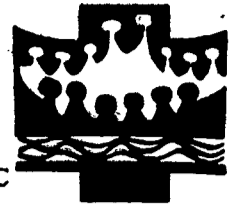


Last Sunday, Feb. 27, Bishop Matthew H. Clark officiated at the Rite of Election for candidates of the Catechumenate at Sacred Heart Cathedral. More than 400 catechumens were involved in two ceremonies — right, at the Cathedral, and at St. Mary's Church, Elmira, the following night. Middle right, some of the catechumens congratulate each other at the celebration at the Cathedral. The bishop also spent part of last week in the Southern Tier. Below right, Bishop Clark chats with senior Dave Caso, left, student council president, and Sister Mary Walter Hickey, RSM, principal of Notre Dame High School. The bishop spoke to the student body, urging them to "be free enough to be yourselves." He then toured the school and greeted these students, below, in the library.



Insights
In Liturgy



By Brother Robert Di Manno, SSCC

Crossroads
In Liturgy
And Social
Justice

Coming to an intersection necessitates coming to a halt or arriving there with caution. The Lenten season for truly devoted Christians is a time of reflection and of coming to a standstill before the Lord, to caution themselves on the journey that they are on with the Lord. The liturgy, too, is "a rest area" with those around us.

CROSSROADS — we come to them each day of our lives. For the driver, every day is full of various intersections, and most of these intersections influence the non-driver as well. Dedicated, conscientious Christians constantly meet with crossroads and intersections in their spiritual lives. These intersections invite us to give light and nourishment to others.

The Lord's Prayer is a tremendous source of reflection for one who wishes to link the liturgy with social justice. "Thy Kingdom come... Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven... forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." **THY KINGDOM COME**... the Kingdom here and now, the social reign of our Divine Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. All of our responses to bring about this Kingdom are nothing but responses to the movement of the Spirit within us.

It is through social justice that Christ becomes incarnate in our brothers and sisters. And if we are to bring about justice it must come about as we respond to the movement of the Spirit within us, the Spirit who is the source and the only source of enlightenment from God.

The liturgy is a time when people, responding to personal needs and to the needs of others, come together to be with their brothers and sisters to give

honor and glory to God. Here are found brothers and sisters of all conditions, the poor with the rich, the strong with the weak, the just with the unjust, the sinner with the saint. They come to seek nourishment; they come to be fed at the table of the Lord; they come to be clothed with the Lord's virtue... they come to be sheltered in their Father's house.

The Eucharist should be for us a time of listening to the Word of the Lord. We should be moved to bring about the Word day-to-day in our world, to live this Word in our own lives. The Eucharist should be a time when, gathered with our brothers and sisters, we are affirmed as a Christian community in our common mission. The mission of Jesus Christ; the mission of the Church — this one mission that we all share. Our mission is to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless; to make the blind see, the lame walk, the deaf hear, the dead rise.

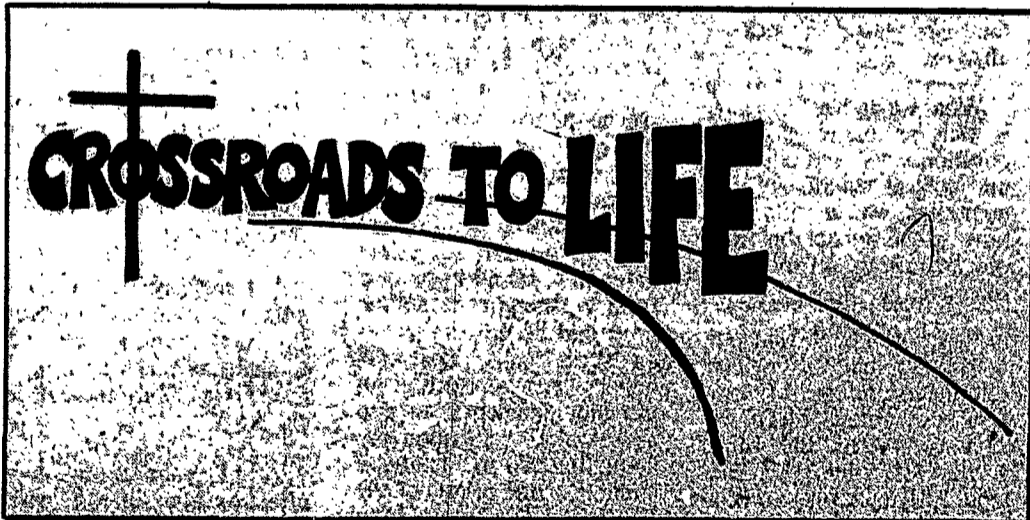
The Kingdom is in our midst; it is our response to the Spirit and the Word of the Lord that enables us to right wrongs, the wrongs in our own lives, in our homes, our families and in our society. We are empowered to feed the hungry, clothe the naked; to shelter the homeless. It is through the unifying action of our sharing in the one loaf and the one cup in the Liturgy of the Eucharist that we, as members of the one Body gathering to its Head, are renewed, strengthened — nourished.

