

Sr. Toinette Leads MLK Memorial

Sister Toinette Eugene, the Presentation Sister who is assistant professor of Education, Society and Black Church Studies at the divinity schools, will be the principal speaker at a Memorial Service and Gospel Music Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., 7:30 p.m., Friday, Jan. 15, at St. Bridget's Church.

The day marks the birthday of the famed civil rights

martyr. Sister Toinette's talk, "Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.: a Drum Major for Justice," is part of a program which also includes music by The Fantastic Bright Clouds Gospel Group, St. Bridget's Gospel Choir, and the Young Adult Choir of Pentecost Church. The program is open to the public. Further information is obtained by calling 454-4236.



SISTER TOINETTE

Youth Shelter Benefits From Catholic U. Project

Washington, D.C. — Kathy Bishop, a Catholic University graduate student

from Geneseo, and Dorothy Duffy, a Catholic U. junior from Yardley, Pa., were the

organizers of the university's "Get-Around-A-Thon." The event, in which students, faculty and staff members participated, earned \$1600 in pledges for the benefit of Covenant House, a 24-hour rescue-protection agency in New York City for runaway and sexually abused children.

The event was the second annual student-sponsored benefit for Covenant House which was started 12 years ago by Father Bruce Ritter, a Franciscan priest. Last year, the organizers selected Covenant House as the event's beneficiary because "kids don't run away to Washington, D.C.; they run away to New York City."

Local merchants donated prizes including dinners, gift certificates and movie passes for participants who completed the most miles, raised the most money and used the most unusual forms of transportation. The more than 100 participants selected any mode of transportation to get around a two-mile course as many times as they chose.

Timothy J. Johnson, a graduate student from Manasquan, N.J., majoring in mechanical engineering, and John Emerson, a junior history major from Bethesda, Md., each ran 32 miles to tie for the most mileage completed by any participant. Junior biology major Mary Rita Kaiser of Leavenworth, Kan., was awarded a prize for getting the single highest donation of \$139.50. Catholic University staff members Susan Machado and Dierdre Nunan were given prizes for using the most unusual mode of transportation. Each completed six miles of roller skates.

Deaths

Anna W. Loree

Hornell — Funeral services took place Dec. 29 in St. Ann's Church for Mrs. Anna W. Loree who had been housekeeper at St. Ann's Convent for the past 23 years.

Mrs. Loree, the widow of Mark B. Loree, was born 85 years ago in Andover. A graduate of Alfred University, she was an elementary school teacher before her marriage.

Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. C.E. Patti of Hornell; three sons, Mark of Arkport, Paul of Tallahassee, Fla., Thomas of Dansville; four brothers, Norman, Leo, Raymond and Joseph Joyce, all of Andover; 20 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Father Robert MacNamara, pastor, celebrated the Mass and delivered the homily. Burial was in St. Ann's Cemetery.

Pro-Life Film Festival Scheduled

Geneva — Geneva Right to Life is preparing a Pro-Life Film Festival from 7 to 9 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 21, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 115 W. Bayard St., Seneca Falls.

Two films will be shown, "Somewhere Before," and "Assignment Life." The first features television personalities Ron Howard and Cindy Williams and takes place in a hospital waiting room.

The second, "Assignment Life," includes interviews with people on both sides of the abortion issue including an abortionist, pro-abortion Planned Parenthood counselors, women who have had abortions, women who have resisted abortion counseling; Dr. Bernard Nathanson, a former abortionist turned pro-lifer; and Dr. Jack Wilkie, chairman of the National Right to Life Committee.

According to Kathy Peters of Geneva Right to Life, pro-abortionists as well as pro-life advocates are invited to the festival free of charge.

Deadline

The deadline for submitting news to the Courier-Journal is noon on Thursday preceding the following Wednesday's publication.

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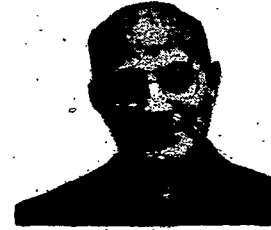
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Fr. Albert Shamon



Word for Sunday

God Calls Each One

Sunday's Readings: (R3) Jn. 1:35-42. (R1) 1 Sm. 3:3-10, 19. (R2) 1 Cor. 6:13-15, 17-20.

Outside the Christmas and Paschal cycles, there are 33 or 34 Sundays. They are called Sundays of the Year. The first of these Sundays, the Baptism of the Lord, closes the Christmas cycle; the last is the feast of Christ the King. Some of these Sundays come before Lent, and the rest follow after Pentecost.

