

The Journey

Ash Wednesday
March 7, 1984

11:30 a.m. St. Patrick's, Elmira
7:30 p.m. Sacred Heart Cathedral, Rochester

Reading: "Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the Lord, your God!" (Joel 2: 13)

Reflection: The words of Joel stir our hearts to a new awareness of the call of God. His words are not ones of destruction. He does not ask that we reject all that we have. He does, however, ask that we turn our hearts and minds to Him. He does request that people experience a change in attitude, and "awake" to the signs of the times.

Lent, "springtime," is the call to each Christian man and woman to renew the self in the mystery of baptism. What does the Lord ask of me? Why am I proud to be a Christian? What area in my life needs refreshment, renewal? These questions, summoned in our minds on this day, sow the seeds for this renewal. Ashes placed on our foreheads are the sign of our commitment to this renewal.

FIRST WEEK OF LENT

March 11	2:00 p.m.	Sacred Heart Cathedral	Rite of Election
12-14		Notre Dame Retreat House, Canandaigua	Priest's Renewal
14	7:30 p.m.	St. Mary's, Corning	Rite of Election
16	7:30 p.m.	St. Patrick's, Seneca Falls	Rite of Election

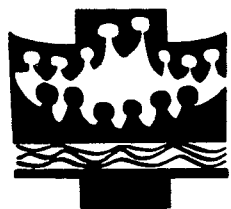
SECOND WEEK OF LENT

March 18	5:00 p.m.	St. Bridget's, Rochester	Parish Visitation
19	7:30 p.m.		Challenge of Peace Discussion
20	10:00 a.m.	Northwest Region	Ministers' Day of Prayer
	7:30 p.m.	St. Augustine's (Southwest Region)	EVENING PRAYER
21	8:30 a.m.		Aquinas Institute
	7:30 p.m.		Challenge of Peace Discussion
24	9:00 p.m.		Antioch Visitation

THIRD WEEK OF LENT

March 25	12:30 p.m.	St. Francis of Assisi Hispanic Community	Parish Visitation
26	1:00 p.m.	Craig Developmental Ctr.	Visitation
	3:30 p.m.	Groveland Facility	Visitation
	7:30 p.m.		Challenge of Peace Discussion

Insights In Liturgy



Crossroads II

Last week, this column gave a glimpse of the preparation for the 1984 Lent-Easter journey of Bishop Matthew H. Clark called, "Crossroads II: Renewed Hearts... Renewed Church." The basic starting points were three: the Holy Year, the bishop's Evangelization Plan, and the U.S. bishops' pastoral: "Challenge of Peace." The worship and action of the bishop and his people will surround these three areas. We dealt with the Holy Year aspect rather completely last week. This week, let's look at the Evangelization Plan and the U.S. bishops' pastoral.

It was June 11, 1983 and hundreds of people gathered at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, N. Y. for an evangelization day with Bishop Clark. In his homily that day, the bishop outlined a three-year plan for evangelization for the Diocese of Rochester. The

first year dealt with the Holy Year of Redemption and its call to renewal of heart. Following on this, the bishop asked all dioceses to work hard in this holy year toward personal renewal. He explained that it would be impossible to attempt the renewal of our neighborhoods, communities and world, if first we do not experience renewal within ourselves.

The renewal of self has become the guide for this first year of the bishop's plan. Throughout the diocese, parishes have had (or will have) Weeks of Renewal, or R & R's, or a parish mission - all in an attempt to invite each member of the parish family to re-experience the call of the Good News. In such a renewal many people are involved, communities draw closer together and the spirit of alive people is evident.

Once renewed, we have a challenge to carry the "good news" to others...to that person who became angry with the Church many years

ago, or Mrs. X who was hurt very deeply when her husband died. The new couple who moved in next door are Catholic, but never seen in the worshipping assembly. There is an elderly man down the street who seems so alone and forgotten, and a woman who seems to have closed off the world - and everyone avoids her. How about the husband or wife who just can't seem to "get going" when it comes to religion, and the young people who seem turned off with even the mention of religion? These people, and many more, are the goal of evangelization efforts in the two years to come.

The American Bishops' pastoral, "Challenge of Peace" points out succinctly that we will never be able to bring peace to the world if we do not first experience peace within ourselves. Thus, did our American bishops call for a renewal of heart within peace-loving Americans. It seems only logical that this statement would be true. Yet, how often do we find ourselves caught in the whirlwind of life, unable to step out for fear of being crushed?

