

Southern Tier NFP Office Established

Natural Family Planning has officially come to the Southern Tier.

Under the joint NFP-diocesan plan announced earlier this year, the office was opened with the aid of a \$7,500 grant from the diocese.

Mrs. Hollie Snyder is the part-time coordinator of the office at 480 Main St., Big Flats.

The office will serve as a satellite office of Rochester NFP until June 30, 1982, when it will become autonomous, according to Therese Petracca, NFP director.

Nick and Beryl Iven of Odessa will train instructors for the Southern Tier office beginning in September. They are certified NFP teachers and past NFP board mem-

bers.

A speakers bureau is being established to provide fertility awareness education, to schools, marriage preparation groups and other church and community organizations.

Regular information sessions also will be scheduled and anyone wishing to volunteer services may

contact Mrs. Snyder at (607) 562-3331.

Members of the Southern Tier Planning Committee are Father Francis Blighton of St. Mary's, Horseheads; Dr. James Mark of Elmira; Sister Dorothy Mulcahy of St. Joseph's Hospital; John and Pat Werda of Pine City; Dave and Kathy Spring of Horseheads, the Ivens, and Mrs.

Snyder and her husband Barry.

The office will cover Chemung, Schuyler, Tompkins, Tioga and Tompkins counties. The other seven diocesan counties are served by Rochester NFP.

The Snyders are training to be NFP instructors.

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2 More Couples To Teach NFP

The number of certified Natural Family Planning teaching couples in the

diocese has increased to 17 with the addition of two more husband-wife teams, ac-

ording to Therese Petracca, NFP director.

The new teaching couples are John and Pat Baloga of Holy Cross parish in Charlotte and David and Ginny Pacyliak of St. Mary's in Auburn.

Both Balogas work at Kodak where he is a research chemist and she a research technician.

"We would like to help other couples to use NFP as

effectively," Baloga said. His wife added, "We like the idea of planning family by understanding the fertility cycle and acting according to that understanding."

David Pacyliak is a Singer Climate Control employee and Mrs. Pacyliak is a self-employed tax consultant.

"Too few people know the method and there are too few to teach it," Pacyliak said. "We would like to teach because every couple should have the chance to use NFP."

Fr. Albert Shamon



Word for Sunday

Assumption Is Feast Of Victory

Sunday Readings: (R3) Lk. 1/39-56. (R1) Rv. 11/19; 12/1-6, 10. (R2) 1 Cor. 15/20-26.

The theme for the feast of the Assumption is victory — victory over sin and death. The first reading closes on a note of victory: "Now have salvation and power come."

In the second reading Paul sees in Christ's resurrection man's ultimate victory over death.

In the Gospel, Elizabeth greets Mary in words reminiscent of Deborah's victory chant over Sisera and Jabin (Jg. 5:24), and of Israel's acclamation to Judith after beheading Holofernes (Jdt. 13:17-18).

For some Catholics the proclamation in 1950 of the dogma of the Assumption seemed inopportune in the context of ecumenism. Some even regretted the definition as offensive to Protestants who often seem ill at ease when honor is conferred on her whom God Himself has honored as no human creature can ever honor.

The dogma of the Assumption is not just another glorious title added to the accepted privileges of Mary. The dogma has a definite role to play in salvation history. What this world needs today are positive answers about death and the hereafter.

Paul had to contend with Plato-permeated Greeks, who thought the body to be the prison of the soul and death to be a liberation from the corruptible body. He defended the Jewish concept that man is not just a compound of body and soul, but a unified person; and death is not a dissolution of a unity, but a permanentizing of an entity meant always to be one person.

Today, we have to contend with the other extreme: the deification of the body. The Assumption teaches that eternal youth and beauty are to be won by following the path of the Virgin Mary — the woman clothed with the sun, whose children conquer the Dragon.

"At first I wondered why the visitation story was selected for the Assumption. It becomes clear if we consider Mary under her title "Ark of the Covenant."

