

# CROSSROADS II

# RENEWED HEARTS RENEWED CHURCH

## All Invited To Chrism Mass On April 17

The annual celebration of the diocesan Chrism Mass is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 17, at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

At this liturgy, Bishop Matthew H. Clark summons all from the diocese to witness and share in the blessing of the oil of catechumens, the oil of the sick and the oil of chrism which will be used throughout the diocese in the sacramental ministry of the Church.

"The symbol of our service to one another is clear," Father Thomas Mull, director of the Office of Liturgy, said. "It is meant to invite all present to identify with the sacramental ministry of the Church."

The three oils which are blessed are used in the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, ordination, and anointing of the sick. They are tangible signs of the Lord's healing, consoling, permanent love and concern. Dur-

ing the celebration of this year's Chrism Mass, the oils will be presented to Bishop Clark by those who will give and receive them. A catechist and a catechumen will present the oil of catechumens, a hospital chaplain and an elderly person the oil of the sick and a bishop and a candidate for Confirmation the oil of chrism.

A combined choir from the Corning-Elmira area will help lead the music during the celebration. A reception will take place after the ceremony in the school hall. Those wishing to do so may take the freshly blessed oil to their respective parishes following the celebration.

Bishop Clark will meet with all diocesan priests prior to the Chrism Mass. At that time, they will renew their promises of priestly service.

All are welcome to join the festivities, according to Father Mull. The cathedral is at 296 Flower City Park.

### THE RITE OF PURIFICATION 1983-84

1. A prayer of purification. Every time you eat the sacrament of the Eucharist, pray for the purification of your heart.

2. A prayer of purification. Every time you receive the sacrament of the Eucharist, pray for the purification of your heart.

3. A prayer of purification. Every time you receive the sacrament of the Eucharist, pray for the purification of your heart.

4. A prayer of purification. Every time you receive the sacrament of the Eucharist, pray for the purification of your heart.

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12. A prayer of purification. Every time you receive the sacrament of the Eucharist, pray for the purification of your heart.

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16. A prayer of purification. Every time you receive the sacrament of the Eucharist, pray for the purification of your heart.

17. A prayer of purification. Every time you receive the sacrament of the Eucharist, pray for the purification of your heart.

18. A prayer of purification. Every time you receive the sacrament of the Eucharist, pray for the purification of your heart.

19. A prayer of purification. Every time you receive the sacrament of the Eucharist, pray for the purification of your heart.

20. A prayer of purification. Every time you receive the sacrament of the Eucharist, pray for the purification of your heart.

### CROSSROADS II

RENEWED HEARTS  
RENEWED CHURCH

### Insights In Liturgy

By Sister Marlene Vigna, RSM

### Jesus Shows Us The Light

The readings for Sundays when we celebrate with the Elect the purification rites, provide clear and powerful examples of what it is like both before and after encountering Jesus.

The Woman at the Well, the Man Born Blind and the Risen Lazarus are not distant characters. Even though each of them has come to faith in Jesus Christ and been transformed in a way uniquely his or her own, they tell not only the stories of their conversion, they also tell ours. So, some of us can identify our own coming to faith in the image of a woman's deepest thirst being quenched; others of us can see ourselves in the image of a blind man delivered from darkness; and still others, because we have experienced enough death, can recognize our story in the emergence of Lazarus from the tomb.

There are probably few figures in the New Testament whose

Then, as he learned more about Jesus, as catechumens have during their instructional period, he calls him a prophet — a person who brings God's thoughts and words to others. At last came the period of his purification and enlightenment, when the Jews cast him from the Temple. Jesus sought him out and spoke to him, as he has to the elect and the baptized, and he suddenly discovered that Jesus was the **Son of God**. Loyalty always brings revelation, and it is to those who are most faithful, that Jesus most fully reveals himself.

There is one other dimension of this healing of the Man Born Blind narrative, that we might consider as we reflect on our own baptism and anticipate with the Elect the rituals of initiation, just three weeks away. The imagery and gesture in this healing story has already been ours at baptism, and will be enacted again in our vigil liturgies. Jesus **ouched** the Man Born Blind. The Elect have had hands laid upon them. Jesus **used water** to heal. All who seek faith are bathed in the waters of Baptism. Jesus **anointed**; and the eyes/ears/lips of the elect shall be opened as they are anointed in the preparatory rite on Holy Saturday morning. Jesus **rescued** the blind man from darkness and the passage of the Elect into the light of faith will be marked by their Profession of Faith.

Jesus is the light shining in the darkness of our world. We are graced with this wonderful light, which at baptism, enables us to see. If, like the Man Born Blind, we see in Jesus something to wonder at, something to respond to, something to reach toward, then, we are on our way back to the Father. If we are conscious of our own blindness; if we long to see better and know more, our eyes can be opened and we can be led ever more deeply into the truth. That's the rhythm of the entire Christian journey.

The second Rite of Purification which will be celebrated on the Fourth Sunday of Lent focuses on this same passage from darkness which our Gospel illustrates in the story of the Man Born Blind. We pray that both we, and our Elect might see with the eyes of faith; walk in the light of Christ and come to contemplate the God-Man who came as one of us to lead us from darkness into the light of faith.

## The Journey

April	Time	Location	Activity
8	11 a.m.	Park-Ridge Hospital	Mass with patients.
9	1:00 p.m.	South Lansing Division for Youth	Visitation
	3:30 p.m.	Holy Cross, Dryden	
	7:30 p.m.	Holy Cross, Dryden (Tompkins/Tioga Region)	EVENING PRAYER
10		Cornell University.	Visitation
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

**Reading:** "O, my people! I will put my spirit in you that you may live..." Ezechiel 37:14a  
**Reflection:** The strong message of "new life" cannot be missed in today's readings. Ezechiel proclaims the "new heart and new spirit: which will be given to God's chosen people. Paul reminds the Romans that the living Jesus is a part of them — alive in them. John recounts the story of the resurrection of Lazarus with all the force and focus of a new and renewed experience.

As we approach the focus of the Lent-Easter season, we are reminded by the sacraments of initiation that we are reborn in Christ. In this time of renewal, we have been asked to focus on that abiding presence. It seems that our readings call forth a sense of new self-worth, new resilience, and new meaning when we realize anew that we are children of God and the implications of that reality.

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