

More Opinions

Six Years Of Life Lost

EDITOR:
I am an inmate at Auburn State Prison and I would like to let young people know that crime and breaking the law does not pay. Crime can only lead to a lonely life, the wrong kind of friends, even life in a cold cell.

Prison is place where people just exist -- in a frustrated, hopeless and often violent world. Believe me for I have spent six years behind these walls. Yes, I have wasted six years of my life for nothing, a good part of my life has been thrown away with nothing to show for it. I am locked in my cell 24 hours a day and I hardly see my loved ones any more. I know that they love me but this place is just so depressing and discouraging to all of them that they don't want to come here any more. I just spend my days writing letters, reading the Bible, praying and, yes, crying uncontrollably.

I pray that everyone has what I have, loving and caring parents. At times, I know, and many youngsters will agree, that parents when try to set us straight and want us to be good citizens, that we often feel that they don't love or care for us, but they do. They may not always show us their love in the best way and may not always have the answers to every thing that we ask, but I know that deep in their hearts they do care.

I know that being in prison can only leave a person marked for the rest of his life and that it does separate him from his family. Even being able to find a good paying job will be hard when an ex-con looks for one. Prison life is lonely and often brutal. Many men who spend most of their time locked up end up going crazy.

I have seen many fights in prison, leaving people hurt or even killed. Youngsters should realize that there is very little freedom in prison to do things -- there is no dating, nor the opportunity to have fun or even get a breath of fresh air when you want. I've seen men grow bitter and develop a bitter attitude toward God and society. Please think about it. Try to listen to parents, good friends and people in authority because they all care about you. Above all, remember that God loves you and that He cares about you and about what happens to you.

Always live your life for Jesus Christ. Stay out of prisons, they are places of horror and graduate schools for future criminals.

Anthony Liccione
77C342
Auburn State Prison
Auburn, N.Y.

Minister Thanks Bishop

EDITOR:
As president of the United Church Ministry, I wish to thank Matthew Clark and his fellow bishops for their recent outstanding letter denouncing nuclear production and warfare. The action was a courageous one indeed, once we consider the adamant favoring of such nuclear buildup that the present administration supports.

The United Church Ministry is happy to support our Catholic friends on any issue that will speed world peace, eradicate racism and establish international human justice.

Rev. Raymond Graves
United Church Ministry
270 Scio St.
Rochester, N.Y. 14605

Holy Year Guide Offered

WASHINGTON (NC) -- A "Pastoral Guide for the Jubilee of the Redemption" has been published by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops for use during the 1983 Holy Year.

Prepared by the NCCB's Committee on the Liturgy, the 128-page booklet offers parishes and dioceses practical guidelines, liturgical texts and devotional prayers for celebrating the Holy Year, which was formally opened by Pope John Paul II on March 25.

Copies are available from the NCCB-U.S. Catholic Conference, 1312 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20005.

Family Fun '83

The third annual Family Fund-a-rama, sponsored by the Elmira Catholic schools, will be from noon to 8 p.m., on Memorial Weekend, Sunday and Monday, May 29-30, in Eldridge Park, Elmira. There will be rides, olympic games on Sunday noon to 4 p.m., a chicken bar-b-que, baseball, and entertainment. Public is invited.

DEATHS

Father John Dwyer Dies, Former Rochester Priest

Doon, Ireland -- Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Father John F. Dwyer who died here May 10, 1983. Father Dwyer had been incardinated to a number of dioceses including Rochester, N.Y.

Born in Passaic, N.J., he attended St. Bonaventure University, and was accepted as a candidate for the priesthood by Bishop James E. Kearney, then Bishop of Salt Lake City.

He enrolled in the Irish College in Rome for his priestly studies and was ordained in 1935. Continuing in graduate studies, he was awarded a doctorate in Canon Law by the Gregorian University.

When Bishop Kearney was transferred to the Diocese of Rochester in 1937, Father

Dwyer also was transferred.

While here he served as assistant pastor of Corpus Christi Church, and later as professor of moral theology and Canon Law at St. Bernard's Seminary. In 1949, he was named "defender of the bond" on the diocesan Tribunal.

