked the first time the bishop had visited the parish.

Fathers Boyle, Robert Beligotti, associate; and John Leary and Raymond Wuest, pastors emeriti, joined Bishop Clark and Father Charles

Latus at the altar.

St. Mary's Parish extends from Elmira's south side to the Pennsylvania border. A large percentage of the population, Father Boyle said, is elderly.

CENACLE ADVENT

The Cenacle Renewal Center is hosting an Advent Retreat Dec. 4-6. Reservations are made by calling 271-8755.



Christmas Sale

Mrs. Anna Teeter, Irene Schantz, George Zitzler and Mrs. Elsie Isaac display candy wreaths being made by residents of St. Ann's Home for the annual craft Christmas sale, 2-4:30 p.m., Friday, Nov. 27, in the Bishop Kearney Auditorium of the home.

Fr. Albert Shamon



Word for Sunday

We Await The Life Beyond Death

Sunday's Readings: (R3) Mt. 25:1-13. (R1) Wis. 6:12-16. (R2) 1 Thes. 4:13-18.

November is the month set aside by the Church to remember our departed ones. Sunday's readings, however, say two things to us, the living: "be prepared," for we shall die; and "be consoled," regarding those who have already died.

Originally, biblical "wisdom" referred to a special gift of God conferred on master craftsmen and especially those skilled in using words. By the end of the Old Testament, wisdom had become personified. In Hebrew the word for wisdom is feminine, for it symbolizes God creating and sustaining the world, like a mother.

The key to life is to encounter God at a personal level. Yet grace is a gift! God has to take the initiative in any encounter; must first come to us, give himself to us. Happily, God is eager and desirous of doing just that. As a queen seated on a throne in dazzling robes is easily identifiable in a crowd of courtiers, so God (Wisdom) "is resplendent... readily perceived. She hastens to make herself known... sitting by the city gate."

But like any other truly interpersonal relationship, a certain initiative is also required on the part of the one receiving such a gift. God is to be encountered only by those who "love... seek... desire... watch... Everything is grace, everything is God's generous doing — but we must cooperate by wanting and accepting His love.

The gospel endorses this concept by urging us not so much to be watchful (everyone in the gospel parable fell asleep) as to be prepared. It issues at least two warnings: First, it warns us that there are certain things that cannot be gotten

at the last moment. It's too late to start studying for the exam the night before. When on trial for his life, Socrates refused to defend himself. He declared this to be unnecessary, because all his life long he had been preparing against this hour. Secondly, there are certain things that cannot be borrowed or begged — namely, virtue and goodness.

In the second reading Paul consoles the Thessalonians. The letter is the first piece of writing in the New Testament (around 51 A.D.). Christians at the time expected Christ's second coming to be imminent. "Within a short time you will lose sight of me," Jesus had told the apostles after the Last Supper, "but soon after that you shall see me again." Some interpreted this to mean His second coming.

When some Christians died before this happened, the living wondered whether or not their departed ones would be at a disadvantage at the second coming.

Paul plainly stated that those alive at the Parousia would have no advantage over those who had fallen asleep. Paul spoke of death as a sleep. From sleep one generally awakes. From death one is raised. Therefore, Paul wrote, we must not yield to grief as those who have no hope.

The pagans had no hope: they saw death as the end to life, a dead-end street. They responded to death, therefore, either stoically or cavalierly. The Stoics suppressed all feelings; the Epicureans gave expression to all feelings: eat, drink and be merry for tomorrow you die.

Christians, however, have hope, for Jesus who died rose from death. Therefore those believing in Him shall also rise after death. Unlike the Stoic, we may grieve for our departed loved ones; unlike the Epicureans, we may not debauch, for we look to a life to come — a far, far better life than we have ever known.

