



700 Already Signed Up

'Harvest a Hundredfold' Registration Continues

Registration for "Harvest a Hundredfold," the diocesan evangelization event, surpassed the 700 mark last Friday.

"We were planning for up to 1,000 participants and, when you combine these registrations with the presenters, our total is over 800 so we

feel that we're right on target," said Sister Mary Ann Binsack, the co-chairperson responsible for processing registrations.

"Harvest a Hundredfold" will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday, June 11, at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in

Geneva.

Three series of workshops designed to motivate and empower parishioners to share the Good News at the local level and beyond are key components of the event. The first series of workshops includes nine general areas of parish evangelization ranging from a general introduction to evangelization through more specific areas such as youth, sacraments, family and Sunday Masses.

Following lunch, a second series of 18 workshops will treat these areas more in depth, focusing on forming Bible study and prayer groups, parent-teen communications, the role of parish renewal and renewal groups, and meeting the needs of the elderly.

A third series includes 18 workshops picking up the theme of Father Anthony Bellagamba's afternoon address, "Evangelization: Stretching Beyond the Parish," which covers such topics as "Evangelizing the Imprisoned," "Reaching Out to Inactive Catholics," and "Evangelization through Healing." Other specific groups treated in this third series include those in a rural setting, children, the divorced, blacks, Hispanics, the world's hungry and evangelization in homes.

"We are very pleased with the interest registrants are showing in practically every workshop," said Father John Mulligan, general chairperson. "We asked parishes to send people who really want to expand ministry and it looks like that's exactly the response we are getting," he added.

The day will conclude with a celebration of the Eucharist with Bishop Matthew H. Clark whose homily will assess the present status and future challenges of diocesan evangelization.

The deadline for registration is Monday, May 23, as final figures are due that day at the colleges hosting the event. Interested persons are encouraged to contact their parish for information on registration. At present, more than 100 parishes have registered delegations.

"We still haven't heard from more than 50 parishes," Father Mulligan said. "I hope that no parish is going to pass up this unique opportunity to expand its capacity to share the Good News of Jesus Christ more effectively."

Speaker

Frank Toner will speak on "The Therapist/Family Relationship," 7:30 p.m., Monday, May 23 at the Reformation Church, 111 N. Chestnut St., as part of the regular meeting of Families and Friends of the Mentally Ill and Emotionally Disturbed. The program is free and open to the public.

Viewpoint: Sisters Reflect



Sister Margaret M. Mungovan, RSM

Paths Of Peace

Desiring inordinately and selfishly to acquire power, honor, knowledge, pleasure or material goods has destroyed at all levels the peace with which God has gifted us in the person of His Son.

I say "inordinately and selfishly" because nothing here mentioned is bad and peace-destroying in itself. But to forget that others have an equal right to what God has provided for us, and to accumulate for ourselves while daily the little they have decreases and disappears, is to sin, and whether we refer to nations, to multinational corporations, to small businesses, families or individuals, there is guilt on the personal level which we cannot deny.

While we are each personally guilty in some measure of destroying peace, it isn't easy to see what we as individuals can do about it. Recently in our parish we witnessed what two young people in love, who share a vision of a world just and peaceful, did to light their candle in the midst of darkness and violence.

Here are some excerpts from their wedding invitation:

"... we wish to form a family in which we'll live profoundly the Christian values and our commitment to the poor, the humble and their search for justice. We want to live these values from the moment of our marriage, giving special importance to the communitarian act of Thanksgiving in which the celebration of the sacrament will take place in a spirit of simplicity and

joy, unclouded by anxieties of a worldly or material nature.

"Because we want a lifestyle according to Christ and His Beatitudes, and given the difficult moment in which we live, we are not planning a reception nor the moments usually given at this time.

"We ask you to be with us at the ceremony, but not to concern yourselves about gifts or what you will wear, and, if you can't participate, we ask you to accompany us by your prayer and your affection."

The bride came to Chile over two years ago as a lay missionary, leaving her family who live in comfortable circumstances in Spain. The bridegroom, very much involved in working with the youth of the parish, is Chilean. His family doesn't have the acute financial worries of most of their neighbors. The choice of the young couple to begin married life in such simplicity was painful to both their families for whom a wedding calls for a traditional celebration. However, they accepted their choice with love, and surely were among the first to experience the peace sown by the newlyweds as they declared their fidelity one to another and their dedication to doing their part to make a just world.

If each one of us would answer in our lives the call to live unselfishly, seeking the good of all rather than our own personal advantage, the peace that now eludes us we would discover in the depths of our hearts, and from there it would extend to the ends of the earth.

Sister Margaret M. Mungovan, RSM, is a missionary in Chile.

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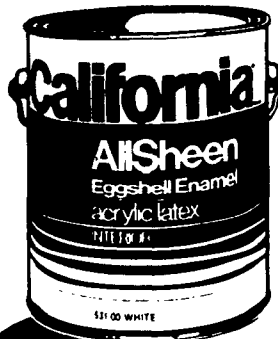
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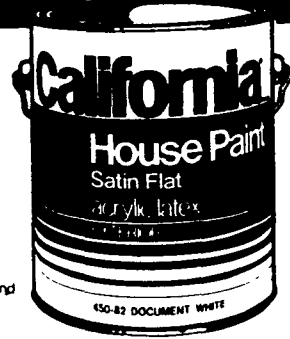
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