



Father James Keenan took over duties as McQuaid president last Fall.

McQuaid President Sets Active Pace

It didn't take Father James F. Keenan, S.J., McQuaid's new rector/president long to become a motivating force within the McQuaid community. Last November, shortly after arriving at the school, he introduced a Novena of Masses for the

deceased members of the McQuaid family. He wrote parents urging their support for the efforts to pass school tax-credit legislation. And now, he is enthusiastically serving as honorary chairman of the school's annual BASH set for Friday and Saturday,

March 26-27.

Father Keenan is a native New Yorker, born in Blessed Sacrament Parish, Jackson Heights, Queens. He attended the parish parochial school and went to Bishop Laughlin Memorial High School in Brooklyn. He has an MA from Fordham University and attended Columbia Teachers College.

Father Keenan's experiences range from the classroom to the administrative office. He taught English and American history at Xavier High School in New York City from 1963 to 1966, and after his ordination he returned as teacher in 1969. He served as Associate Headmaster of Academics and Administration. In 1974 he became Headmaster of Xavier and served in that position until 1977 when he became rector/president. He held that office until coming to McQuaid to assume his present duties in October 1981.

Sister Julia, RSCJ, Notes 25th Jubilee

Kenwood — Sister Julia Micciche celebrated her silver jubilee at Sacred Heart Convent here Feb. 14, her sister, Theresa Saeva of Scottsville, said last week.

The Sacred Heart Sister was educated in Rochester at Holy Family Church, and was a parishioner at St. Francis of Assisi.

Her mother, Mrs. Concetta Micciche Dalli, attended, as did her sisters Theresa, Josephine and Ann, and her two brothers, Charles and Samuel.

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Calendar

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM — Sponsored by the TNT Toastmasters Club, 7-9 p.m., Wednesday, March 10, Maplewood Inn, 3500 East Ave. Open to the public. Call 288-3654 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., to register for this free program.

CHILDREN'S THEATER — "Mime Magic," presented by the Mime Workshop, for ages 4-8, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., Saturday, March 6, Nazareth College Arts Center, A-14. Tickets \$1, on sale one hour before each performance.

ART OPENING — Richard Incardona, Italian-American graphic designer and illustrator, opens exhibit of his works, 3-5 p.m., Sunday, March 7, Casa Italiana, Nazareth College. Free.

MUSIC — Robert Silverman, guest pianist in concert, 8 p.m., main auditorium, Nazareth Arts Center, free.

ANTIQUÉ SHOW & SALE — 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday, March 6, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday, March 7, Holy Cross School Auditorium, Lake Avenue and Latta Road. Admission, \$1.50

SENIOR MATINEE — "Riffruff" starring Jean Harlow and Spencer Tracy, 1:30 p.m., Thursday, March 4, George Eastman House.

EASTMAN JAZZ — Music of Thad Jones, Bob Brookmeyer, directed by Ramon Ricker, 8 p.m., Wednesday, March 3, Kilbourn Hall, free.

EASTMAN CONCERTO CONCERT — Featuring performances by the winners of the Eastman School's annual concerto competition, 8 p.m., Friday, March 5, Eastman Theatre, free.

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Fr. Albert Shamon



Word for Sunday

Covenants Differ in Gifts Given

Sunday's Readings: (R3) Jn. 12/20-33. (R1) Jer. 31/31-34. (R2) Heb. 5/7-9.

I have often asked the question: "What is the difference between the New and Old Testaments or covenants?"

Before answering, let us consider the words "covenant" and "testament." The word covenant emphasizes the equality side of a contract. Generally, equals make contracts. Covenants, therefore, highlight God's love for us — a love so great that it stoops down to lift us up to His level. Testament, on the other hand, stresses the one-sidedness of God's contracts. He is the sole giver; we can give Him nothing save love and obedience. His role in covenant is like that of a testator, making a will. The testator gives, the inheritor receives. Since in Roman law for a will to be valid it needed to be witnessed, and since the Latin word for witness is "testis," Latins called a will a "testament," something witnessed to.

Covenant, therefore reflects God's condescension, His treating us as equals.

Testament reflects God's graciousness, His giving freely to us.

So, back to our question: "What is the essential difference between the New and the Old Testaments?"

The difference is in the gifts given. In the Old Testament God gave His people the Law, something outside themselves. In the New Testament, God has given His people the Holy Spirit. Someone inside man, capable of changing the heart.

The Old Testament revealed that the trouble with man is heart trouble: man has no heart for God's ways! He was a coward at heart; and a cowardly lion is no lion. That too is man's trouble. He needs a new heart. So the Church asks us to pray: "Create a clean heart in me, O God." And God Himself promised man this when He said through Jeremiah, "I will make a new covenant... I will place my law within them, and will write it upon their hearts."

How was this to be done? By giving to each of us the Holy Spirit Himself. "The love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us." The fourth Eucharistic Prayer speaks of the giving of Spirit as our Lord's first gift to us. "He sent the Holy Spirit from you, Father, as His first gift to those who believe."

What we have done all too frequently has been to take the Good News and to change it to Good Advice. Good Advice is to hold up a Christian ideal of life and service, and then to say in effect: "Here's the ideal; now use your will-power to achieve it." That's a goal impossible of achievement, for the Christian life is supernatural; that is, above and beyond the natural. We, therefore, need more than will-power; we need God-power — the Holy Spirit — to make us "supermen."

The Good News is that Christ has given us the Holy Spirit, who can transform us by His power into new persons who can love and rejoice and help the poor in a way far beyond our own capabilities. The lives of saints are simply acts of the Holy Spirit working through them, as were the "acts of the apostles."

Through His gifts, the Holy Spirit creates new hearts, renews the face of the earth, and makes the Old Testament New! How we should pray, "Send forth Thy Spirit."