

Southern Tier Auburn-Geneva

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Rehabilitation Lecture Sept. 15 at St. James

Hornell — Health care givers, disabled persons and their families are invited to a lecture on rehabilitation Sept. 15 at St. James Mercy Hospital's Lincoln Annex.

The lecture will be given by Mrs. Edith Lawton-Atkins, a professor at the Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine in New York City.

Sponsored by the hospital's department of educational services and the occupational therapy department, the workshop will be in conjunction with National Rehabilitation Week.

The program will be from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for health care professionals. The session from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. will be open to handicapped people and their families.

Topics to be covered in-

clude "The Three A's — Activities of Daily Living, Architectural Barriers and Accessibility."

"The training in activities of daily living (ADL) is now recognized as an essential part of rehabilitation," Mrs. Atkins said. "However, for patients with involvement of one or more extremities, these activities can become most strenuous physical tasks and have to be practiced continuously as any other physical skill.

"The purpose of the ADL program is to train the patient to function in his daily life with a maximum of independence within his particular environment and at the same time explore how possible architectural barriers can be overcome, in order to achieve accessibility."

Mrs. Atkins received her education at New York University. She has written many publications, and has been a consultant to the D.S. Public Health Service.

A segment of the afternoon program will be handled by Dianne Trickey, occupational therapist at St. James. She will demonstrate a variety of adaptive equipment. A display of equipment and literature also will be available.

A fee will be charged health care professionals, but there is no charge for the handicapped or their families. The Lincoln Annex is accessible to wheelchairs.

Those interested in participating can register by contacting the hospital's educational services department at (607) 324-3900, extension 292.

Nursing Classes Start

Hornell — Classes at the St. James Mercy Hospital School of Nursing began Aug. 3.

Forty-three freshmen students, 38 women and five men, participated in an orientation program Aug. 2.

Students were introduced to the school's faculty and given information about the school and hospital.

The students are all from New York State.

Lourdes Festival Aug. 28, 29

Elmira — Our Lady of Lourdes Parish will have its third annual festival Aug. 28 and 29.

The festivities will begin with a parade down Church Street at noon on Saturday. Floats, clowns, numerous children on decorated bicycles and others will take part.

Children's games, live and continuous entertainment, baked goods and many different foods will be available. A spaghetti dinner will be served on Saturday from 5 to 8 p.m., in the church hall.

Chairing the event are William and Donna Minch and Bob and Sue Chorney.

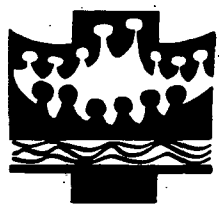
So it is important that baptisms be done on Sundays, the Lord's Day, in the presence of the parish community. It is important that it be done occasionally (although not infrequently) at the celebration of Mass.

The final question then is: how can baptism be done at Mass gracefully and within a reasonable amount of time? Paragraph 29 of the Rite of Baptism for Children outlines the answer. The rite of receiving the child(ren) replaces the penitential rite. The Liturgy of the Word is of the Sunday, and the homily is drawn from those texts but takes into account the baptism that is to take place. The creed is omitted in favor of the baptismal promises to be made. And so the general intercessions are made and the rite of Baptism follows (prayer of exorcism, blessing of water, renunciation of evil and profession of faith, the baptism and other rites). Mass continues as usual, but the blessing at the end may include one of the special baptismal formulas. Parishes might also consider having the prayer of exorcism and the anointing with the oil of catechumens as part of the preparation program. Also, the water could be blessed beforehand, and the rites of the white garment, candle and ephaphata be done following Mass.

In any event, if a parish is reasonable about scheduling baptisms at Sunday Mass, complaints should be minimal, because, after all, to bring people into the saving life of Christ is the most important thing we do!

Insights in Liturgy

By Father Robert J. Kennedy



Why Baptism At Mass?

It is becoming more and more commonplace in parishes to celebrate Baptism at the Sunday Eucharist. Some parishes do this once a month at a particular Mass; others schedule it as a different celebration each month, on a kind of rotating basis; still others leave it open for the convenience of the candidate or family.

Along with this growing practice has been a growing number of complaints: "Mass is too long when there are baptisms." "People are just showing off when they have their baby baptized at Mass." "Why have baptisms at Mass, anyway?" These and others may or may not be legitimate complaints, but they miss the point.

