



Guys and Dolls

In what is considered by Aquinas Institute staff as an ironic prophesy, the school's Drama Club will have been rehearsing for months to present "Guys and Dolls," the sprightly musical comedy based on the story by Damon Runyon. Shown in rehearsal are Mark Kershner, Ed Boland, Joelle Tantalio and Janet Fanale. The show will be staged at 8 p.m., April 30, May 1 and 2. Ticket information is obtained by calling 254-2020.

Fr. John Reedy



Looking for the Lord

Those Were The Days

There is something refreshing about an encounter with an unapologetic, blatant bigot. (It's refreshing, that is, as long as the bigot doesn't have any real power to enforce his bigotry.)

I had been watching a news clip of Bob Jones — one of the several Bob Joneses connected with the school that bears their name. This Bob Jones was praying up a storm, urging Almighty God to smite Secretary Haig, "hip and thigh." He assured his audience that the Almighty would certainly heed his prayer; Alexander Haig was in for some smiting.

I think this particular Bob Jones was miffed at the Secretary of State because his department wouldn't admit the Irish bigot, Ian Paisley, for a visit... but it wasn't an exclusive kind of animosity. Bob also reminds the Lord that He should take care of the Pope (identified as the Anti-Christ), a number of government officials who want to give his school problems on tax exemption, people who are pushing racial integration, etc., etc.

He even took a few shots at Jerry Falwell and the Moral Majority for being too squishy about their crusades for righteousness.

On reflection, I realized that an encounter with his kind of religious bigotry was refreshing because it carries with it an element of nostalgia for simpler times, simpler issues.

When I came into Catholic press work, we had a number of these people whose blind, blatant bigotry provided a sense of reassurance for Catholics who were emerging into the mainstream of American life.

There was Paul Blanchard who was constantly promoting absurd anti-Catholic myths which had

become an embarrassment to many Protestant leaders.

A bit more sophisticated, though not much, was G. Bromley Oxnam, whose anti-Catholicism was an easy target when you couldn't think of anything else to write about. In fact, there was a whole organization of people, bound together by nothing other than their anti-Catholicism, who made up Protestants and Others United For Separation of Church and State.

They were refreshing for us because sensible people realized that you had to have something good going for you if you aroused the hatred of characters like these.

They were refreshing because they provided at least one rallying point for the huge diverse Catholic population. We might disagree on our politics, on our economics, on our liturgical preferences, on our opinion of Cardinal Spellman. But we had a sense of unity in reacting to the blatant bigotry of many of these people.

The vehemence of their opposition made our loyalty to the Church a much simpler, less complicated matter. Those of us who heard about the Vatican's treatment of scholars like John Courtney Murray, Teilhard de Chardin and Henri du Lubac were uncomfortable with it, but maybe the Church had to set some regrettable limits on its members when it faced such open hatred.

Anti-Catholic bigotry produced a sense of unity, of loyalty, a reluctance to engage in self-criticism. Who wanted to provide the bigots with more ammunition?

That time in the life of the Church now seems as distant as the frontier days. Though it's much more difficult, the Catholic community today must seek its unity in what it believes, what it professes, what it does, not in reaction to its enemies.

Vicars Home from National Conference

Sister Muriel Curran, SSND, and Msgr. Gerard Krieg, diocesan vicars for Religious, recently returned from Charleston, W. Va., where they attended the National Conference of Vicars for Religious.

The event drew 90 such vicars, and featured addresses by Father Patrick Granfield, OSB, Bishop James Malone, Msgr. John Alessandro, and Sister Maxine Teipen, SP.

Father Granfield's keynote address was a discussion of the nature of the Church and causes for hope which he finds in the increasing renewal of faith among clergy, religious

and laity, a renewed interest in prayer and the study of Scripture, ecumenical activity across the country and recent statements by the American bishops. He called on religious to display courage in facing the establishment of new congregations to meet the needs of the contemporary world.

Bishop Malone of the Diocese of Youngstown, Ohio, said that vicars for Religious enable the bishop to be more directly accessible to the people. He called on vicars to enable religious to be more actively a part of the local Church and to let the place of religious in the life of the Church to be better known by

all people. In addition, he called for deeper self-renewal and holiness.