BUSINESSES YOU CAN TRUST

BUSINESSES LISTED BELOW HAVE PROVEN THEMSELVES COURTEOUS AND DEPENDABLE IN SALES AND SERVICE

PERIODICALS Joseph Rapone General Manager Manson News Dist., Inc. 634 South Avenue P.O. Box 1211 Rochester, NY 14620 (716) 244-3880	ATTORNEYS DEBT RELIEF Call any time for recorded message on how to get out of debt without borrowing 546-7318 Kenneth B. Mason Attorney at Law	OLD AND NEW Granny's Attic Furniture • Antiques • Glassware • Comic Books • Figurines • Books and More OPEN 7 DAYS 3rd Floor OLD CHURCH MALL 75 W. MAIN ST. Webster 872-3333	BRIDAL FASHIONS JUNE'S BRIDE Bridal outfits at a price you can afford. Complete Bridal Service Silk Flowers, Notions, Attendants Gifts, Printing, Complete Photo Service. June M. Donohue (315) 589-2540 6049 Pease Rd., After 5 p.m. Williamson
OFFICE EQUIPMENT OLYMPIA Typewriters See the newest stars... in the galaxy of superior OLYMPIA products... at our showroom now. OFFICE EQUIPMENT INC. 1000 W. MAIN ST. WEBSTER, NY 14580	BOOKS/RECORDS Alpha & Omega Books & Records Four Corners Penfield, NY 14526 716-381-1250	CRAFTS/SUPPLIES Yarns Unlimited Simply the friendliest, most complete yarn shop in the whole wide world! We can't wait to meet you the next time you're feeling the heat, bit creative! Yarns Unlimited WEBSTER, NY 14580	CARPET CLEANING KUSTOM KARPET KLEANERS TRUCK MOUNTED STEAM CARPET CLEANING FREE TEST, INSPECTION, EVALUATION CALL 377-1070
PET GROOMING/SUPPLIES DOOLITTLE'S Exotic Pet Menagerie and Grooming Emporium FULL LINE PET SHOP "From the ordinary to the Exotic" Featuring: Tame Birds and Other Exotic Pets Fish and Supplies 67 North Ave. Rt. 250 Webster 872-9537	MUSIC Pargsons Organ Co. 1232 HUNTER ROAD WEBSTER NY 14580 586-0383 PIPE & ELECTRONIC ORGAN SERVICES Maintenance • New Organs • Restoration	PAINT / WALLPAPER  3350 Monroe Avenue Rochester NY 14618 MANNY TESCHNER INTERIOR DESIGNER 716-586-2550	CANDY/CRAFTS Learn to Make Delicious Candy in Your Own Kitchen Chocolates Unlimited FREE CLASSES Now at Two Convenient Locations 75 Main St. 425 Stone Rd. Webster Greecel 872-0535 621-5707
INSURANCE JOHN CANEPA AGENCY General Insurance CALL JOHN CANEPA OR JIM MILLER 266-5225	FURNACES Gas Furnaces \$750 INSTALLED IN PRESENT DUCT WORK Call 288-1330 County Wide Emergency Heating	GLASS MICHAEL'S GLASS and MIRROR, Inc. "Your Image-Maker" THE CUSTOM GLASS and MIRROR FABRICATOR and INSTALLER Visit Our Showroom M-F 8-6, Sat. 9-2 19 Martin St., Webster 872-5800	PRINTING FRANKLIN PRESS 36 St. Paul St., Roch., N.Y. 14604 Serving Rochester-Monroe Co. Over 45 Years — PRINTING SERVICES — • Stationery • Legal • Medical • Accounting • Letter Heads • Bulletins • Statements • Envelopes • Business Cards CALL 454-1736
Keating-Buelle, Inc. 1064 Sibley Tower Bldg. "All Your Insurance Needs" Call Jim Keating 716-232-6138	FURNITURE RIDGE REED and HATTAN Furniture One of the largest selections of Casual Furniture, Rattan, Wicker, Basketware, Bath Accessories, Artwork, and Gifts - Custom Made Cushions 1287 Ridge Rd. East, Rochester, N.Y. 14621 Phone 544-2779	HOME HEALTH CARE SERVICES ALTERNATIVE CARE HOME HEALTH SERVICES, INC. 2255 Hudson Avenue Rochester, New York 14617 (716) 338-1261	HEATING  Heating & Cooling Service & Installations Gas & Oil Furnace Central Air & Heat Pumps Electronic Air Cleaners JOHN BETLEM INC. CALL PAUL 271-8888 898 Clinton Ave. So.

WOODSTOVES

CUT HEATING COSTS WITH A WOODBURNING STOVE OR FIREPLACE INSERT

INCLUDING: Squire, Grizzly, Leader, Nashua, Glacier Bay

ALSO: Complete Lines of Accessories

Visit us for a free Energy Payback Estimate
 HOURS: Mon. to Fri., 9 to 6; Sat., 9 to 4

The CARPET TACK

556 S. Clinton Ave. at Alexander
 (716) 232-1460

To Advertise in this BUSINESS DIRECTORY
 Call Courier-Journal Advertising, 454-7050