



### Successful Marathon

More than 3,500 participated in the third annual Marathon for Catholic Schools last Saturday, Oct. 2, at Highland Park. Those interested were encouraged to run the six-mile course, or they could walk, jog, bike, or even roller skate it. Mike Walker, president of the Rochester Federation of Catholic School Parents, estimated that "maybe \$75,000" was raised through sponsorship of those participating.

Fr. John Reedy

Looking for the Lord



### Playing God

There's an ugly tendency among many religious people to search out grounds on which they can condemn others.

We see it in some of the inhuman condemnations of the Ayatollah Khomeini. We find it in some of the cruel social punishments of the puritan communities. We certainly find it in some of the gross abuses of the Catholic inquisition.

And it's still with us.

Just yesterday I read a strange interview with a Roman cardinal in which the interviewers clearly tried to get him to condemn a wild assortment of people: the four nuns in New Hampshire who are suing their bishop, marriage courts which are too lenient, Teilhard de Chardin, priests who take liberties with the liturgy, and others.

Here I'm not talking about the rightness or wrongness of any of these people. I'm talking about that need, among religious people, to find grounds on which they can condemn the actions of others.

Several sources of this tendency occur to me.

One is the perfectly reasonable fear that innocent people might be misled and hurt by erroneous and damaging ideas presented in attractive guise.

But if we look deeper into ourselves, into some of the darker corners of our lives, I think we can recognize other motives.

Passing judgment on the error and immorality of others enhances my own sense of righteousness; it puffs up my own intellectual and moral superiority. It feeds my pride — and for most of us the addition of our pride is every bit as great as an addiction to drugs.

Such judgments also protect me against fear and insecurity.

We yearn for a security

blanket which will give us a firm assurance of clear and certain answers — even when we know that it might not be easy to live to the demands of those answers.

Some fundamentalists find this security in the literal wording of isolated passages in scripture. Those of us who are middle-aged Catholics found it in expressions such as: "Rome has spoken," "the church teaches," or even "Sister said..."

For people who have built their values around such a security system, it's terribly frightening to have any part of it questioned. If our moral litmus test fails in one matter, how can we trust it in all the other troubling, complex questions which confront us?

Ever since I began preparing for the priesthood, I've been very nervous about the fact that the Lord's harshest denunciations were against those religious leaders who heaped obligations upon their people, those religious leaders who seemed to confuse their own knowledge and judgment with those of Almighty God.

In the judgment of Jesus, I realized, thieves, adulteresses, tax collectors were looked upon with compassion and forgiveness; the religious leaders who were anxious to pronounce God's judgment on these people were blistered with terms like "whited sepulchres."

A priest doesn't have to be very smart to realize that he'd better be very careful about playing God in passing out blanket condemnations.

The difficulty is that some of these motives — fear, pride, the need for certitude — are so deep in our personalities that we have trouble recognizing them when they bubble to the surface in our words and actions.

It's easier to recognize them in the behavior of others, but such recognition should serve as a warning that they are also present in the flawed humanity we share.



### Albert Walz Dies; Ran Trant's Store

Mass. of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. John Evangelist Church in Greece last Saturday for Albert G. Walz who died Thursday, Sept. 30, 1982.

Mr. Walz, who retired in November 1981, was for nearly 40 years employed at Trant's, the diocese's oldest religious goods store.

When he retired, he was the last of the original group of employees who worked under Esther Trant, founder of the business. He began working at the store on Clinton Avenue in 1942. He was longtime manager and guided the store in its 1981 move from downtown to its present location on South Avenue.

After his retirement, he became a parish assistant to Father Joseph D'Aurizio at St. John the Evangelist.

Father D'Aurizio said of Mr. Walz:

"The last year was the richest time of his life. He had come full circle and was doing the work of the Lord that he had envisioned some 50 years ago when he had entered the seminary. He will be deeply missed not only by the staff but even more so by the people to whom he ministered."

Father D'Aurizio said that Mr. Walz had entered the seminary but had to withdraw because of circumstances beyond his control.

An Army veteran of World War II, he was a member of the Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree and of St. John's Men's Club.

He is survived by his son Michael; his brothers Francis V. Herman, Father Frederick, John, Paul; sisters Mrs. Dorothy Hahn, Mrs. Vicky Clar, Mrs. Louis Maier, Mrs. Bernard Rehberg, and several nieces and nephews.

Contributions to the St. John's Building Fund may be made in his memory.