Msgr. Alessandro, chancellor of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, presented an overview of the new code of Canon Law.

Sister Maxine, a former vicar now general councilor of the Sisters of Providence, took on the topic of "Spirituality — the core of renewal and animation in the local Church and religious congregations." Stating, "The religious in the local Church must be assisted (by the vicar) in witnessing to reconciliation despite diversity," she emphasized the need for religious

congregations and the local Church to strive for unity in humility.

Hatch Debate Scheduled

Differing positions on the Hatch Amendment to the U.S. Constitution will be

presented by the American Civil Liberties Union and the Americans United for Life

Legal Defense Fund at a public forum, 7:45 p.m., Thursday, April 29, at the Academy of Medicine, 1440 East Ave.

Group Aims to Help Polish Refugees

A few of the thousands of Poles who have fled their homeland since martial law was declared five months ago will find new homes in Rochester, through the efforts of a local group organized for their assistance.

"The Committee to Aid Newcomers from Poland," formed in March, will help support the resettlement of a number of the refugees waiting in Viennese camps for permission to enter the United States. Working in cooperation with the Inter-Church Refugee Assistance Project, the committee will help provide Polish newcomers with the housing, food, household goods and clothing they need upon arrival. The group also will

help the Poles with jobs, to become familiar with the city and become accustomed to American life.

The group hopes to help as many as 100 persons. It is collecting household goods and clothing, setting up a file of available housing, making contacts regarding employment opportunities, and locating families willing to serve as hosts.

The Rochester community is invited to donate clothing, furniture and appliances, or may provide information concerning housing and jobs. The contact persons are Mrs. Corrine Nuchelski Lovett (467-1153) or Mrs. Gabrielle Jaskot (467-0288).

Nurses Study Decision Making

Elmira — A "Clinical Decision Making" seminar drew 55 nurses and nursing instructors to hear Dr. Dorothy J. del Bueno on April 2.

The seminar was sponsored by the St. James Mercy Hospital School of Nursing.

Del Bueno is the assistant dean for continuing education and consultant in inservice education for the University of Pennsylvania and its hospital in Philadelphia.

During the morning, she focused on ways to approach decision making, the variables

to be considered and a competency continuum for clinical decision making involving behavior, circumstances and evaluation criteria.

In the afternoon, she discussed how to develop a concept for decision making and how to use the methodology. Participants also had an opportunity to take part in a simulation.

Attending the session were personnel from several hospitals and nursing schools in central New York.

Singing Groups Plan Get-Together

Choirs and folk song groups from several parishes will meet from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, May 1, at Our Lady of Mercy High School on Blossom Road.

The groups are preparing participation in this session, "Sharing the Wealth, Musically Speaking," by selecting works that they have found to be conducive to prayer in their parish liturgies. Each group will present three works and all participants will receive programs complete with notes regarding use of

the selected works at parish worship, as well as publishers' mailing addresses and costs.

Registration for singers is filled; however, all who are interested to participate as listeners are welcome. Registration at \$2 will be available at the door. Participants should bring a lunch; beverage and dessert will be served.

Further information is available from the Office of Liturgy (746) 328-3210.

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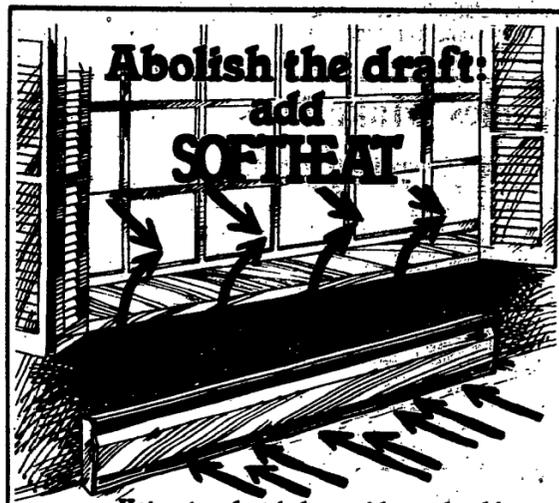
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The public is invited and refreshments will be served.



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