

Robert Hovda To Speak Here

Father Robert W. Hovda, acknowledged by many to be one of the most knowledgeable experts on American liturgical experience, will speak at 7:30 p.m., Monday, Oct. 4, at Holy Name of Jesus Church.

Father Hovda, a pastoral associate at St. Joseph's Church in Greenwich Village, New York City, will speak on the liturgy and the roles of liturgical ministers.

A period of questions and answers will follow the presentation.

The 62-year-old priest is widely published. "Dry Bones," "There Are Different Ministries," and "Strong,



FATHER HOVDA
Loving and Wise: Presiding in Liturgy," are among his books.

Fr. John Reedy

Looking for the Lord



So What If You Sing Like a Crow

At last! One of those liturgists is talking to me.

A news report said that Father John Buscemi (who must be a fine, sensitive liturgist) told a group of priests that those of us who sing like crows should not let this human frailty prevent us from leading the liturgy effectively.

He seemed to be saying: If you know you can't sing, don't get maneuvered into a situation in which your effort to praise the Lord generates only smiles of amusement and grimaces of pain.

In the years before the liturgical renewal, this was not a shameful handicap for a priest. Unlike the clergymen in Protestant churches, Catholic priests seemed almost proud of their indifference to the notation of a preface.

It wasn't a requirement of canon law, but there was a common assumption that rotten singing was a prerequisite for advancement to the hierarchy.

True, seminaries and some cathedrals had well-trained choirs, but most of the singing in parish churches seemed designed to startle those parishioners who were dozing — like the occasional shriek in the sound system.

My own handicap goes way back. Though I was thrown out of every choir for which I tested, I blame it all on Sister Mary Teresine.

She was my first grade teacher, an admirable religious and — in most ways — great with scared toddlers who were entering upon their academic journeys.

But she threw me out of the rhythm band and thus shattered my approach to musical self-expression. Though I was only six, I knew you had to be a real klutz if you couldn't even bang a stick around inside a metal triangle.

(Later choir directors told me this excuse was a lot of garbage, but I prefer these psychological explanations.)

During nine years of seminary training, my modest goal was to be able to intone a recognizable Gloria and Credo. I had no desire to be fancy, choosing from among the various melodies. I just wanted to be able to intone one of each.

After ordination, what usually happened was that I would take a deep breath, concentrate, and give it my best shot. Then there would be a long, embarrassing pause. Finally, the organist would softly repeat the notes I had tried to sing, and the congregation would realize, "Oh, that's the one he was after," and join in.

There was also the challenge of Tantum Ergo and O Salutaris. A seminary fear was that on some occasion, after ordination, I would have to offer benediction and the organist would be missing. (If you let your imagination go, you can think of a lot of things that could happen to an organist, from being run over by a semi to running off with a first tenor.)

In those days, you remember, we had a great many occasions for benediction and there was little variation in the melodies used for the two basic hymns. By the time I was ordained, these tunes — through sheer repetition — had been pounded into my consciousness.

In fact, with these two hymns I felt fairly confident.

Then came the liturgical reform. Benediction disappeared. Now the only chance I have to sing my Tantum Ergo is on Holy Thursday. At times, I suspect the liturgists have conspired with Sister Mary Teresine.

Thus, you can understand my appreciation of this news report which says a tin ear is not necessarily the most shameful defect in a priest. As in pop psychology, it tells me, "So you sing like a crow — you're O.K."

Cabrin Tea Will Aid Scholars

The 36th annual Scholarship-Benefit Tea of the Mother Cabrini Circle will be held 3-6 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 26, at Immaculate Conception Parish Center.

The group is an interracial and interfaith gathering of women who have worked together since 1946 to help pay tuition for black students in the Catholic high schools of Rochester.

Circle spokesperson Margaret Byrne said that such scholarship assistance has helped hundreds of young people, many of whom have gone on to college and into the professions.

Mrs. Jean Ingram is in charge of the tea. Ms. Nola DeRouen is president of the circle, and Sister Maria Elena Mariana, SSJ, of Nazareth Academy is student advisor and keeps close touch with both the students and their families.

Melita to Host Open House for Right to Life

Melita House will host an open house, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 3, at 124 Evergreen St., next to St. Michael's Church.

The date coincides with the beginning of Right to Life Week.

Melita House programs and services are geared to the needs of single pregnant women and their unborn children. There are no age limits, but the program is designed principally for teenagers.

Three Rochester Sisters of Mercy have directed the program since July 1: Sisters Patricia Kenny, Therese Richardson and Jane Schur.

The house was opened in 1980 as a Catholic Worker establishment. The Sisters of Mercy took charge this past Spring.

