



Halloween Gala

More than 50 area elderly joined in song and dance at a Halloween party Wednesday, Oct. 27, at St. Michael's Senior Nutrition Center, 343 Clifford Ave. Left, Pearl Ware, 74, and Florence Swartz, 68, kick up their heels to the music of the Gospelaire. The center serves from 40 to 60 lunches each day, Monday through Friday, and is sponsored partly by the Catholic Family Center.

Fr. Albert Shamon



Word for Sunday

How To Hope

Sunday's Readings: (R3) Mk: 13/24-32. (R1) Dn. 12/1-3. (R2) Heb. 10/11-14, 18.

A few seconds before take-off, a chap rushed into an airport bookstore to get something to read on his flight. He hurriedly scanned the bookshelf and one title caught his eye: "How to Hug." It sounded interesting, so he grabbed it. When airborne, he settled down to read "How to Hug." He discovered it was volume five of an encyclopedia.

We might alter the title to describe the theme of Sunday's readings to "How to Hope."

In Al Capp's "L'il Abner" comic strip there was an unfortunate character with the unpronounceable name of Joe Btsfpk, over whom a dark cloud always hovered. Wherever Btsfpk appeared, there was sure to be gloom and doom.

We're only 37 years into the atomic age and we seem to have Joe Btsfpks everywhere — so much talk about nuclear holocausts, end of the world, and so on and on. Jerry Falwell doesn't expect his children "to live out their full lives." The poet, W.H. Auden put it: "Nothing can save us that is possible."

Apocalypticism isn't anything new. The Bible is full of it — Daniel (R1) and the second half of Mark's gospel (R2). The very first word in the very last book of the Bible is "Apocalypse."

Apocalyptic literature is coded writing. Believe it or not, it was meant to be hope literature. It generally sprang up in times of fierce persecution. The book of Daniel told persecuted Jews to hang on: "God is faithful. He'll save you; Even should you be slain, He'll raise you up to glory" (in Daniel we have the first mention of life after death in the Old Testament).

The second part of Mark's gospel has much apocalyptic in it.

The Temple of Jerusalem had probably been destroyed when Mark wrote. Perhaps Christians at the time were discouraged over the violent deaths of Peter and Paul, a short time before. For many Christian hope had been stretched thin. Suffering and fear had become a very real part of life. What had happened to the vision of peace and glory?

In his interpretation of the gospel, Mark responded by drawing on many elements of early Jewish and Christian apocalypse.

Such apocalypse was characterized by loss of hope in ordinary human institutions and in the efforts of men to remedy this situation by themselves.

Hope there was, but all hope had to be placed directly in God who would intervene personally and directly to nullify the present world order and its ills. God would bring the world to an end with the return of Jesus and usher His faithful into glory with Himself. Christian suffering could thus make sense: it would lead to glory, just as Christ's sufferings had led to glory.

No matter how we feel about the apocalyptic approach, one thing is certain: our hope must be placed in God.

A famous preacher kept a simple motto on his desk: "BUT GOD." People used to ask him what it meant. The preacher answered, it meant the difference between despair and hope, defeat and triumph, sorrow and joy. "Whenever I'm tempted to discouragement, I just remember the difference God can make."

As St. Therese of the Child Jesus used to say: "Therese is nothing, but Therese and Jesus are a majority." Trust in God does make the difference between hope and despair.

At Your Parish...

St. Catherine of Siena

Ithaca — A Holiday Boutique will be held 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 20, at St. Catherine of Siena Parish center.

Featured at the event will be a "Pixie Parlor," where resident "pixies" will entertain the children; a baked goods booth, featuring a cake decorating demonstration; the "Jewel Box," a display of previously owned jewelry; "Kid's Stuff," featuring books, records, toys and games, sponsored by the St. Benezet Guild, the proceeds from which will be used for a

special project; records and tapes from K&R Music, including a live performance by the parish folk group; a booth of crafts and decorations celebrating Advent; "Stockings and Stocking-Stuffers," featuring crafts made by parishioners; a display of Christmas greenery, with demonstrations by Ray and Vera Fox; and a snack bar offering small foods and pastries.

