

## Brazil Mission Will Reap Benefits From Parish Concert

St. Charles Borromeo will host a benefit concert of Irish music and dancing from 1:30-6 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 26, at the parish center, 3003 Dewey Avenue.

Entertainment will include music by "Mulligan, Miller and Dolan," and Al Rehn, and Irish folk dancing by the Hibernian Ceili Dancers.

Admission is \$3, \$2 for students (children under 12 free), and refreshments will be available. Proceeds from the concert will benefit the Brazilian mission work of Father Tom Brown, O.M.I.

Father Brown, a Rochester native, assisted at St. Charles from 1980-81. He currently serves a parish of approximately 30,000 Catholics in Embu Guacu where economic conditions take their toll with an inflation rate of 200 percent each year and an unemployment rate that nears 35 percent.

The concert is open to the public and tickets may be purchased after Masses each Sunday, or at the door, or by calling Emmett Neary (865-0992) or Beverly Lorenzo (663-5110).



Father Tom Brown with some of the children from his parish's day-care center in Embu Guacu, Brazil.

## Marriage Retorno Slated at Cenacle

A "Marriage Retorno," a program for couples seeking a deepening awareness of their married spirituality, has been announced for March 30-April 1 at the Cenacle Renewal Center.

Presentations will be given by James and Mary Dombeck, Sisters Mary Lynch and Margaret Mattle, and Father Charles Mulligan.

According to Rosemarie Schaeffer, Cenacle spokesperson, "Scripture

passages are reflected upon and shared between the couple in light of their marriage. It is a quiet and contemplative kind of weekend with times for prayer, both alone and as a couple."

Team members are available on request for spiritual direction.

Further information and registration are available through the Cenacle Ministry Office, 693 East Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14607; (716) 271-8755.

## 3rd Annual Music Fest Set March 4 in Webster

The Music Committee of the diocesan Liturgical Commission will hold its third annual day for music groups, "Share the Wealth, Musically Speaking," 3:30-8:30 p.m., Sunday, March 4 at Holy Spirit Church in Webster.

The festival is billed as a day for sharing among parish singing groups and instrumentalists.

Each registered group will be able to present three musical selections which it

has found to be effective in parish celebrations.

Pre-registration, by Feb. 15, is necessary. Further information is available through the diocesan Office of Liturgy, (716) 328-3210.

Fr. Albert Shamon



Word for Sunday

### Punishment To Fit

The Crime

Sunday's Readings: (R3) Mt. 5/38-48; (R1) Lv. 19/1-2, 17-18; (R2) 1 Cor. 3/16-23.

"An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" (R3) may appear savage and barbaric today. Yet, in Moses' time this law was a significant advance over tribal vengeance which permitted wholesale destruction of an offending tribe in retaliation for an offense against a single member. Lamech killed a lad who had only bruised him. The eye-for-an-eye law (Lex Talionis) substituted justice for vengeance and limited punishment to suit the crime.

Jesus came not to destroy the Law — justice — but to perfect it by love and mercy. His turn the other cheek, go the extra mile, give to the beggar or borrower doesn't mean becoming a door mat. It is not a "curl up and let people walk all over you" response. It is not being a wimp, letting oneself being taken advantage of. Rather, it is a brilliant strategy to turn foes into friends, and to overcome evil by good.

When Martin Luther King Jr. was slain, Martin Whitted, a white bus driver in San Francisco was dragged from his bus and killed by 11 black youths. As hatred mounted on both sides, the bus driver's widow appeared on television and pleaded that no violence ensue because of her husband's death. She spoke of her faith in Christ and of God's love which gave her the power to forgive. Instead of vengeance, she requested a memorial fund be set up for black youths in the neighborhood where her husband had been killed. Not only did violence not break out but lives were saved. Because of Mrs. Whitted's forgiveness, the hatred, conflict and violence were able to lose their sting just because

they were whites. control — a matter of choice. If someone hates us and we return that hate, then we become just like the hater. We are changed, not the hater. us and we return that hate, then we become just like the hater. We are changed, not the hater.

I always tell people who have problems with other people regarding hate, injury, offender, "Don't be reactors!" Reactors are like mirrors: they reflect the actions of others. If you like me, I like you. If you are mean to me, I shall be mean to you. Such reactions do nothing for anyone. That was not the way of Christ. Christ never let His actions be determined by what others did to Him. Like the sun that always shines, not matter what clouds are in the sky, Jesus always loved everyone no matter what others said about or did to Him. He asked us to be like that, because that is the way of God our Father. "Love your enemies, pray for your persecutors," said Jesus. And why? "That you may be sons of your heavenly Father, for his sun rises on the bad and good, he rains on the just and unjust." That Father doesn't discriminate with His sunshine or rain. He loves everyone indiscriminately. And so should we.

Because hatred and vengeance begin in the heart, Jesus wisely asked us to go beyond toleration and endurance. Rather He said, "Pray for your persecutors." Persecutors are all who actively hate us and dislike us and all those close to us at home or at work who unintentionally disturb, harass, or irritate us persistently. Jesus' command to pray for all these is more than a pious exhortation. Praying for our persecutors heals our hearts. For violence springs from the heart and cannot exist under the same roof with a love that prays. The light of prayer will drive out the thoughts and desires of darkness.

## MAG Introduces Hearing System

Bret Waller, Memorial Art Gallery director, announced that the gallery is now equipped with a device that opens many of the gallery's programs to persons unable to participate previously because of impaired hearing. With the new Induction Loop Amplification (ILA) system, provided by a grant from Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Wynd of Pittsford, persons with hearing aids designed for telephone listening or with special hand-held aids will be able to hear a speaker from the auditorium stage with the same clarity from any spot in the room.

According to Mark C. Hargrave, president of Help for the Hard of Hearing Enterprises (HHH), the system's installer, the ILA consists of an amplifier and a wire loop that runs the perimeter of the gallery's auditorium and connects to an amplifier. As a result, when a speaker uses a microphone or a movie soundtrack is played, an induction field is created within the loop area. Persons with a telephone-circuit-equipped hearing aid need simply to

flick the aid's "T" switch" to remove background noise and enhance the speaker's voice, Hargrave said. He pointed out that the sound produced by the ILA is inaudible to the unaided ear, so the gallery has acquired four hand-held units, consisting of a small receiver with a volume control and an ear plug, that may be used. The units are available on a first-come, first-served basis at the gallery's information desk. For more information call 275-3081.

## Pre-Cana Correction

Stan and Joanne Douglas are marriage preparation coordinators for St. Mary's, Elmira and not for Our Lady of Lourdes as was listed in the Pre-Cana Calendar in the Wedding Supplement issue of Feb. 1. The Pre-Cana programs for St. Mary's are scheduled for 8:45 a.m. — 4 p.m., Sunday, June 3 and Sunday, Oct. 28 at the Marian Center. For information and reservations call (607)732-3965.

## Clarification

Recent developments in pastoral directives supersede the interfaith marriage guidelines that appeared in the Wedding Supplement of the Feb. 1 issue of the Courier-Journal.

## Deadline

Deadline for news in the Courier-Journal is noon on Thursday, preceding Wednesday publication. The Courier-Journal address is 114 S. Union St., Rochester, N.Y. 14607.

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