

# Bishop Rosso Arrives

Seneca Falls — Bishop Sebastiano Rosso of Piazza Armerina, Italy, arrives here this week for a visit with the diocese's Italian community.

The bishop will make a public appearance at the ordination of Rev. Mr. Rosario La Delfa 11 a.m., May 8, at St. Patrick's

Church. He will be present in the sanctuary as Bishop Matthew H. Clark performs the ordination.

Bishop Rosso will then visit the Rochester communities next week.

He will lead a pilgrimage to a shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, Thursday, May 13. Tickets for the day-long bus trip are \$10 and are reserved by calling Father Michael Costanzo, (716) 586-3231.

The bishop will speak on the celebrated Madonna Delle Lacrime in Siracusa, Italy, 8 p.m. Friday May 14, at the Casa Italiana on Nazareth College.

The community will welcome him with a dinner dance at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, May 15, at the Americana Hotel. Tickets at \$17.50 are reserved by calling Fulvio Gibbardo, 266-1620; Jerry Abruzzese, 247-6818; Ricardo Radicia, 342-2240; or Ferdinando La Delfa, 482-9204.

He will preside and preach at a concelebrated Mass at 3 p.m., Sunday, May 16, at St. Francis Xavier Church, Bay Street.

Sister Alice Robeson, SSJ



Viewpoint: Sisters Reflect

## Perspectives On Pain

There are few universally experienced realities; pain is one of them. The reality of pain assaults us and at times threatens to engulf us. Civil war in El Salvador, corruption and blatant human rights violations in Central and South America, food shortages in Africa — all are dispassionately reported each evening for all who choose to watch.

Nationally, the experience of pain takes on different forms. Starvation may be rare, but malnutrition is increasingly common, as school lunch programs and food stamp subsidies fall victim to budget cuts. Meanwhile, the jobless, the disabled, the homeless, the poor, the elderly on fixed incomes, and countless others struggle to survive with some measure of dignity in the midst of a seemingly uncaring society.

Pain also affects us more intimately. Stress is accepted as a fact of life, and the diseases of stress take their toll. Depression, drug use, alcoholism and suicide are just a few of the symptoms we may regularly encounter in our loved ones or in ourselves. The number of their victims is legion; their very existence declares the personal cost of survival in our complex society.

We want to respond, and as Christians we are called to respond, to be healers. But, in the face of so much pain, what options do we have?

Some choose to limit their focus to their own pain. They numb themselves, as best they can, to the rest of the world's suffering. They rationalize that, since they didn't cause it and they can't cure it, they might as well ignore it. This egocentric non-involvement may even be to the point of allowing someone to die, rather than taking the risks involved in trying to help. Witness the case of the young woman in New York City who was fatally stabbed within the sight and hearing of countless apartment dwellers. No one even called the police.

Others become so obsessed with the immensity of needs and the limited nature of their ability to respond, that they are paralyzed by a mind set of despair. For them, like Sartre, there is "no exit" from the absurdities of life, and its pain; endurance is their only option.

There is, thank God, a third option. We can recognize our responsibility to respond to the pain of those in our own sphere of influence, even as we look

for ways to widen that sphere. But to do this effectively, we must recognize the basic truth that it is Jesus who saves. He who knew pain in all its intensity and who died seemingly a failure, is Risen. We do not need to be a Messiah; He has already come. We are merely His followers who struggle before the mystery of suffering, but who also look forward, in hope, to our entry into the mystery of the Resurrection.

Sister Alice Robeson, SSJ, is a health teacher and schedule coordinator at Nazareth Academy.

## Senior Retreat Planned

"Aging and the Call to a Fuller Life" is the theme of a retreat for retired persons and those 62 and older, May 4-5, at the Cenacle Center for Spiritual Renewal, 693 East Ave.

Father James Moynihan, pastor of St. Joseph's in Penfield, and Sister Mary Lou Heffernan, SSJ, pastoral assistant there, will direct the retreat which opens at 9:30 a.m., May 4, and closes at 7 p.m., May 5.

Reservations are made by calling the Cenacle, (716) 271-8755.

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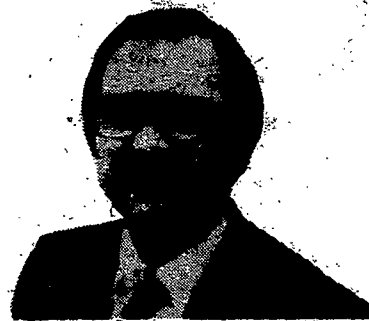
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## THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER



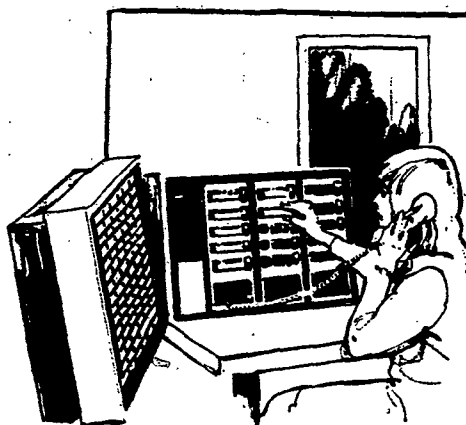
EDWIN SULEWSKI  
FUNERAL DIRECTOR

### Should I sell my house now that my spouse has died?

Many people complain that living in an empty house with all the reminders of the deceased is painful. Usually at this time we are upset and feel we would like to move away. The time to sell, however, is not the period right after the death of a loved one! Moving away may resolve some immediate pain but it also entails leaving friends, releasing some very important assets, adjusting to an apartment or moving in with others. We recommend waiting a year or more before a decision to sell one's house is made. Then check out a new area, even live in an apartment for some time. Caution is important!

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