

AT YOUR PARISH...

Holy Trinity

Webster — Parishioners at Holy Trinity Church are preparing for a country fair and auction to raise funds for school renovation and expansion.

the auctioneer, noon, July 16 under a tent on the church grounds. A preview will be held 10 a.m.-noon that day.

Fr. Albert Shamon



Word for Sunday

Love Is Virtue

Sunday's Readings: (R3) Lk. 10/25-37. (R1) Deut. 30/10-14. (R2) Co. 1/15-20.

The question a lawyer asked Jesus one day was, "What must I do to inherit everlasting life?" (R3).

The first reading from Deuteronomy was addressed to the Jews during their captivity in Babylon. But are there not idols in our lives? Do we make false gods out of our hopes or fears? Money or reputation? Or even out of virtue? Can we say the love of God dominates our lives? Or is it reduced to forty-five minutes on Sunday and a few minutes of prayer during the week? When a mother has a small child at home, she leaves it to do her work, but always in the back of her head is her child. Ever so often she returns to baby's room to see if her little one is all right, she may fondle it, and then go back to her housework. Her child is never out of her mind. Is it that way with us regarding God and our daily work and life?

Our Lord said the counterpart to loving God is to love one's neighbor as oneself. And the beautiful story of the Good Samaritan illustrates who one's neighbor is. For the Jews, it was only another Jew. For Jesus, neighbor is anyone in need. As a poet put it: "Who is my neighbor? Who claims my word and deed? Anyone in need, / Anyone in need."

The trouble too often with human love is that it is conditional; "I love you, if..." God's love is unconditional: "I love you even though you don't deserve it..." Parental love is like that. I celebrate Mass every week at the county jail. No matter how bad a boy may seem to be, I have never known of a parent forsaking him.

Christian love is so unique that the New Testament used a special word to describe it. We have only one word for "love"; the Greeks had at least four. To express parental love, the Greeks used the word storge; for

brotherly love, they used the noun philia ("Philadelphia" means "city of brotherly love"); for passionate love, there was the noun eros (the root of our word "erotic").

Now these three words express an emotion. They are words which have to do with the heart. They express an experience which comes to us unsought, and, in a way, inevitably. We cannot help loving our kith and kin; blood is thicker than water. We speak about "falling in love." That kind of love is not an achievement; it is something which happens to us which we cannot help. There is no particular virtue in falling in love. It is something with which we have little or nothing consciously to do; it simply happens.

But Christian love is far more than that. It is virtue; it is a will act. As is taught in Marriage Encounter: "Love is a decision." It is a conquest, a victory, an achievement. No one ever naturally loves his enemies. To love the unlovable, to love one's enemies, is a deliberate conquest and achievement of the will. To express that kind of love, Christians used the Greek word agape. In the New Testament agape occurs 120 times and the verb agapan occurs more than 130 times.

In the parable of the Good Samaritan, the Samaritan owed the wounded Jew nothing but hate; instead, he loved the unlovable — returning good for evil. That's agape.

Once a rosebush grew next door to an apple tree. People admired the beautiful roses and raved about their sweet scent. The oohs and ahs went to the rosebush's head. It began to think it was better than everything else, even the apple tree. One day the apple tree got mad at the arrogance of the rosebush and in anger spat out to the rosebush, "You're not so good as you think you are. You seldom give of your roses without pricking fingers with thorns; whereas I give of my fruit even to those who throw stones at me." That's agape: returning good even to those who throw stones at us. Do this and you shall inherit everlasting life.

St. Francis de Sales

Geneva — More than 85 members and guests of the St. Anthony Society gathered recently for a Mass at St. Francis de Sales Church here, followed by the group's annual banquet at Fera's restaurant in Waterloo. During the event Mrs. Antoinette Ventura was named "woman of the year" by the society. She was presented with a corsage by Dora David, president, and a wall plaque and flowers by her family. Mrs. Ventura is also a member of the parish Rosary

Society and a charter member and former officer of the Geneva American Italian Lodge of the Sons of Italy of America.

She has been an active bowler, and her hobbies include knitting, crocheting and cooking. Though retired, she is a part-time employe of the Finger Lakes Times.

Among guests at the event were Father Edwin Metzger, pastor; Father Eugene Emo, Sister Lorraine and Sister Kathleen.

St. Mary

Dansville — Father Brice (Thomas) Ryan, OSB, of St. Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe, Pa., recently returned to his home parish, St. Mary, to celebrate his 25th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood.

He made his first vows as a Benedictine in 1952 and was ordained a priest in 1958. He

holds advanced degrees in French and Canon Law and holds several positions in educational institutions at the Latrobe Benedictine complex.

In addition, he serves as weekend assistant pastor at St. Victor Parish in Bairdport, Pa.

St. Bernard

Scipio Center — A four-week program of adult religious education has been slated at St. Bernard's Church here.

James Mulcahy, consultant for personnel at the diocesan Office of Religious Education, will open the program with a two-part talk, "Whatever Happened to the Church of My Youth?" 7:30-9:30 p.m., July 11 and 18.

Mrs. Peg Herstine, director of adult education at St. Mary's Church in Auburn will present "Faithsharing/Storytelling," 7:30 p.m.,

Aug. 8; and Mrs. Maribeth Mancini, consultant for adult education at the diocesan religious education office, will discuss "Echoing the Gospel in the Family," 7:30 p.m., Aug. 22.

St. Vincent

Churchville — More than 500 parishioners of St. Vincent de Paul Church recently feted Father Louis J. Hohman on the occasion of his departure from the pastorate here to take up the pastorate of St. Louis in Pittsford. In addition parishioners took the occasion to welcome Father Dominic Mokevicius, their new pastor. Gene Ehrmentraut was master of ceremonies for the event, introducing town and parish dignitaries who toasted Father Hohman for his contributions and participation in town activities during his 11-year tenure.