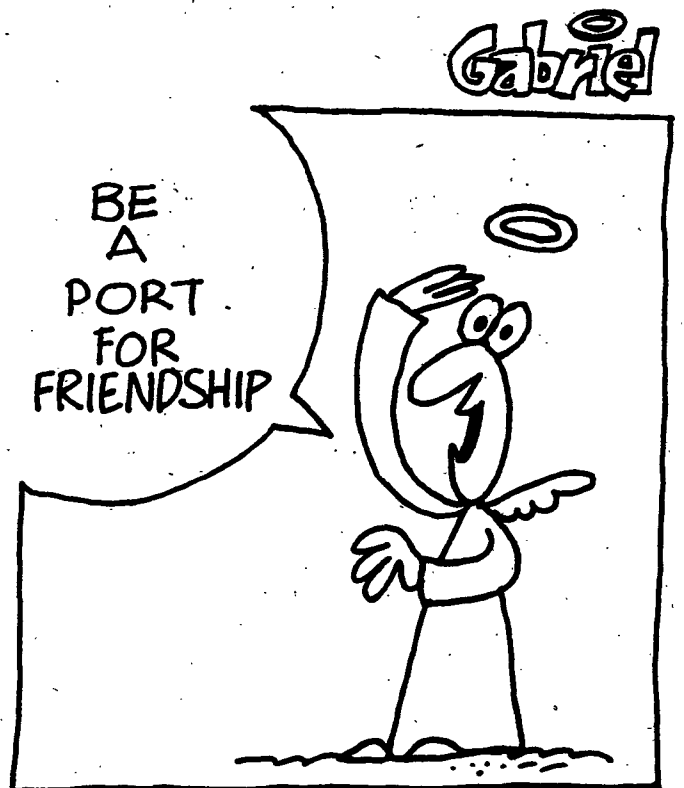
The first question to be answered is: why Sunday? Baptisms should be celebrated ordinarily on Sundays because this is the day the Church commemorates the Lord's resurrection. And above all, Baptism incorporates one into the risen life of Christ. (In the case of adults, Baptism, Confirmation and first Eucharist are celebrated at the Easter Vigil, after the period of catechumenate.)

The second question to be answered is: why Sunday Mass? The answer is that Baptism does not have to be done at Sunday Mass, and the Rite of Baptism of Children doesn't even encourage it too strongly. "On Sunday, baptism may be celebrated even during Mass, so that the entire community may be present

and the necessary relationship between baptism and eucharist may be clearly seen, but this should not be done too often." There is obviously a tentative and cautionary character to these words, and nowhere is it indicated that Baptism should be celebrated at a regularly scheduled parish Sunday Mass.

A third question inevitably arises: why, then, are parishes scheduling baptisms at Mass times on Sunday? The answer has already been mentioned above: it is so the "entire community" may be present, and they are present at the Sunday Eucharist. Baptism is not a private or quasi-private affair for families or groups of families who have someone to be baptized. Baptism instead is an event of the whole Church: the People of God help, in various ways, the preparation of the candidate for Baptism, they renew their own faith along with the parents and godparents, and are strengthened in joy that a new member has been added to the Body of Christ, the Church. "Through the ministry of the Church, adults are called by the Holy Spirit to the gospel, and infants are baptized and brought up in this faith," (Christian Initiation)

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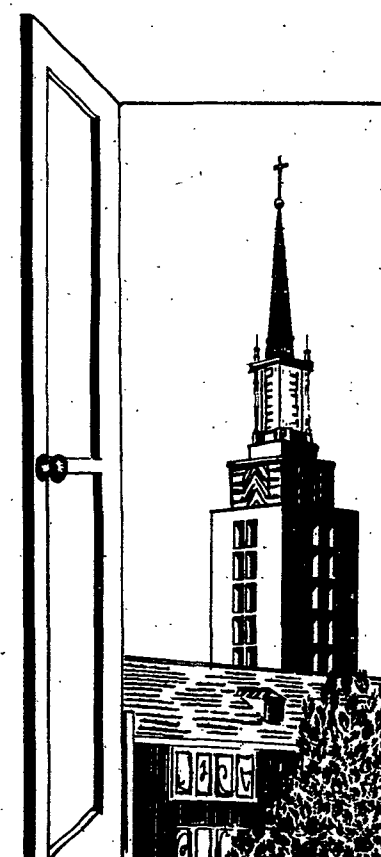
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