

Skate Marathon To Fight Cancer

The fourth annual CURE Skate-A-Thon, sponsored by the Childhood Cancer Association, will begin at 8 a.m., Saturday April 16, and

continue until 8 a.m., Sunday, April 17, at the Monroe County Fairgrounds Roller Rink in Henrietta. Sponsored participants will skate to

recorded tunes and live music provided by several groups from the Rochester area. At 2 p.m., Saturday, April 16, there will be appearances by clown, Chuckie Cheese, and the 1983 CURE Child, Dina Cavallaro. Prizes, trophies and other awards will be presented throughout the Skate-A-Thon.

The CURE Childhood Cancer Association was founded in 1976 by a group of parents whose children had died from cancer, by others whose children were undergoing treatment for cancer and by concerned medical personal at Strong Memorial Hospital.

For further information on CURE or sponsor sheets for Skate-A-Thon, call 482-6142.

Fr. Albert Shamon



Word for Sunday

Christian Witness

Sunday's Readings: (R3) Jn. 21/1-19. (R1) Acts 5/27-32. (R2) Rev. 5/11-14.

The first readings for the entire Easter season are drawn from the Acts of the Apostles, one of the greatest books in the New Testament. The Acts tells the story of the triumph of the Holy Spirit in the world, and His works in that world as the partner of man. In the opening chapter of the Acts, Jesus tells the Twelve, "You shall be my witnesses." Sunday's first reading depicts Peter as such a witness. Referring to Christ's resurrection, he boldly proclaimed, "We testify to this." In the Gospel Christ foretells that Peter will seal this testimony with his blood.

Being a witness to the resurrection did not necessarily mean that the apostles saw it. Their only evidence for the resurrection was the empty tomb and the appearances of the risen Lord. Being a witness meant they experienced the fact of the resurrection, were convinced of its reality. But more, they felt impelled to testify to it because of the implications it had for others. The salvation of every man hinges on his believing their testimony. Thus the angels announced to the women that "He is risen;" then in the same breath they issued the order, "Go, tell the disciples and Peter."

Christianity is by nature altruistic and missionary. The great Easter and Pentecost sacraments — baptism and confirmation — both call man to go and give witness to the good news of the resurrection.

Baptism was originally conferred at the Easter vigil. It is the sacrament of belonging, of being born into the family of the Church; hence the sacrament of children. After baptism one is but a child of God — that is, he is in a position more to receive than to give. Thus he is instructed by the word, nourished at the table of the Lord and generally treated as one who needs caring for. Yet at this stage, the Church expects even her children to bear witness: to give the testimony that comes from their loving one another. "And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love."

The sacrament of confirmation completes baptism. At baptism parents and sponsors speak for the child; at confirmation the child speaks for himself — ratifies the commitment to live the Christian life which others had made for him at baptism. Confirmation, therefore, gives the fullness

of the Spirit, for the Spirit alone can make God's child become a "person for others."

As one grows from self-centeredness to other-centeredness, one is leaving childhood and becoming an adult.

Confirmation initiates spiritual adulthood; it mandates a person to mission — calls one to give witness to Christ in the world, to bring the Church to society and thereby to leaven it. For ultimately, God's graces are never given for hoarding. The man who kept his talent lost it.

The incredible fact, however, remains: little of society is imbued with Christian principles. Not the theater, nor politics, nor education, nor business, nor society as a whole. The reason? Too few have taken seriously their responsibility as Christian witnesses. We have the truth, but not the zeal; the secularists have the zeal, but not the truth!

There are all sorts of different ways of giving testimony.

The most important witness a Christian parent can give is by being Christian — nonverbal witness. Children learn what they live!

Senior Festival Slated in Greece

A Senior Citizen Festival is scheduled Thursday and Friday, May 12-13, at the Long Ridge Mall.

The festival will feature arts and crafts, referral agencies, giveaways, entertainment, and selection of Mr. and Mrs. Senior Citizen of Greece.

A special highlight will be a talent show Friday afternoon. All seniors are invited to register in order to participate. Each contestant will have three or four minutes and should provide his own music, records, props. Two rehearsals will take place.

First place talent show winner will receive \$50. For information, the Greece Recreation Department should be contacted at 647 Long Pond Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14612.

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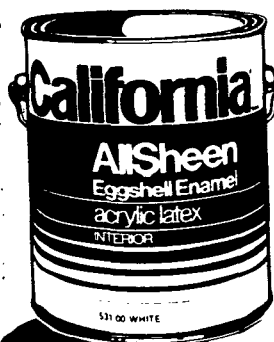
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Eastview Mall
Near to Star Market
586-0441
Open M W F 10-9
Tues. & Thurs. 10-6
Sat. 10-5

2171 Monroe Ave.
3 Blocks East of 12 Corners
271-7210
Open M W F 8:30-9
Tues. & Thurs. 8:30-6
Sat. 8:30-5

2150 Ridge Road W.
Opposite Greece Towne Mall
225-1280
Open M W F 9-9
Tues. & Thurs. 9:5-30
Sat. 9-5