



### Art Winner

Debra Gullen, 13, an eighth grader at St. Joseph's School in Penfield, has been honored as a finalist at the 55th annual National High School Art Exhibition at the Parsons Gallery in New York City. Her mixed media work was the only elementary school entry recognized. Ms. Gullen previously received the junior achievement top award for elementary school art at the Scholastic Art Show at Sibley's. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Gullen of Penfield.

### Fr. Albert Shamon



Word for Sunday

### Intertwining Patriotism And Religion

Sunday's Readings: (R3) Mk. 6/1-6. (R1) Ez. 2/2-5. (R2) 2 Cor. 12/7-10.

It is interesting that the Sunday readings are about rebels. God said to Ezechiel, "I am sending you to the Israelites, rebels who have rebelled against me." (R1) And to the Nazarenes who rebelled against Jesus, He said, "No prophet is without honor... except among his own kindred." (R3)

July 4 celebrates a rebellion. America started with a revolution. That is why some communists claim that they are the Americans of the 20th century — they are revolutionaries.

But there are two kinds of rebellion: one good, one bad. Rebellion, like that against Ezechiel or Jesus, is bad, for it is a revolt against what is good. Rebellion, like that of America in 1776, was against tyranny and injustice and so was good. The first kind of revolution is to be scorned; the second, celebrated.

Because there are so many subversive activities against our country, it is well on the Fourth of July to reflect a bit on an old virtue. Herbert Hoover used to say if you want to make America new, try something old, like the old virtues of religion and patriotism.

Now patriotism is not so far removed from religion as we might at first think. In fact, it is intertwined with religion. The greatest philosopher of all times, St. Thomas Aquinas, housed his treatise on patriotism under the virtue of piety. That seems strange, doesn't it? Piety smacks so much of devotion to God. And yet did not God Himself link love of fellow-citizen to love of God? The two are inseparable. Piety embraces devotion to God and to country.

Last month I toured the Seneca Depot. I spoke with Colonel Hudak and others on his staff. I was deeply

impressed with the dedication of these men to the defense of our country and came away thanking God there were such men concerned about the safeguarding of our freedom and liberty.

Afterwards, I reflected on soldiers in Scripture. Have you ever realized that soldiers were among some of the most outstanding persons in the New Testament?

Bypassing Joshua, David, Judas Maccabeus and others — all great Old Testament soldiers — I read how John the Baptizer told soldiers, not to lay down their arms, but "Don't bully anyone... Be content with your pay." (Lk. 3/14) I read that a centurion (a soldier) was concerned about his sick slave — an unheard of kind of compassion in those days. Of this centurion, Jesus said, "I have never found this much faith in Israel." (Mt. 8/10) Every day at Mass we utter his profession of faith, "O Lord, I am not worthy..." Mark's gospel has two climaxes: one is the confession of Peter that Jesus is the Son of God; and the other is the confession of a soldier, "Clearly this man was the Son of God!" (Mk. 15/39) And then I found that the first Gentile to be received into the Church was a soldier from Italy, the centurion Cornelius (Acts 10).

I mention this because last month I attended the graduation from Niagara University, to hear Mother Teresa, the commencement speaker. Among the 750 graduates about a dozen young men and women received their military commissions (ROTC). While they were onstage in uniform, a small but articulate group snickered and behaved rudely to embarrass these soldiers sworn to defend our freedom. I couldn't help but think how successful the years of propaganda against patriotism have been — to have penetrated even a Catholic university!

I think it time to bring back this old virtue of patriotism. 'Tis a dirty bird that befouls its own nest — be it home or homeland.

# A Full Summer Ahead For Divorced Ministry

By John Dash

It's shaping up to be a full summer for the diocesan Ministry to the Divorced, Separated and Widowed, if Angela Gallo's schedule is any indicator.

This past Sunday and Monday, she was a principal in presentations here by Father James Young, the Paulist priest nationally recognized as the clerical leader of divorced and separated Catholic groups.

She's off to the national conference of the North American Conference of Separated and Divorced Catholics in the next two weeks.

And she has just returned from the seventh annual New

York State gathering of the same group.

She gently, and wryly, reminded her audience last week hers is a part-time job, all the while she was promoting several programs being conducted in the diocese under the égis of her office.

Among those programs, she is particularly interested in the new "Single Parent Christian Family Camp," to run Aug. 29-Sept. 4 at Camp Stella Maris on Conesus Lake.

She described it as a unique opportunity for those in the process of separation or divorce, to "get away from the crisis situation," so that both parent and children are able to take stock of their own value in a relaxed atmosphere.

The theme of the program is "Uniquely You," an attempt, Ms. Gallo said, "to build the uniqueness in yourself and build uniqueness in the children, and see the uniqueness in each other."

The camp also has for the first time this year special programs just for children, under the supervision of Joanne Zawacki and a team of trained teen counselors.

Further information on the camp is available by con-



MS. GALLO

tacting Ms. Gallo at the Office of Family Life, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624.



### Gold Medals

Two St. Cecilia pupils, Brian Crosby, first place, and Jennifer Kremer, third place, won gold medals in a recent citywide kite coloring contest.

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