In the Old Testament, the Ark was a small (3'9" by 2'3") portable wooden box, gold gilded. In it were the ten commandments. Over it hovered a cloud, the shekinah: symbol of God's presence among His people. As long as Israel kept the covenant, God was with His people. The Ark was carried at the head of the column when the Hebrews traveled through the desert and before the army when it went into battle. The Ark connoted war and victory.

When David became King, he sought to strengthen the unity of his people by bringing the Ark to Jerusalem. On the way, one of the porters dropped dead when he tried to steady the Ark from Tipping. In fear, David stationed the Ark in the house of Obed-Edom for three months. When the Ark blessed the house of Obed-Edom, David brought it to the City.

After Mary had consented to Gabriel's message, the Spirit of the Most High overshadowed her. In her heart she carried God's law and in her womb His Son. She became in truth the real Ark of the Covenant. In visiting Elizabeth, St. Luke saw Mary as bringing the Ark to Judah. He saw this as the beginning of the war with sin and death.

Elizabeth's greeting, words taken from the victory songs of Israel's warrior women, presaged victory. Mary stayed with Elizabeth three months, blessing her house. After Jesus had been born, she brought Him to the city to present to God her Lamb who was to take away the sins of the world.

In other words, Mary, the Ark of the Covenant, inaugurated the Messianic era, sounding the death-knell of sin and death. Her Assumption assures us that this is so; that she, the first of believers, here and now, is enjoying definitive victory over death, which affects the body as well as the soul.

Mary's response is her song of victory: the Magnificat.

Seneca Falls Readies For St. Anthony Fest

Seneca Falls — Plans are nearly complete for the second annual celebration of St. Anthony's Festival, Sept. 3-5, at the S.M.S. field on Ovid Street.

The event is being sponsored by the S.M.S. Lodge, the Rumseyville Sportmen's Club and two local organizations.

Rides and Italian food specialties will be the features of the event. Highlighting the weekend will be a procession with a statue of St. Anthony to St. Patrick's Church where a mass will be celebrated at noon.

The festival will conclude with a fireworks display Sunday evening on the S.M.S. field.

According to Norm Deal, the executive committee for the event has named Augie Orlando as its "Man of the Year."

Orlando, store manager of Franklin Furniture, and sports broadcaster on WSFW,

RSMs to Receive Two New Novices

Joanne Bringley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bringley of St. Charles Borromeo Parish, and Susan Weaver, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Justin Weaver of St. Salome's Parish, will be received into the novitiate of the Sisters of Mercy of Rochester, at a prayer service, 2 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 28, at the motherhouse chapel on Blossom Road.

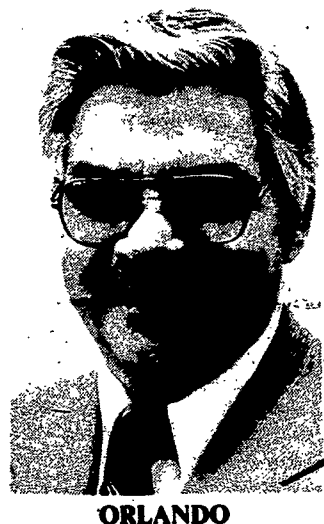
Deaths

Raymond J. Monnat

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated July 10, 1982, for Raymond J. Monnat at Holy Family Church, Whitefish Bay, Wisc.

Mr. Monnat moved from Rochester several years ago to work for the Cleaver-Brooks Co. of Milwaukee. At the time of his death he was a retired Sales Engineer.

He is survived by his wife,



ORLANDO

was cited for both his work with young people and the retail community.

"Augie Orlando has given his time and energy to many projects," Deal said. "From his deep concern with youth and sports, to his standing as a respected community member, Augie has been involved in making Seneca Falls a better place to be."

Both women will live at the Mercy Novitiate House at St. Charles Borromeo for about a year. The novitiate is a time set aside for growth in the interior life, the study of theology, the religious life and vows, and involves a minimal exercise of apostolic ministry, according to Sister Elaine Kolesnik, spokesperson for the congregation.

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