

Along The Way

With Bishop Matthew H. Clark



I become more aware each day that we can engage in a more stimulating and challenging enterprise than discussing significant issues with our brothers and sisters.

When that can be done respectfully and with a clearly communicated desire to hear the other, then the ground-work is laid for an experience that can be educational in a profound way.

I had the joy of that kind of experience last week when I spent considerable time discussing our pastoral letter on peace and my plans to speak at Sampson Park with some people in our Finger Lakes Region. There were three sessions of great help to me and I hope of interest to you:

(1) At St. Mary's in Waterloo on Thursday, Oct. 6, I met with the staffs of parishes of the Finger Lakes Region. I was able to offer to them in a personal and direct way some of my thinking on the issue. They in turn shared with me not only their own thinking and reaction, but the challenges and opportunities they had been experiencing in their parish communities.

They are in the vanguard in this effort and are experiencing both the difficulties of such an effort and the satisfaction that

comes when people of good will bring their wisdom and care to difficult challenges.

(2) On the same day I was graciously received at the Seneca Army Depot by Col. John Wilson, the commanding officer of the installation. I had asked to see the colonel for one main purpose. That was to put flesh and bones on one of the sections of the pastoral letter which I think it important to stress again and again. That section speaks directly of the Church's esteem and respect for military personnel. It recognizes their special responsibilities and gratefully recognizes that "where they carry out their duty properly, they are contributing to the maintenance of peace." (No. 309 quoting Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World No. 79).

To express my recognition of that fact and to thank the colonel for his efforts to allow us to live in peace and freedom took only a few minutes. But we conversed for an hour and a half. I am grateful to him for that, because for me it was an important experience. I appreciated anew that we have a great deal in common. But more importantly I realized again that persons can develop mutual respect and a foundation for

ongoing collaboration even when they may disagree on the way to realize commonly cherished values.

(3) On Sunday, Oct. 9, at St. Patrick's, Seneca Falls, we had a hearing at which Catholics in the area could speak to the issues of the pastoral letter and the Sampson Park gathering.

The session, addressed by more than 20 speakers and attended by over 150 people, was a rich educational experience for me. People said what they wanted to say about issues very important to them. That in itself is important because it can establish respect and care, if not agreement, in those who listen to them.

When that is done with charity and civility as it was on Sunday, such sharing can be an important contribution to the change of heart of which we always stand in need and for which we must always pray.

A final word - If you have not as yet read "The Challenge of Peace: God's Promise and Our Response," please do so - or at least make all the effort you can to discover what it really says. That will be an appreciated contribution to an effort close to all of our hearts.

Peace.

Churches Across Diocese Pray on Eve of Rally

Fifteen churches throughout the Diocese of Rochester will open for sessions of prayer for peace 8-10 p.m., Friday, Oct. 21, the eve of the peace march and rally at Sampson State Park, adjacent to Seneca Army Depot.

The prayer vigils have been planned by the diocesan Office of Liturgy in conjunction with the local steering com-

mittee on the U.S. bishops' pastoral letter, "The Challenge of Peace: God's Promise and Our Response."

The public at large is invited to attend the rites.

Those hosting vigils are St. Michael, Penn Yan; St. Francis DeSales, Geneva; St. Michael, Newark; St. Mary, Geneseo; St. Mary, Corning; Our Lady of Lourdes, Elmira; St. Margaret Mary,

Apalachin; St. Catherine of Siena, Ithaca; St. Patrick, Seneca Falls; St. Mary, Auburn; Good Shepherd, Henrietta; St. Helen, Gates; St. Joseph, Penfield; St. Stanislaus, Rochester, and Sacred Heart Cathedral.

"The bishops' pastoral asks us to make Fridays a special day of prayer, fasting and almsgiving to heighten our awareness of the need of

peace," said Father Thomas Mull, director of the Office of Liturgy.

"These prayer vigils give people the opportunity to make this request a real, practical experience in their lives," he said.

Bishop Matthew H. Clark will be a featured speaker at the Oct. 22 rally. "These Friday evening services will give people throughout the

diocese an opportunity to pray for peace and be in solidarity with Bishop Clark," Father Mull said.

"The bishop's talk is going to speak to the value of life and the need for on-going conversion of heart. This conversion cannot happen if a person is not open to the Lord in prayer."

Father Mull commented, "I have found the host parishes to be most coopera-

tive in preparing for these vigils. There are exciting things happening in many of the smaller communities as people come together in pursuit of this elusive goal. I have been much encouraged by the enthusiasm with which this has been welcomed."

A diocesan press release stated that individual parish bulletins should be consulted for exact times and scheduled activities.

Diocesan Funds Available for Help in Pregnancies

Applications for funds from the diocese for groups giving direct services, counseling and education to women with unplanned pregnancies and counseling to post-abortive women is available from the Human Life Commission.

Money for this fund is supplied through the Bishop's Thanks Giving Appeal and enables the commission to carry out the U.S. bishops' mandate to provide pastoral care for women with unplanned pregnancies.

The Fund Distribution will need a full understanding and documentation of the applying organization and the services it will provide. The application will ask:

1. A description of all programs.
2. How many people are served.
3. Effectiveness of goals and manner in which funds were spent if monies were provided by the Human Life Commission the previous year.