In 1945 Father Dwyer joined the faculty of Immaculate Conception Seminary in Huntington, L.I., and a year later became officially attached to the diocese of Brooklyn, which operated the seminary. When Huntington became a part of the new Diocese of Rockville Centre, he automatically became a priest of that diocese.

From 1963 to 1972, he served as pastor of Our Lady of Fatima Church in

Manorhaven. On retiring in 1972, he took up residence at Immaculate Conception Seminary.

Father Dwyer had spent much time in Ireland, and was vacationing at Doon when he suffered his fatal heart attack. He had long expressed the wish to be buried in Ireland should he die there; and therefore his final rites and burial took place at the parish church in Doon.

"Father John Dwyer will be remembered in Rochester, particularly by his former students at St. Bernard's Seminary," said Father Robert F. McNamara, diocesan historian and archivist. "He was an able teacher and a pleasant and picturesque man."

Kevin Becker

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Tuesday, May 17 at Holy Ghost Church for Kevin Becker, 15, who died suddenly of a heart attack, May 14, 1983.

Kevin, a freshman at Aquinas Institute, was actively involved in the school band whose members served as pall bearers and who, along with the color guard associates, formed an honor guard at the church.

According to Kevin's homeroom teacher Steve Ward, "Kevin was a very active person, very much full of life. He had an outgoing personality and was very involved in homeroom activity."

Kevin is survived by his parents, Raymond and Joyce Becker; a brother John and sister Cheryl; grandmothers Ethel Weidemann and Harriet Becker, and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Deadline

Items intended for publication must be typed and in the Courier-Journal offices by noon Thursday before the Wednesday publication. The Courier-Journal is located at 114 S. Union St., Rochester, N.Y. 14607.

Sister M. Amadeus Houston, RSM Convert, Teacher and Linguist

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated last week for Sister Mary Amadeus Houston of the Sisters of Mercy who died at 75, May 17, 1983.

An Elmira native, Sister Amadeus entered her congregation in 1926 shortly after her conversion to Roman Catholicism.

A graduate of Livonia High School, Sister Amadeus received both a BA and an MA in English from St. Bonaventure University. She also did graduate work at Nazareth College, Canisius College and Georgetown University, taking from the last permanent certification in teaching French. She was also known for her expertise in Latin.

Her teaching career spanned 54 years in schools across the diocese, with 28 years spent at the high school level and 23 at the junior high school level. She was also an elementary school principal for seven years.

The places at which she served included St. Mary, Rochester; St. Vincent, Corning; St. Andrew, Rochester; Our Lady of Mercy High School, Holy Family High School, Auburn; Elmira Catholic High School; Holy Cross, Rochester; St. John, Clyde; St. Ann's High School, Hornell; and St. Louis, Pittsford.

She retired the active ministry in 1982, and took on the Spiritual Apostolate of

Holocaust Film Slated

"Genocide," the film that won an Oscar as best documentary in 1982, will be shown at 8 p.m., Tuesday, June 7, at Shea's Theater in Buffalo.

The showing will benefit the Kadimah School of Buffalo and the Simon Wiesenthal Center. Among honorary chairmen are Bishop Edward D. Head of Buffalo and Sens. Daniel Patrick Moynihan and Alfonse M. D'Amato.

The film tells the story of the Holocaust in a series of vignettes, each intended to create a link between the victims and the audience.

Tickets may be purchased through the Genocide Movie Presentation Committee, 62 Grace Ave., Eggertsville, N.Y. 14226, or at Shea's box office before the presentation.

prayer for particular works and groups in the congregation and diocese.

She was said last week by her friend, Sister Mary Constance Casey, to have had "a beautiful appreciation of her faith -- a great perception of her faith."

Always "a gracious lady," over the past several years, Sister Amadeus was devoted to the "card and note apostolate," the ministry of "keeping in touch, of sending a good word" to others, said Sister Mary Florence Sullivan, congregation archivist.

Four days before she died, Sister Amadeus wrote to her Sisters in the congregation's infirmary:

"Dear Sisters, Do you remember Father Damian's saying, 'We, lepers?' Well, it is my turn to say, 'We, infirmarians!' How good God is to allow me to be in

this blessed place with these blessed people!

"Now, never could I begin to thank all of you for a year of Sisterly concern! The deeds are too numerous! God bless!"

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