Park Ridge Schedules Cancer Talk

Dr. W. Bradford Patterson, director for cancer control of the Sidney Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, will deliver the fourth annual Vahl Memorial Lecture, at 8:15 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 30, at the Rochester Academy of Medicine, 1441 East Ave.

His topic will be "Dilemmas in Clinical Oncology." Admission is free and open to the public.

Seminary Gets New President

Ogdensburg — Father Leeward J. Pocsant will be installed as the sixth president of Wadhams Hall Seminary College here on Sept. 25.

Bishop Stanislaus J. Brzana will be the principal celebrant at the installation liturgy and Bishop John Marshall of Burlington will be guest homilist.

Bishop Clark to Honor Religious Jubilarians

Bishop Matthew H. Clark will celebrate Mass at 2 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 2, at Sacred Heart Cathedral, honoring the 80 diocesan men and women in religious life who are celebrating jubilees this year. A reception will follow the Mass in the school hall.

Among the jubilarians to be honored, two are celebrating their 70th anniversaries, 10 their diamond jubilees, 45

golden and 21 silver.

It will be the first such celebration in the diocese, and is being sponsored by the Office of Vicars for Religious, headed by Sister Muriel Curran, SSND, and Msgr. Gerard Krieg. The purpose of the event is to "celebrate the fidelity of God's love to men and women religious who respond to God's call by living in and for community the public vows of poverty,

chastity and obedience," Sister Muriel said.

The planning committee has chosen as a theme, "Remain with Us, Lord."

The committee includes Sister Muriel, Sister Mary Mercy Basler, RSM; Sister Margaret Mary Mattie, RSM; Sister Elaine Ryan, SSJ; Sister Sheila Luber, SSJ; Sister Sheila Walsh, SSJ; and Sister Rita Marie Habecker, SSND.

CCGEB Elects New Officers

Elmira — James Snyder was elected president of the Chemung County General Education Board at its Sept. 12 meeting.

Snyder succeeds Martin Tracy who held the post for three years.

Snyder defeated John Cain for the post. Thomas Klotz was elected without opposition to the post of vice president, and Sister Karen Kenrick defeated John McGuire to become secretary.

New representatives also joined the board for their first meeting.

Serving as the St. Peter and Paul delegate is Lynn Hintz; her alternate is Jacqueline Allington.

From St. Patrick's, the representative is Klotz, and his alternate is McGuire.

From St. Anthony's, the delegate is Joseph Cerio, and the alternate is Richard Cerio.

From St. Cecilia's, the representative is Karen Churchill. There currently is no alternate.

From St. Casimir's, the representative is Dorothy Guyer. There is no alternate currently.

The representative from St. Mary's is Beverly Liddy, with James Cassidy as the alternate.

T. Curran Sekella remains the Our Lady of Lourdes delegate. His alternate is Virginia Woodhouse.

The pastors' representative is Father Fidelis Fosselman of St. Peter and Paul. His alternate is Father James Boyle of St. Mary's.

Sister Patricia Carroll, SSJ, St. Patrick's principal, will be the principal's representative. Her alternate will be Sister Karen Kenrick, Lourdes principal.

Gail Callahn, system business manager, reported 838 students began classes Sept. 8, an increase from last year.

Snyder appointed committee heads for the coming year. Sister Karen and Sister Pat were named to head the

Registration and Public Relations Committee. Joseph Cerio will chair the Personnel Committee. Thomas Klotz will continue as chairman of Long Range Planning, and Curran Sekella will continue to chair the Finance Committee.

The board also approved four capital improvement projects.

An expenditure of \$2,000 to \$3,000 was authorized for repairs to a boiler at St. Patrick's school. A maximum expenditure of \$3,500 to repair or replace blackboards at Our Lady of Lourdes School was approved, as was \$3,211 for installation of fluorescent lights in four classrooms at St. Mary's School, and \$2,250 for chimney, roof and gutter repairs at St. Mary's.

POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

William Steinfeldt
and
Dale Rath
and
Pinny Cooke
VOTED YES
ON MEDICAID FUNDING
FOR ABORTIONS

THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER

EDWIN SULEWSKI
FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Does grief have a purpose?

When someone we love very much dies we face a major change of lifestyle. The person we love is gone; usually our lifestyle changes drastically. Over the years we lived with another person, we developed habits of living and dependences. Grief is a way of expressing that we dislike what has occurred. Through our grief we are forced to recognize that life has changed and will no longer be the same. The purpose of productive grief is to make us look toward a new lifestyle and to do the things necessary to create a new lifestyle. In the end we break with a past that no longer exists and we create new ways to do things and to organize our lives without the deceased.

SCHAUMAN FUNERAL HOME
2100 St. Paul St. 342-3466