The day will be capped by a pasta dinner served at 6 p.m.

St. Andrew

"Come Back and Celebrate with Us," is the theme of a special observance for St. Andrew's Church. A Mass will be celebrated at 7 p.m., Monday, Nov. 29, the eve of parish patronal feast. Following the Mass a "variety and crazy fashion show" will be held in the school hall, a parish release stated. "The evening is centered around the Andrew experience," the release said, "where in scripture Jesus invites Andrew and John to spend some time

with him. It is a time of hospitality, sharing and memories whereby both disciples end up bringing others to meet Jesus. In a way, this is what it means to be Church."

The parish has sent invitations to the priests and women religious who have worked at St. Andrew's, and has announced a welcome to any person who has had contact with the parish.

St. John, Greece

The Women's Guild of St. John the Evangelist Church on Ridge Road West, an organization with emphasis on "service to our parish community with spiritual and social benefits," is holding a wine party 7 p.m., today, Nov. 17, at the parish center.

The event, open to all parishioners, will also provide an occasion for women parishioners joining the guild. The guild's four committees are Church Cleaning, Hospitality, Concerned Ministry and Fund Raisings.

Deaths

Frederick A. Livernash Jr.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Oct. 27 for Frederick A. Livernash Jr. who died Oct. 25, 1982, after a long illness. Father Roy Kiggins, pastor, a 25-member choir, and a congregation of

250 were present for the funeral rites at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Henrietta.

A Korean War veteran, Mr. Livernash had worked at

Turkey Shoots

The Courier-Journal is legally restricted from advising readers of such parish activities as turkey shoots or turkey festivals, bingo games, raffles and drawings, and games of chance.

St. Anne's

Palmyra — The youth group is sponsoring three skiing trips to Bristol this year. Each trip will leave the parish center at 8 a.m. and return at 5 p.m., Dec. 5, 12 and 19. A \$6 charge for those with their own equipment covers the lift ticket and a lesson; \$8 includes equipment rental. Reservations are required and are made through Mary Strong, 597-5138.

St. Thomas Apostle

The Men's Club of St. Thomas the Apostle Church has elected the following officers: Tom Sinnott, president; Dan McBride, vice president; Bill Farenchak,

Corpus Christi

The annual Holiday Bazaar for Corpus Christi Parish will be held 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Nov. 20, and 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Nov. 21, in the church hall, the corner of Main and Prince streets. Featured items include plants, baked foods, religious articles, white elephants, handmade items (including knitted and crocheted articles), Christmas ornaments.

St. Boniface

The Men's Club of St. Boniface Church has slated a fund-raiser for its youth activity program, 7 p.m., Friday, Nov. 19, at the school hall on Gregory Street. An arts and crafts exhibit and sale will be a feature of the event. The event is open to the public.

St. Ambrose

For the second year, Mornings for Mothers and Others is sponsoring a holiday Arts and Crafts Festival, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday, Nov. 26, at Dailey Hall of St. Ambrose School, 31 Empire Blvd. More

than 50 craftspeople will display their wares during the event, which also will include "Santa's Secret Shop," a booth for children to purchase handmade items at very low cost.

St. Theodore

An ecumenical Thanksgiving service will be held 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 24, at St. Theodore Church, 168 Spencerport Road. The service is spon-

sored by Our Neighborhood Ecumenical (ONE) Council of all the churches of Gates and Chili and is open to the public. A reception will follow.

Stromberg Carlson, Tishenor, and Xerox, and was a member of the American Legion Post of Honeoye Falls.

He is survived by his wife Bernice, Stefano, Livernash;

three sons, Mark of California, Matthew and Michael; his parents, Anna C. and Frederick A. Livernash Sr.; and several nieces and nephews.

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