Holy Apostles

Msgr. Emmett Murphy was honored by parishioners of Holy Apostles Church recently on the occasion of his retirement after 22 years as pastor of the parish. Many former parishioners returned to wish him well.

PLAN NOW TO JOIN BISHOP MATTHEW H. CLARK IN ROME FOR THE SPECIAL 1983 HOLY YEAR AS A PARTICIPANT IN THIS SPECIAL TOUR YOU WILL JOIN BISHOP CLARK: • In A Special Liturgy At St. Peter's Basilica • A Special Dinner Hosted By Bishop Clark

TOUR INCLUDES: Day 1 DEPART ROCHESTER/MILAN Overnight flight to Milan with dinner on board. Day 2 MILAN (D) Arrival greeting from American Express, then to your hotel. Balance of day at leisure. Perhaps relax at the sidewalk cafes of the Galleria, near the Cathedral in the heart of Milan — an espresso coffee is a must. Tonight you'll enjoy a welcoming dinner with Italian wine at one of the city's best-known restaurants. Day 3 MILAN/LAKE GARDA/VERONA/BOLZANO (B,D) Orientation drive round the city, then by motorcoach to picturesque Lake Garda. A stop at the popular resort of Desenzano, then to Verona to see the vast Roman arena (still used for major opera productions) and Shakespeare's balcony setting for "Romeo and Juliet". Afternoon drive towards the Alps and medieval-Bolzano. Day 4 BOLZANO/CORTINA/LUGANO, SWITZERLAND/GENOVA A day of dramatic scenic contrasts. First to Cortina d'Ampezzo in the snow-capped Dolomites and on to Lugano, Switzerland for shopping and hot chocolate. Off for an afternoon descent to Genova. Day 5 VENICE (B) Morning walking tour begins at St. Mark's Square. You'll visit the magnificent Byzantine Basilica and marble Doges' Palace. Later, perhaps hire a gondola and stop just about anywhere for delicious wine and seafood. Come evening, outdoor cafes in vast St. Mark's Square are a must. Day 6 VENICE/PADUA/FLORENCE (B,D) Morning drive to ancient Padua. You'll see the Basilica of St. Anthony and Donatello's famous equestrian statue. Then to Renaissance Florence for dinner. Day 7 FLORENCE (B) Michelangelo's "David" in the Accademia and a visit to the Pitti Palace highlight morning sightseeing. "Afternoon Ideas" the superb art collection in the Uffizi Gallery, or shop for exquisite Florentine gold and silver jewelry, leather goods and knits. Day 8 FLORENCE/SIENNA/SAN GIMIGNANO/ASSISI (B,D) After breakfast drive south to San Gimignano, where ancient towers recall days when rival families strove to build higher than their neighbors. Continue down to the hill town of Siena for a stroll through narrow streets to shell-shaped Piazza del Campo — site of a no-holds-barred, bare-back horse race twice a year. Dinner is in the Umbrian hill town of Assisi. Day 9 ASSISI/SORRENTO (B,D) A morning visit to the Basilica of St. Francis, then a drive south around crescent-shaped Bay of Naples to Sorrento. Day 10 SORRENTO/POMPEII Mid-morning finds you in Pompeii. The ruins are surprisingly well-preserved and sightseeing gives you an insight to life 2,000 years ago before Mt. Vesuvius erupted in 79 A.D. Day 11 SORRENTO/ROME Early morning drive to Rome and a papal audience that day. Day 12 ROME (B) An outstanding full day of sightseeing spans the centuries. Few major sights in Rome are missed. Bonus visits include the Sistine Chapel, Vatican Museum, Church of St. Peter in Chains, and a drive down the Appian Way to view the Catacombs. You'll also tour St. Peter's, the Pantheon and the Colosseum. Day 13 ROME (B) Leisure day to comb the shops in the little streets fanning out from the Spanish Steps (Via Condotti is outstanding). Some of the best sidewalk cafes — try Via Veneto, Piazza Navona and Piazza del Popolo. Nightclubs by the Tiber, elegant restaurants in the Parioli district, neighborhood trattorie in ancient Trastevere are just a few evening ideas. Day 14 ROME (B) Day at leisure. Day 15 ROME (B) Day at leisure. Day 16 NOME/ASSA (B) Same-day flight home.



TOUR LEADER You will be lead by FATHER LOUIS VASILE Bishop Clark's Secretary

1983 SPECIAL HOLY YEAR 1983 has been announced by His Holiness Pope John Paul II to be a special Holy Year, in commemoration of the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ which occurred one thousand, nine-hundred and fifty years ago. The celebrations of the Holy Year commenced on February 16, 1983, the first day of Lent. During a Holy Year the pope grants to the faithful, under particular circumstances, Plenary Indulgence, or general forgiveness. On the occasion of the Holy Year 1750, Pope Benedict XIV laid down the requirements necessary to be granted a Plenary Indulgence. They consist of (1) a visit to the four major Basilicas of Rome — St. Peter's, St. Paul's, St. John Lateran, and St. Mary Major; (2) the sacraments of Confession and Communion; and (3) special prayers for the intentions of the pope. Although Holy Year has its roots in ancient tradition, it is profoundly relevant to us today... it aims at nothing less than the spiritual renewal of man. The pilgrim who visits the Eternal city lives firsthand the glory, traditions, and faith of the Church. Here the pilgrim witnesses the unity of the Church as men and women of every race, culture, and nation bear witness to their faith in a Gospel of love, justice, and peace! Celebrate the Holy Year with us.

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