### Runner To Aid Spina Bifida

Joe Michaels, the 38-year-old runner who had seven heart attacks in eight years, is running from Toronto, Canada, to New York City this month.

His run is designed to draw attention to the Spina Bifida Association, and to commemorate Spina Bifida Week nationally and Spina Bifida Month in the state.

He was slated to pass through Avon today, Oct. 6, and Canandaigua tomorrow, Oct. 7.

Michaels credits running with his rehabilitation from heart disease. He is the father of a child with spina bifida, a congenital birth defect of the central nervous system. Spina bifida occurs more often than Muscular Dystrophy and Multiple Sclerosis combined, an association release stated.

### Falcons To Honor Wanzer

The Polish Falcons of Rochester will honor Bob Wanzer, head coach at St. John Fisher College, at the group's annual sports dinner 6:30 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 6, at the Polish Falcon Club, 284 Weyl St.

According to Walt Cieslinski, chairman of the event, the Polish Falcon Sports Award "is presented each year to a person whom the committee feels has contributed the most in the field of sports in Monroe County or has been an inspiration to area youth."

Past winners include Ed Nietopski, Joanne Keyser and Morrie Silver.

### Scholarship Ball Planned

The Italian Women's Civic Club has scheduled the Dante Scholarship Benefit Ball for Saturday, Oct. 23, at the Holiday Inn Downtown.

The affair will go toward scholarships for three students, one at Nazareth College, one at St. John Fisher and one at the University of Rochester.

A 6:30 p.m. champagne hour will begin the festivities, followed by dinner at 7:30 and dancing at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$30 a person.

Further information and tickets are available from Mrs. Heather Affronti at 647-1688.

### Stella Maris Sets Benefit

The fourth annual dinner to benefit Camp Stella Maris will be held Friday, Nov. 12, at Oak Hill Country Club.

The camp, a resident summer facility for 56 years, will use the money raised for improvements, according to Raymond N. Tette, executive director.

This year the camp housed 1061 young people. Tickets at \$30 per person are reserved by calling the camp, 346-2243, or Mrs. Judy Wambach, 442-0295.

### Black Suicides Dr. Davis Topic

Dr. Robert Davis, nationally known sociologist at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in Greensboro, will speak on the alarming rise in black teen suicides, 6:30 p.m., Oct. 22, at the Party House, 677 Beahan Road.

The event, sponsored by the youth ministry department of the diocesan Office of Black Ministries, includes dinner, and the cost is \$10. Reservations are made by calling, as soon as possible, Jacquelyn Dobson, youth

### Commandery Anniversary Celebrated

The 109th anniversary of the founding of St. George Commandery 43, Knights of St. John, will be celebrated following the meeting tonight, Oct. 6.

The unit was founded Oct. 3 at St. Michael's Church, 869 Clinton Ave. N. According to James R. Dalcin, recording secretary, refreshments will be served to the members present in celebration of the anniversary.

minister, Office of Black Ministries, 328-3210.

Dr. Davis contends that the rise in suicide incidents among black teens is due in part to the weakening of ties in the community.

His views were featured in Ebony Magazine a year ago. He said then that in the past, blacks had families, communities and institutions to help them cope with stressful situations. "But now, we're not as tightly knitted into the family or community as we used to be," he said. "I've found that the stronger one's relational system — that is, the greater the number of social involvements with family, friends and relatives and the more of a sense of belonging one has — the lower the suicide rate."

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**THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER**

**EDWIN SULEWSKI FUNERAL DIRECTOR**

**How long does grief last?**  
It is not possible to give an absolute answer to this question. Every individual reacts to loss a bit differently. We can expect intense grief during the first few weeks after a loss. In the following three or four months our feelings of grief may be strong as we encounter many reminders of the death. After that we will begin doing new things for ourselves, yet continue to miss our loved one. We may become frustrated as we attempt to do things we deceased once did for us. As a second year without the deceased begins we may find our feelings of loneliness and sadness have lessened. As we develop new relationships and do more things for ourselves our grief will diminish and we will be able to restore hope and happiness to our lives. Our grief however, many never completely disappear as our memories linger.

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### Editorial

The Beirut since War II

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### Sexual Prognosis

Editor:

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This is the fact. Floyd, I Calif., is severely Rochester Program "Understand adequate authentic the Ch bishop of Cath withdraw our pain unrevise program uncrisis Catholic diocese, appear promote education the doct deficient Love, rev but, let any impi who we