

At Your Parish...

Cathedral

Father Thomas Wheeland will be feted by Sacred Heart Cathedral parishioners at a dinner, 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 14, at the Mapledale Party House. Father Wheeland, recently named pastor of Holy Cross Church, was associate pastor at the cathedral for 10 years.

Tickets at \$10 per person are reserved by calling Maurice and Anne Culhane, 458-9222; John and Ann Wasula, 254-1355; Patrick and Eileen Stack, 458-2032, or the rectory, 254-3221.



Perpetual Help

Msgr. Richard M. Quinn and Sister Clare Francis Mogenhan present Evelio Quinones with his prize for winning the 75-yard-dash during a student appreciation day held at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School. The 182-member student body sold \$13,000 worth of candy to raise funds for the school and netted a profit of \$4,000 from the drive. Half the money will be used for roof repairs and the remainder for school supplies.

More Opinions

Sidesteppers: Another View

Editor:

I firmly believe that if some Catholics can be labeled "side-steppers" by the June 16 C-J editorial for not joining the mad rush to participate in peace demonstrations, rallies and quakes, then, a fortiori, the monomaniacs of peace can be labeled sidesteppers for ignoring the myriad moral and spiritual disorders existing under their very noses. In my personal observations of these contemporary peaceniks, I have noticed that they will holler the loudest to prevent a possible holocaust in the future, but will remain positively inert at the present holocaust claiming nearly 2 million babies each year. They will invariably ramble on endlessly about the immorality of nuclear stockpiling, but will remain mute at the mere mention of anti-conception practices, fornication, adultery, pornography, etc. In short, so long as the battle is not too near they are fearless as lions, but let it stare them full in the face with all the immoral magnitude and they will, with lightning speed, do an about-face.

Now, no sane person wants a nuclear holocaust. But only when man is at peace within himself can there be peace without himself in the society he comprises. That peace is nothing less than that which comes from Christ through His Church to men of goodwill. When the Holy Father speaks of peace, this is precisely what he means. It should be added most emphatically that when he is speaking of peace and nuclear disarmament he is speaking to the whole world and not exclusively to the United States. Some very naive and superficial people seem to "feel" that if we disarm ourselves, Russia will do likewise. Chesterton dealt with this monomania in his day also just before WWII and his answer still holds in our day. "A man does not give up his umbrella at the exact moment when a thundercloud is threatening to crash over his head; a man does not give up his sword at the exact moment when his next-door neighbor, who has obviously gone mad, is waving sabers and battle-axes over the wall."

The best advice I can give to our contemporary monomaniacs of peace is to tip-toe silently to their rooms with rosary in hand and contemplate what Archbishop Sheen meant when he said

that "Russia will never be defeated; it will be converted." In any event, they will do immeasurably more for world peace on their knees with a rosary than on their feet at a million peace rallies. And besides, it is extremely difficult to sidestep anything while your hands are full of beads and you are on your knees.

Richard V. Hussar
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Editor's Note: The June 16 editorial pointed out the frequency with which Pope John Paul II has urged world peace — "my own greatest preoccupation." He also has strongly and often urged nuclear disarmament — most emphatically of nuclear weapons. In his most recent message to the United Nations special session on disarmament, he reiterated his call for world peace, adding his words "carry within them the echo of the moral conscience of mankind ... the world wants peace, the world needs peace." The special session, he said, "reflects another truth: as well as peace, the world wants and needs disarmament." He added, "The teaching of the Catholic Church is clear and consistent in this area. It has deplored the arms race ... the constant concern and consistent efforts of the Catholic Church will not cease until armaments are completely mastered and the security of all nations is guaranteed." The message is explicit, its direction clear. To quibble with it is world-class sidestepping.

Why Not Family Day?

Editor:

Rightfully, there is today a growing interest in the need to promote family unity yet at the same time we find a proliferation of special days that might well serve to fragment the family, though not so intended. I speak of such days as Mother's Day, Father's Day, Grandparents' Day, Teenagers' Day, etc.

Such special observances focus attention on the individuals, as these days are intended to do. It seems to me that a much more healthful approach is to abolish these special days in favor of one: Family Day — a day on which family unity would be stressed with family activities flowing from the implicit need family members have of one another and of the family as a

unit. Families could go to church together, all partaking of the Sacrament. They could go on a picnic and engage in activities that involve the entire family. It could be a time for anecdotes, for renewal of family history, a setting down in writing events which should not be forgotten. The family tree should be drawn up. The extended family could provide such information.

Not many really know a great deal about early family aspirations and the sacrifices and love that were involved in bringing the family to its present position.

All should be set down in love, free from bitterness and recrimination, free from dragging in what might needlessly promote disharmony. Each family could decide for itself how to proceed, the aim being a growth of love and understanding and tolerance and to express the need of one for all and all for the one.

The Holy Family should be held up as a model, for the family ought to be, as our Holy Father has put it, a domestic church. Family Day should be a time for spiritual healing for reconciliation for kindness — a day of joy.

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Apparition Denounced

Editor:

On Thursday, May 28, both the Democrat and Chronicle and the Times-Union carried large ads promoting the "visions" of "Our Lady of Bayside" to Veronica Lueken. In the layout of the ad and some of the copy it was implied that the Holy Father approved of this "devotion." His acceptance of some written "revelations," or a general blessing of one of Veronica's followers, is not an approbation of the apparitions or their content. This can come only after a thorough investigation by the proper canonical authorities.

Having witnessed many difficulties connected with the followers of Veronica while ministering in the New York City area in the mid-70s, I decided to inquire if there had been any change in the policy of the Diocese of Brooklyn toward these "apparitions." According to Father Otto Garcia, vice-chancellor of the diocese, "It is the official and firm position of the Diocese of Brooklyn that no credibility

Blessed Sacrament

The evangelization committee of Blessed Sacrament Parish will hold its monthly Mass to honor the Sacred Heart, 7:30 p.m., Friday, July 2. Confessions will precede the Mass at 7:10. Father John Forni will preside.

St. Patrick's

Victor — The St. Patrick's annual summer festival, Country Fair '82, will feature a country auction, homemade craft booth, homemade foods and a midway.



Radio Station Salutes Ed Nietopski

Ed Nietopski, basketball and baseball coach at Cardinal Mooney High School, was recently named for the WSAY "I'd Rather Be in Rochester" Sports Salute of the Day.

Nietopski, who also is athletic director at the Greece school, coached the Mooney baseball team to the Section 5, Class AAA championship only two months after his varsity basketball team won the sectional crown.

Deacon

Brother Dominic Agosto, TOR, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dominic Agosto of St. Cecilia's Parish, Rochester, has taken solemn vows as a Franciscan and has been ordained a deacon. Both rites took place at the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception at St. Francis College, Loretto, Pa. He made his first profession of vows in 1978.

Health Centers Closed

The Joseph C. Wilson Health Center and the Marion B. Folsom Health Center will be closed Monday, July 5. In an emergency, patients and group health members should phone for instructions: Wilson Health Center (338-1400), Folsom Health Center (424-6210).

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