The Gospels of the early Sundays tell of our Lord's early ministry after his baptism, like the call of the apostles in this Sunday's Gospel.

The theme for Sunday's Gospel is God's call and man's response.

The call of Samuel and of the four apostles are vivid instances of the truth that every man has a vocation. Life is purposeful; every man is called to fulfill some purpose. The New Testament is freighted with vocational expressions. Christians are spoken of as "called to belong to Jesus Christ," "called to holiness," "called to live in freedom," "called according to God's purpose."

God's call is not always clear and distinct. Samuel mistook his voice for Eli's. Samuel needed guidance. He went to Eli for it. Eli could have said to Samuel, "Now, listen here, I'm the priest around here. You're just a boy of twelve. You're hearing things. Forget it. If God wants to speak, He'll speak through me."

Or Eli could have said, "Well, now, you've heard a voice? Let me see. You know what I think it means?" And then Eli could have perpetuated some pet opinion of his own.

But Eli did neither. He sent Samuel to God, and God spoke to Samuel.

The same was true of John and Andrew. They also needed direction to discover

Christ; and the Baptizer gave it, even when he knew that in pointing out Christ to his disciples they would leave him.

Youth needs counselors today — parents of the caliber of Eli and the Baptizer. Men and women willing to take second place in leading others to God. Men and women who guide but do not impose, who draw but do not drive, who point but do not force, who inform consciences by echoing the voice of God expressed in the teachings of Christ in his Church and who motivate youth to make the right choices by themselves setting the right example.

Samuel listened to God's voice; in reward he received a message. John and Andrew spent a day with Jesus; they ended up living the rest of their lives for him. Cooperation with God in the little things wins greater things.

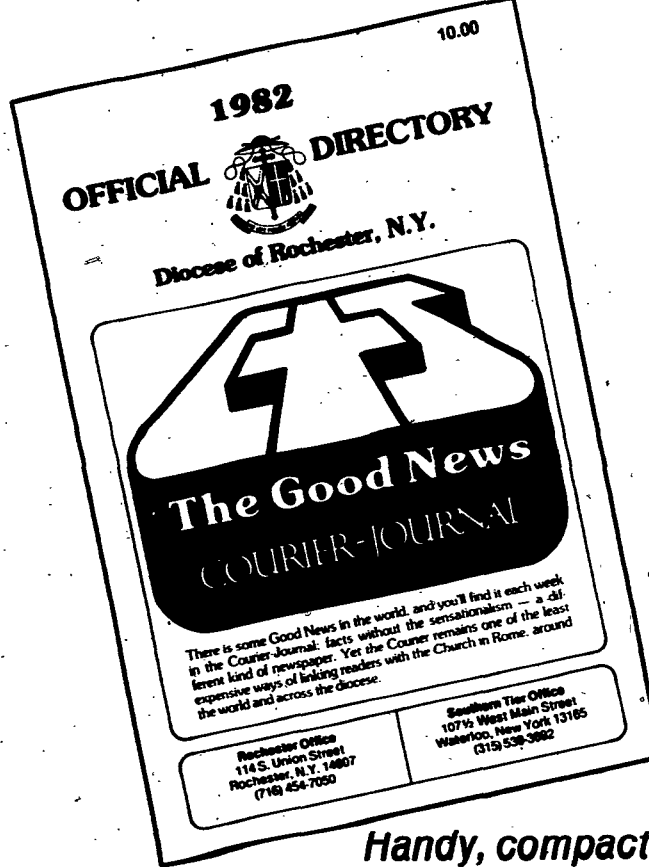
With children, God is so patient. Three times he called Samuel — and by name. Even with grown-ups, Jesus goes more than halfway. When John and Andrew tagged after him, he took the initiative to ask, "What are you looking for?"

They asked, "Where are you staying?" They wanted to have a long talk with him. They were seeking the Messiah in dead earnest. And he did not let them down. "Seek and you shall find." Andrew told Peter, "We have found the Messiah." John noted the time — about four in the afternoon. Whenever a man meets Jesus, he knows the date and the hour, for he is never the same thereafter.

A vocation common to all Christians is to lead others to Christ. An old man, like Eli, guided a young man, like Samuel. A brother led a brother — Andrew, Peter — to Christ. God works at the most unlikely times: sometimes when men are asleep, as in the case of Samuel; other times after work, at 4 p.m., as with John and Andrew. But best of all, God often works through the most unlikely people you and me — if we let him!

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