



Friends

Nazareth College President Robert A. Kidera (left) escorts Father Vincent T. O'Keefe, SJ, who delivered the main address at a multi-faith baccalaureate service during commencement weekend at Nazareth. Father O'Keefe, former president of Fordham University and general assistant to the Father General of the Society of Jesus in Rome, was also awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree during the exercises. Father O'Keefe will assume new duties as rector of the Jesuit community at Nazareth in July. Kidera is retiring June 30 after serving eight years as president of Nazareth.

Mercy Prayer Center Hosts Peace Program

The Mercy Prayer Center has scheduled a weekend "Experience of Communal Discernment toward Peacemaking," June 1-3, at the center, 4490 Lake Ave.

The program is a "weekend experience which will provide insight into our personal and communal peace-making as Christians," a brochure states.

The agenda will include: reflection on personal and communal history; an overview of the patterns of grace and sinfulness that enable and/or limit our capacity for making peace; building consensus; setting goals; and learning a process, to facilitate others.

The weekend will be led by Mary Heidkamp, James Lund, Sister Muriel Curran, SSND; Sister Margaret Matle, RSM, and Father Charles Mulligan.

"Our purpose is to help people who are concerned about making peace to work

together in groups, and to find those actions that they can carry out in groups," Sister Margaret said last week.

"Jim Lund, who worked with the 'Challenge of Peace' program in the diocese, feels that such a process of communal discernment as this, can help people to realize the kinds of strengths they have for peace-making activity. The process also helps iden-

tify the kinds of resistances that are in people because of their past history," she said.

The event begins 7:30 p.m. Friday and closes 2 p.m. Sunday. A \$15 donation covers simple meals and limited overnight accommodations. Participants are limited to 25, and advance registration is required.

Interested persons are asked to call (716) 663-5351.

CWC Dinner Slated

The Catholic Women's Club will celebrate 65 years of service to the Rochester Community at the organization's annual dinner, 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 6 at the Century Club, 566 East Avenue. Guest speaker will be Patricia Adduci, Monroe County clerk. Chairpersons for the event are Mrs. Eugene

V. Long and Mrs. William G. J. Jones.

Also on the CWC's June calendar of events is the distribution of roses at 10 a.m., Friday, June 15 to residents of St. Ann's Home. Those members wishing to volunteer for this project may call Josephine Albert at 647-9868.

Fr. Albert Shamon



Word for Sunday

We Are Called To Wait

Sunday's Readings: (R3) Jn. 17/1-11. (R1) Acts 1/12-14. (R2) 1 Pt. 4/13-16.

Sunday's readings speak of the in-between time. The first reading speaks of the time between the life of Jesus (which ends with the Ascension) and the life of the Church (which begins with Pentecost). The gospel speaks of the transition time of Jesus' passover from His active life resulting in His death resulting in His glorification.

The brief passage chosen for the second reading is from the letter pseudonymously attributed to the apostle Peter. It speaks to Christians who find themselves in exile, suffering as strangers in a strange land, a people who experience cultural alienation and social separation from those among whom they live.

What is to be done in this in-between time?

First, it is a time of expectant waiting. A woman is going to have a baby. All she can do is wait. The child is already formed in her womb but not yet born. The parents wait hopefully, do they not? They recall the past which led to this moment. They plan for the future, without really knowing what the future will bring. "If it is a girl, we'll call her...If it is a boy...if..." They wait -- hopefully. So did the early Christians of Acts wait. So ought we to wait -- hopefully! Jesus has already done, formed His Church; hopeful, because of the glory promised to those who wait upon the Lord.

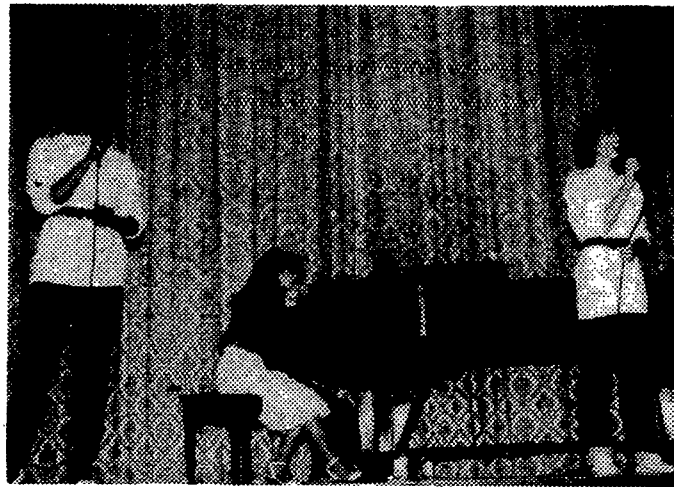
Waiting can be active or

passive. One can just sit down and do nothing. Or one can start knitting baby booties, purchasing a crib, papering the new baby's room.

In the in-between period both the early Christians and Jesus waited actively: in prayer and unity. After Jesus had been taken up into the heavens, the disciples of the Lord, the apostles, the men and women with Mary, devoted themselves to constant prayer. Jesus also, while in this period between His life among the people when He revealed the Father in word and deed and His life of union with the Father on the other side of death, stopped and prayed. He recalled the past and moved toward the future in the presence of the Father, making this transition a moment of prayer.

The Christian community of 1 Peter is also in a moment of passage -- of waiting for the final revelation of Jesus in glory. What are they told to do? To accept the present moment, to live life as it is, in its totality -- with its ups and downs, its moments of exaltation and its times of depression. Ah, the glory to come if we share life's sufferings for the sake of Christ. When Hannibal's troops showed signs of discouragement in crossing the Alps, Hannibal reminded them, "Post Alpes, Italia" -- after the Alps, the sunny climes of Italy. The future quest spurred them.

We are in the in-between times, too. Life seems to be a continuous round of unbroken activities. But we are called to wait -- to pray constantly -- to pray in unity with the Church -- and to gather strength, through constant prayer, for sharing Christ's sufferings -- confident of the glory to come.



Art Celebration

Accompanied by Christine Szych at piano, Karen Kurtz and Sharon Harmon sang, "Come Sail Away" during the recent Arts Fest at Our Lady of Mercy High School. Exhibits, performers and speakers were part of the three-day event. Seniors Eileen Hetterer and Mary Jo Kennelly were student chairpersons and Maureen Servas and Shirley Hess served as faculty advisors.

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