To nourish, to feed and to restore life, the One Life; the Eternal Life is our mission. Empowered with this mission, the mission of Jesus and his Church and that of His Father, we can boldly proclaim to the nations and to those whom we meet, "I AM sent me to you."

Let us continue to look at the Eucharist as a time when we come to celebrate death and life, joy and sorrow, poverty and richness, justice and injustices. Social justice is celebrating the rights of the People of God.



Photos by
Terrance J. Brennan



St. Mary's, Corning, Follows
Our Bishop's Crossroads Path

Corning — St. Mary's Parish, led by its Education and Liturgy Committees, has scheduled various activities for its parishioners to join in the crossroads journey.

Every Sunday during Lent, the parish invites a guest homilist to its evening prayer at 7 p.m. The schedule for the remainder of Lent follows: March 13, "Reconciliation," Sister Mary

Lynch; March 20, "Renewal," Rev. Bill Findlay, First Presbyterian Church of Corning; March 27, "Freedom," Father Martin Boier, Mt. Saviour Monastery.

Other regular Lenten activities include a program titled "Livingroom Dialogue," which is hosted by various members of the parish family. On Thursday, March

17, the session will be held at the home of Deacon Ray and Pat Defendorf, 60 West Third St., at 8 p.m. On Thursday, March 24, at 7:45 p.m., Matthew Carney, 201 Walnut St., will host the dialogue.

Also scheduled is a presentation of "Godspell" by the group Celebrate Life, at 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 27, in the church.

The Bishop's Journey

Fourth Week of Lent

- March 13, 2 p.m. St. Mary's, Auburn Family Life Conference
- 16, 7:30 p.m. Sacred Heart Cathedral RCIA: Catechumenate Visit
- 18, 3 p.m. Visit to Tioga County Rural Ministry
- 7:30 p.m. St. Patrick's, Owego Evening Prayer

"Reconciliation"

Readings: Joshua 5:9, 10-12. II Corinthians 5:17-21. Luke 15:1-3, 11-32.

Reflection: "We implore you, in Christ's name: be reconciled to God!" With this statement, and the story of the "Forgiving Father" in Sunday's Gospel, the message of reconciliation seems clear. Through our lives, and by our interactions with others, we are to be instruments of forgiveness.

Suggested Action Response: This is a prime week for discussion of the social dimension of sin and our responsibility for effecting reconciliation. The need for spiritual and physical reconciliation is great — moments of prayer may well be opportune moments for sacramental reconciliation.



Chalice P

Rev. Mr. George during the annual Assembly, 4th of knights who Edmund J. Doy Braden, CSB, past faithful friar

Macedon Center

St. Patrick's Macedon, will years of service diocese this variety of beginning with p.m. on Saturday in the parish hall

Music will be the "Innkeepers country and w and a late night be offered.

Jail Ministry Sets Tra

Training s Rochester In Ministry volunt slated 7:30 p March 14, March 16, a March 21, a Presbyterian North Fitzhugh

Volunteers prisoners in County Jail o basis, serving advocates and in meeting basi

The train includes info the Rochester Ministry progr courts and an role-play jail periences. volunteers m three evenings

There is a for volunteer Spanish or Asi

Further in RIJM or its tr or registration contacting office at (716)

Catholic

The Catl Club will hol party 11 a.n Thursday. N Baptist Temp of Highlan Clover Stre admission c cheon. Pro event go organization fund. Mrs. E chairman of