Lent of 1984 can be that time for "stepping out." The bishop of our diocese will be visiting some of the meetings dealing with the

28	5:15 p.m.	Church of the Annunciation, Rochester	Parish Visitation/ Soup Supper
30	9:00 a.m.	St. Stephen's, Geneva, St. Francis DeSales, Geneva; DeSales High School; Finger Lakes Office of Social Ministry.	Visitations
	7:30 p.m.	St. Stephen's, Geneva (YOW Region)	EVENING PRAYER

FOURTH WEEK OF LENT

April 1	1:00 p.m.	Monroe Developmental Ctr.	Visitation
2	7:30 p.m.	St. John of Rochester, Fairport (Northeast Region)	EVENING PRAYER
3	7:30 p.m.	St. Mary's, Bath (Steuben Region)	EVENING PRAYER
6-8			N.Y.S. Bishops Meeting

FIFTH WEEK OF LENT

April 8		Park-Ridge Hospital South Lansing Division for Youth	Visitation
9	1:00 p.m.	Holy Cross, Dryden	EVENING PRAYER
	3:30 p.m.	Holy Cross, Dryden (Tompkins/Tioga Region College)	Visitation
10	7:30 p.m.		Challenge of Peace Discussion
13	9:00 a.m.	St. Alphonsus, Auburn; Blessed Trinity School, Auburn Memorial Hospital; Mercy Rehabilitation Center; Auburn Clergy Luncheon	Visitation
	7:30 p.m.	St. Alphonsus, Auburn (Seneca/Cayuga Region)	EVENING PRAYER

HOLY WEEK

April 15	1:00 a.m.	Sacred Heart Cathedral (Passion Sunday)	Blessing of Palm Eucharist
16		G.E.M. Executive Committee	Day of Prayer
17	7:30 p.m.	Sacred Heart Cathedral	CHRISM MASS
19	7:30 p.m.	Sacred Heart Cathedral (Holy Thursday)	Mass of the Lord's Supper
20	3:00 p.m.	Sacred Heart Cathedral (Good Friday)	Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
21	11:00 p.m.	Sacred Heart Cathedral	EASTER VIGIL
22	11:00 a.m.	Sacred Heart Cathedral	EASTER Sunday Celebration

EASTER SEASON

Throughout the Easter Season, Bishop Clark will continue his journey as he celebrates the sacraments of Eucharist, Confirmation and Ordination in Churches throughout the diocese. Many of these occasions will be featured with photos and story in our weekly Catholic newspaper The Courier Journal. These events will be accompanied by the CROSSROADS II: RENEWED HEARTS... RENEWED CHURCH logo. Listed below are just some of the events to watch for:

May 8	7:30 p.m.	Immaculate Conception, Ithaca	Neophyte Mass
15	7:30 p.m.	St. Ambrose Church, Rochester	Neophyte Mass

PENTECOST

June 9	5:15 p.m.	St. Patrick's, Victor	Confirmation
10	12:30 p.m.	St. Lawrence, Rochester	Eucharistic Celebration of Feast of Pentecost

RCIA Rites Open Lent

Bishop Matthew H. Clark will celebrate the Rite of Election with catechumens in three places in the diocese during the first week of Lent: Sunday, March 11 at Sacred Heart Cathedral; 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 14 at St. Mary's Corning; 7:30 p.m., Friday, March 16 at St. Patrick's Seneca Falls.

Last year at the Rite of Election the cathedral was full to overflowing with catechumens, candidates, sponsors, godparents, and members of core teams from parishes involved in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. The continued growth of the RCIA in the diocese led to scheduling three Rites of Election this spring, reports Maribeth Mancini of the Office of Religious Education. She is coordinating the Rite of Election with Father Tom Mull, director of the Office of Liturgy. Over 75 parishes are currently involved in the RCIA.

The Rite of Election celebrates the election of adults who are preparing for reception of the sacraments of baptism, confirmation,

eucharist at the Easter Vigil. It also marks the beginning of the Period of Purification and Enlightenment, which normally coincides with Lent. The Period of Purification and Enlightenment is a time of prayerful preparation for the reception of the sacraments of initiation. Prior to the Rite of Election, catechumens and candidates for full communion have been involved in a period of formation including instruction, reflection, and participation in liturgical celebrations. At the Rite of Election, sponsors and catechists will attest to the preparation and worthiness of the people who will be initiated at the Easter Vigil.

At the Rite of Election, the bishop will also affirm the journey in faith of candidates already baptized who are seeking full communion with the Church.

All parishes have received a letter from Bishop Clark inviting their catechumens and candidates to celebrate at one of the Rites of Election. Families of candidates and catechumens are also invited to attend the celebration.

First Friday

Father Peter Clifford, co-pastor of St. John the Evangelist Church on Humboldt Street, will celebrate Mass and speak at the luncheon following for the

First Friday Mass and Luncheon Club, 11:45 p.m. Friday, March 2 in the Knights of Columbus club-rooms on Thurston Road. The public is invited.