'We Believe In Marriage!' Marriage Encounter Plans Special Day

Worldwide Marriage Encounter, the largest pro-marriage group in the world, will sponsor a celebration of marriage and family life from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 12, at the Marketplace Mall in Henrietta.

The theme of this second annual World Marriage Day will be "We Believe in Marriage" and a valentine theme will pervade.

Phil and Pat Brockmyre of Fairport and Father Jack Murray of St. John Fisher College are coordinators of Worldwide Marriage Encounter in the diocese. To date, more than 5,000 couples have attended ME weekends.

"The concept of World Marriage Day began last year as an experiment in sharing our values on marriage with the rest of the world." Brockmyre said. Pat Brockmyre added. "There is a need to show everyone, especially our young people, that the commitment a couple makes to each other in marriage is very important to the Church and is supported and nourished by all of us."

Father Murray said that the activity Saturday will be centered at a booth and that couples will be available with information on ME weekends.

"Anyone who has ever experienced or considered a weekend should join us." Father Murray said. "In fact, anyone who believes in the importance of marriage should come to give and receive support."

St. John's, Greece, Schedules Registration

St. John the Evangelist School, 2376 Ridge Road West in Greece, will host an Open House for families interested in pre-school and kindergarten classes for 1983-84. Classrooms will be open from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 26, and Sister Ambrosine Casey, principal, and teachers Miss Cynthia McKeon and Mrs. Diane Kingsley along with parents and students presently enrolled at St. Johns will be on hand to answer questions.

According to school sources, the pre-school program, now in its fifth year, has developed into a strong educational experience for three- and four-year olds in preparation for kindergarten. It uses the COPE (Congnitively Oriented Pre-kindergarten Experience) curriculum, and computers will be added to the curriculum this year.

Registration for pre-school, kindergarten, and grades 1-8 will be taken in the school office from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday, Feb. 28, to Friday, March 4, and from 6:30 to 8 p.m., Monday, Feb. 28, for registered members of St. John's parish. Registration for members of Holy Name, St. Mark, St. Lawrence and St. Leo will be taken from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday, March 7, to Friday, March 11, and from 6:30 to 8 p.m., Monday, March 7.

Those not in these parishes may register from 9 to 11 a.m., March 14 through 17 in the school office. These registrations will be put on a waiting list. Kindergarten through 8th grade registrants on the waiting list will be notified in August. Parents should bring birth certificates and baptismal records when they register. A registration fee of $10 is required for pre school. For further information call the school office at 225-3451.

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Viewpoint: Sisters Reflect

By Sister Beatrice Ganley, SSJ

Peace Lies In Truth

For several years I have carried with me from place to place my own sort of totem bag of a few precious things — Schiller's "Ode To Joy," the Gregorian "Salve Regina," and Chaucer's poem, "Truth." Of late I have been drawn to reflection on the Chaucer poem. Peace, I have concluded, lies in truth, and the words of this poet's "Ballad of Good Counsel" hold significance for us today. What follows is my free translation of Chaucer's 14th century words:

Turn away from the fray,
the plays for power;
Live with God and seek
integrity.
Though you have little, let
it be enough,
Ambition mothers envy
and sours your society;
Desire nothing more than
what you need.
Rule yourself, take care of
all your faults
Before you go reforming all
the world.
There's no mistake — with
Truth to be your guide
We soon shall be delivered
into peace.

Do not storm and fret
about your work
This world — a mote, a
mite, is all. And peace
Comes of its own accord
with quietness.
Beware of tripping up on
your own plans,
Of banging futile head
against a wall.
Tame yourself if you would
be for good.
If you would make a
difference in this world.
There's no mistake — with
Truth to be your guide
We soon shall be delivered
into peace.

Leave off then with long
faced misery.
That is for the slaves, the
thralls of pride.
There's mercy plenty from
our God for us
Who made us, nothings
into everything,
To take a simple pleasure
in our lives.
Let be that Power with
you, and pray
It stay with you, with me,
with everyone:
There's no mistake — with
Truth to be your guide
We soon shall be delivered
into peace.

If we are to accomplish anything with our work, it is the contemplative, God-centered humility underlying Chaucer's words that can keep us going. We know that God has already done it all with the "great kiss for all the millions of the world" that Schiller experienced in his poem. However, we must still do our work. Like the pregnant virgin whose compassionate glance we pray for in the "Salve Regina," we must accept the Truth as we receive it and then go about accomplishing whatever lies within our scope, listening all the time to the Spirit as we hear it.

It is amazing how people do persist in working, writing, dreaming of peace. There is no reward here for such activities. Who else but our God could push such a concept, and, with no apparent validation for it, get such responses for so long? Who else could draw people, century after century, through such varied works and expressions to stake — and gladly lose if need be — their lives, all for the sake of this possibility?

Sister Beatrice Ganley, SSJ, is a writer and poet.

Business in Diocese

Kevin Beatson, a parishioner at St. Patrick's Church in Victor, and a senior at SUNY Geneseo, has been named to the staff of the Livingston County American Cancer Society. He will serve as an intern until the end of April.

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