4. Amount of request.
5. Description of specific use of funds.

Applications will be offered to all pastoral care groups (e.g. Melitta House, Got a Friend, Birthright) which received grants last year. Grants will be awarded through the Fund Distribution Committee, using the following criteria:

Is the work of the organization 1. aimed primarily at direct counseling, referral and other services for people dealing with unexpected

pregnancy, for the purpose of bringing the pregnancy to term; 2. not involved in direct services or referrals which help a person carry out a decision to induce abortion or helps to promote abortion in any way; 3. Not-for-profit; 4. Not involved in campaigns of persons running for political offices.

Applications also will be offered to incorporated Right-to-Life organizations (registered 501-C-3 or 501-C-4) for grants to assist them in educational and/or

legislative efforts on the abortion issue. Due to their incorporated status, such organizations cannot use the funds in campaigns for persons running for office nor for the Right to Life Party.

The total of the diocesan grants cannot exceed 5 percent of the total allotment.

Applications are available from the Human Life Commission at (716) 328-6400. They must be returned to the commission by Dec. 1.

Fisher Plans Peace Parlay

Campus Ministry at St. John Fisher College will sponsor a symposium, "Giving Peace a Chance, 7:30 p.m., Oct. 25 and 26 in Murphy Hall, 75 Fairport Road.

The sessions will focus on the U.S. bishops' letter on war and peace and the world armament situation.

George A. Lopez, associate professor of political science and director of the peace and global studies program at Earlham College, Indiana, will lecture on the topic, "Can the United States and Russia Create a Secure World?"

The sessions are free and open to the public. Further information is available by calling 586-4140, ext. 224.

'Baby Doe' Case Is Subject Of Thomas More Guild Panel

The St. Thomas More Lawyer's Guild and the diocesan Human Life Commission are co-sponsoring a forum to discuss the legal, medical and moral aspects of the "Baby Doe" case, the case of the Down's Syndrome child who died April 15, 1982 after six days of starvation in

an Indiana hospital, with the consent of his parents, an obstetrician, the hospital and the courts.

The forum will be at 8:15 p.m., Friday, Oct. 21, at the Genesee Plaza Holiday Inn, 120 E. Main St.

Panelists will be Judith Norman, and Vincent

Barone, local attorneys; Dr. Lawrence Nazarian, a pediatrician; and Father William Smith, a moral theologian. Chairing the panel will be James Bopp, Indiana attorney who participated in the case.

The forum is free and open to the public.



FATHER SMITH



JAMES BOPP

Volunteer Caring Brings Renewal

Auburn - More than 125 volunteers took part in the third Residents Encounter Christ weekend, Oct. 7-9 at Auburn Correctional Facility.

These volunteers, from all over the diocese, presented the renewal experience to 23 residents of the prison and the response was overwhelming, according to Vince Phillips of Rochester, rector for the weekend.

Among team members were Father Edward Golden, chaplain, Elmira Correc-

tional Facility; Father Thomas Corbett, Rochester; Father Jerry Dissek, Buffalo; Phil Barber, Rochester; Dave Corbett, Rochester; Bill Cruise, Elmira; Permanent Deacon Ray Datz, Churchville; Dave Gregorius, Dansville; Dave and Joyce Lortscher, Honeoye; Dick Mabbett, Weedsport; Permanent Deacon Nemesio (Chico) Martinez, Rochester; Fritz Palleschi, Port Byron; Steve and Diane Rauber, Dansville; Sid Reed, Elmira; Tony Rocchi, Elmira; John

Prave, Union Springs; John Vallimont, Springwater; Ray Wehner, East Rochester; Permanent Deacon Stan Zawacki, Webster; and Olmes Carvajal, Auburn.

Bob Bacher of Fairport, the outside coordinator for the weekend organized over 100 people who arrived at the prison on Saturday to sing and visit with the residents.

"Grateful thanks are offered to all who helped to make the weekend possible,"

said Phillips. "You just take the first step and you experience immeasurable joy."

Scouts Selling Coupons

Scouts of Troop 37, sponsored by St. John the Evangelist Church on Humboldt Street, are selling "East Side Value Books" through Nov. 4 as a fund raiser.

Fashion Show Planned

The Auxiliary to the Seventh District Dental Society will sponsor the Kaleidoscope V Fashion Luncheon at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 3 at the Genesee Plaza Holiday Inn.

Tickets are \$18 per person and reservations should be made through Mrs. Peter Carrillo at 266-7274. Proceeds will be donated to a scholarship fund for dental students.

Deacons Support Bishop's Stand

The following statement was made by the Executive Committee of the St. Stephen Deacon Association, the only official body representing the diocese's permanent deacons:

"Because the basic nature of nuclear weapons is not defensive, but inherently offensive, particularly for unprotected civilians, we are prompted to endorse the United States bishops' pastoral letter, 'The Challenge of Peace: God's Promise and Our Response.'"

We also strongly support and promote Bishop Matthew Clark's participation, and will join him at the Oct. 22 peace rally at Sampson State Park."

Open House

Peace is the theme for Nazareth Academy's Open House for 6th, 7th, 8th graders, neighbors, families and friends scheduled from 2-4 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 23.