

AT YOUR PARISH

Blessed Sacrament

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be celebrated beginning at noon, Thursday, April 7, at Blessed Sacrament Church.

The afternoon rites include recitation of the rosary at 12:15 p.m., and 5 p.m.

benediction of the Blessed Sacrament preceding the regular 5:20 p.m. celebration of Mass. The intention of the rites this month is "A renewed life within the Church," according to spokesperson Wilma Higgs.

St. Cecilia

St. Cecilia's Home School Association recently hosted a breakfast with the "Easter Bunny" for more than 250 children in its pre-school through third grade. Helpers for the event were Maureen Zimmerman, Andrea DiMarco, Carla Trocano, Lisa Palarmo, Anna DiSalvo, Mary Ann Massa, Katie Schaefer, Lisa Kennelly, Lisa

Latanzio and Stephanie Fame.

Holy Ghost

The Sacred Heart Society of Holy Ghost Church will hold its annual card party, 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 5, in the school hall, 250 Coldwater Road. Refreshments will be served.

St. Mary

Waterloo — St. Mary's Church will hold its fifth annual antique show, Saturday, April 9. Thirty-five dealers will display and sell at the event.

In addition, K. Lee Strassner of Rochester will demonstrate furniture restoration, and H.W. Koop of Skaneateles, chipped and nicked glass vases, tumblers and bowls.

Also on display will be watercolors by F.M. Tuttle done in the late 1800s.

The show is chaired by Alice Wadhams aided by Lorraine Holmes, dealer chairperson; Gertrude Trainor, treasurer; Cathy Lansing, secretary; Frank McDonald and Frank Salvaggio, layout and set-up; Linda Wadhams, Beryl McDonald, publicity and corresponding secretaries; Emily Pagano; Marian Gross, bake sale; Nancy Smith and Fran Wadhams, luncheon committee; and Dorothy Salvaggio, advertising.

Annual Seton Show Will Benefit Hospital

The 13th annual Seton Branches of St. Mary's Hospital Fashion Show and Luncheon will be at Oak Hill Country Club, Saturday, April 16. A social hour begins at 11 a.m., luncheon at noon, and the fashion show will begin at 1 p.m.

Satisfashions, a women's boutique located on Monroe Avenue in Pittsford, will be on stage. Complementing the modelling will be a commentary by Mrs. Shiela DeCarlo, owner of Satisfashions, and musical accompaniment by Dick Sampson.

Mrs. Gene Agban is chairing this year's event and is being assisted by Mrs. Cay Salamone.

Other committee members include Mrs. Anne Huber, reception; Mrs. Joan Tierney and Mrs. Joan Blair, reservations; Mrs. Pat LaBue and Mrs. Noreen Haggerty, decorations; Mrs. Joan Oakey, finances, and Mrs. Joann Cortese, publicity.

Proceeds will be directed to the modernization program of St. Mary's Hospital. These funds will help to fulfill a \$500,000 pledge made by the Women's Board of the hospital.



Joan Tierney, Gene Agban (chairperson) and Joan Blair examine ultrasuede handbag and accessories donated by Satisfashions of Pittsford.

Reservations are now being taken and information may be obtained by contacting Annabelle Pugliese, Volunteer Office at St. Mary's Hospital, 464-3255.

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Fr. John Reedy



Looking for the Lord

Church Teaching On Morality

San Francisco, more than any other major city in the country, has tried to deal with the political reality of a highly visible homosexual population.

Evidently the Church authorities in the archdiocese felt a need to find some way of addressing this reality. Late last year, a task force connected to the archdiocesan Commission on Social Justice released a report which must have startled a lot of Catholic officials.

Its language struck me as intemperate. It rejected as ineffective the Church's traditional moral teaching on a number of sexual activities; it said that the traditional distinction between homosexual orientation and homosexual activity is "practically meaningless and pastorally useless."

To my surprise, Archbishop John Quinn did not immediately object to the content and the public distribution of the report. Some time passed before the archdiocese issued a statement which recognized the existence of the pastoral needs and the fact of these opinions, while stating the obvious: a number of the judgments expressed in the report were in conflict with the authoritative teaching of the Church.

The argument goes on. A mid-February meeting of the Commission on Social Justice produced an angry exchange.

The chairman of the task force argued that the archdiocese was heavy-handed in short-circuiting "dialogue which has not yet even begun." He talked of "rail-roading" and announced that the entire handling of the process has "no credibility with me."

Well, in my judgment, the archdiocese could not have retained credibility if it had handled the matter in any other way.

It is unrealistic for the Church to blind itself to the existence of homosexuality. It is also unrealistic to pretend that there is not a body of authoritative Catholic teaching on sexual morality. Whether one agrees with that teaching or not, it does exist.

Though it's difficult for a lot of Catholics to understand, there is also a difference between the formal teaching of the Church on issues of morality and the pastoral approach of a confessor or spiritual director.

Church teaching must express the faith and the judgment of the Church as it is perceived at this time. No matter how difficult and painful that teaching is for some people, those responsible for proclaiming the teaching of the Church must express that faith as it is understood today.

A pastoral response to an individual must respect that teaching, but it must also deal with the much more personal matter of this man or woman's relationship to God.

Nevertheless, pastoral sensitivity is not the same as authoritative teaching; it does not invalidate such teaching nor make it meaningless.

Authoritative teaching on moral issues does develop. The development usually takes into account new knowledge; it involves new distinctions, new explanations. It comes slowly and carefully, rarely with sudden reversals.

I assume that the members of this task force are motivated by compassion and an awareness of the urgent needs of men and women who are faced with painful problems of conscience.

These motives are admirable, but they do not change the fact that the Church has a teaching on sexual morality. Nor do they relieve Archbishop Quinn of his responsibility to proclaim that teaching.

St. Anne

Father John R. Lee, CSB, of the anthropology department of St. John Fisher College will present a slide lecture about cities important in the development of the early Church, 8:45 p.m. today, March 30, at St. Anne's Church, 1600 Mt. Hope Ave. The event is sponsored parish Bible study group, and the public is invited.

Good Shepherd

Good Shepherd's gymnasium will again be open for the American Red Cross blood donation program on 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Good Friday, April 1. Donors must be in good health, 17-66 years of age, and weigh at least 110 lbs.

Aquinas Center

Re-certified

Hornell — St. James Merck Hospital has received notification of renewal of certification of the Aquinas Center by the state Office of Mental Health.

The certification followed an on-site survey by representatives of the Western New York Regional Office in February.

The certification is for two years. The last survey was in 1980.

The Aquinas Center is an outpatient treatment facility.

Emily McGuigan, the center's director, said, "Our staff is very happy to have received certification for it means that we measure up to the standards set by the state in our day treatment, outpatient program."

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The Di Unfold

By Sara N

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