

At Your Parish...



St. Thomas More

Sister Judith Whalen, second from left, principal of St. Thomas More School, accepts the Rochester Zeniths Basketball Tournament second place trophy from eighth grader Dan Peacock, Most Valuable Player of the tourney. Also on hand for the presentation were Patricia Riley, left, representing the cheerleaders, and Kevin Leggett, a seventh grader. The squad finished behind only Sacred Heart School in the 11-team competition. The school also received a first place trophy recently when the girls' CYO basketball squad captured the St. John's Holiday Tournament. The girls defeated St. John's of Greece, 32-24, and St. Lawrence, 40-21, for the title.

Educational Programs On Hatch Amendment

- Feb. 21 — St. Patrick's, Corning, 10:45 a.m.
- Feb. 28 — St. Patrick's, Corning, 10:45 a.m.
- March 1 — St. Vincent's, Corning, 7:30 p.m.
- March 1 — St. Agnes, Avon, 8 p.m.
- March 14 — St. Mary's, Ontario, 7:30 p.m.

A Marriage Salute Scheduled Feb. 14

This year, Valentine's Day is more than just a day for sweethearts. At least 31 governors, including New York State Governor, Hugh L. Carey, have declared Feb. 14, "We Believe in Marriage Day."

As a part of the nationwide observance, Rochester Mayor Thomas P. Ryan said in his proclamation, "There is an urgent need to reverse the present trend toward separation and divorce. Marriage should be viewed as a lifelong commitment between husband and wife, filled with mutual respect and open communication."

In a recent letter applauding the efforts of Marriage Encounter in affirming married people, Bishop Matthew H. Clark said, "Our own local efforts on behalf of family life have revealed the need for our Church to be visibly and vocally supportive of people striving to live fully the Sacrament of Marriage. Married people today face a myriad of pressures which tend to thwart their highest ideals for their marriage. We need to proclaim our support for their intentions, in the face of public skepticism to live out a faith-filled commitment to one another."

To prepare for the event, a giant wedding cake will be on display from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., on Saturday, Feb. 13 in Midtown Plaza. A piece of cake will be offered to all to mark the event.

"We Believe in Marriage Day" gives us an opportunity to turn the spotlight on the thousands of great marriages

that are working," said Phil Brockmyre of Worldwide Marriage Encounter. "The media is so overrun with stories about divorce and the swinging single lifestyle that people get a false impression that everyone is caught up in it. The fact is that there are thousands of couples out there who share a lifelong commitment, who are loyal to each other, who are willing to sacrifice for the sake of each other and their children."

"These couples provide a rich model of love for the Church and for the world," added his wife, Pat.

According to Andy and Reta Fiocco, who are coordinators of the local event, "We Believe in Marriage Day" is being celebrated in many parishes and they will focus on the Sacrament of Marriage in the Feb. 14 Sunday liturgy.

"Most people don't realize what great potential marriage has for making their lives exciting, challenging, and full of personal growth and adventure," Andy said. "That's where the Marriage Encounter Weekend comes in."

The Fioccos said Marriage Encounter's communication techniques have helped them to focus on why they married in the first place — because they found each other special in so many ways.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter fosters stronger marriages by teaching increased communication techniques during a 44-hour weekend experience. Almost two million people throughout the world have attended.

Resort Sets Valentine Ski Contest

Bristol Mountain will celebrate Valentine's Day on Sunday, Feb. 14, with its annual Sweetheart Slalom Race. Skiing couples, over 18 years old, will race in a dual slalom format. Lucky couples will win a five-day mid-week stay at the Austrian House in Mt. Snow, Vermont.

Couples may register anytime before the 1 p.m. race by paying a \$3 entry fee at the Skier Services Desk. For further information, contact Lauretta Kenyon at (716) 374-6331.

Anglo-Irish Relations Discussed

"Ireland and Britain — the Real Story" compares and counter-balances the Anglo-Irish relations in a non-credit course to be offered by the Office of Continuing Education at St. John-Fisher College this Spring.

Richard Howland-Bolton, an English freelance designer, photographer who lectures on historical and linguistic subjects, will trace the last few thousand years of this complex intertwining of peoples, comparing the English government's treatment of the Irish and Scots.

The course will be offered 7-9 p.m., beginning Wednesday, March 17, and concluding Wednesday, May 12. The fee is \$35. For registration information call 586-4140, ext. 365.

Course Offered At St. Charles

"The Biblical Concept of God," a non-credit course given by Joseph Kelly, is being offered at St. Charles Borromeo. Classes will be 7:30-9:30 p.m., and will start on Thursday, Feb. 25, and continue on March 4, 11, 25 and April 1 in the St. Charles Library.

Registration prior to Feb. 25 would be appreciated. Registration is \$25 per person.

St. Charles

Elmira Heights — The fourth annual Rosary Society Seminar, slated for 1-4 p.m. Sunday, March 28, in St. Charles Borromeo basement hall, will feature a "Learning and Sharing Workshop" for officers and members of executive committees.

This year's program will be hosted by the rosary societies of St. Charles and St. Mary Our Mother in Horseheads.

Persons planning on attending from Rochester have been asked to contact Harriet Beiter, 72 Butler Ave., Pittsford, 14534, for details on car pooling and chartering a bus.

St. James

The famous Celebrate Life group from the Corning-Elmira area will perform in concert at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 20, at St. James Church hall. The appearance is being sponsored by the youth of St. James and St. Ambrose parishes. Tickets are available at the door or at the St. James rectory.

St. Stephen's

Geneva — The Parish Life Committee of St. Stephen's Church here will hold a Mardi Gras supper at 6:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 19, in the school hall. Billed as a family event, those attending are asked to bring table service and a dish to pass. Dessert and beverage will be provided.

St. John the Evangelist

Father Joseph Nangle, OFM, former consultant to the nations' bishops on questions of peace and justice, will speak on "International Justice and Today's Christians," 7:30 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 14, at St. John the Evangelist Church, 549 Humboldt St.

The public is invited to the

St. Rita's

West Webster — German pancakes will be served from 8:30 to 11 a.m., Sunday, Feb. 21, at St. Rita's barn.

The breakfast will be prepared by chef John Kunzog, 90, who hails from Jamestown for the event, which also features applesauce and sour cream.

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St. Francis Assisi

A pre-Lent carnival party will be staged at 7 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 20, at St. Francis of Assisi parish hall. The cash bar opens at 7, a buffet dinner will be served at 7:45. Music and dancing will complete the evening. Tickets are limited to 200 and cost \$8 per person. Reservations are made by contacting Mike Simonetti, 436-0260, or the rectory, 436-6693.

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