

Sarah Child



All in the Family

Media Are Falsely Reflecting Life

"Be prepared to wait in line," toot the critics serving us willing hucksters for "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom," sequel to "Raiders of the Lost Ark."

Well, I'm not planning on any wait. With any luck at all I'll never have to see it. A movie that is basically a testament, albeit a creative one, to advances in film technology doesn't grab me. Granted, that probably makes for a minority of one. The fact that Steven Spielberg does it bigger and better, scarier and sometimes even funnier than anybody else might have tempted me to go have a look-see if I hadn't been lured to "Raiders" by my kids and if I hadn't read so much about the second film.

There's something delicious about being frightened (particularly when you know you're safe in a movie theater seat) but unfortunately I've reached a stage in my life where art without subtlety affords the same pleasure as cotton candy.

"Indiana" is not fit for young children, we are told, and there was some dispute as to what kind of rating it should get. Spielberg allegedly said that, if necessary, he would hold his hands over the eyes of a 10-year-old to prevent him from watching certain scenes.

Count me as one of those 10-year-olds -- especially if he is referring to a purported two-minute segment in which a caged man dies a slow, agonizing, fiery death. Frightening? Maybe. Repelling? Definitely.

That is not my kind of entertainment. But why pick on this one director? There are a lot of other movies I didn't go see for the same reason. I get my daily dose of destruction,

depression and despair every night on the 6:30 news beamed in for my edification from any one of a dozen or more trouble spots around the world.

Still the "creative" minds dish it up as entertainment. I prided myself on having avoided "Sophie's Choice" both in the movie house and on HBO. Then our daughter and her college roommate who is Jewish went to see it and maybe as catharsis reported it to me.

"The 'choice' of the title is which of her two little children Sophie will hand over the Nazis to be put to death.

Said our resident sophisticate, "Charlotte and I cried at the movie, all the way home and half the night."

But it's art, somebody will protest. Is it? Or is it horror for horror's sake? For the best seller list? For the box office receipts?

Read any critically acclaimed, mainstream novels lately? If you haven't, you're not alone. Houses which publish such works are folding right and left while romances, detective stories and other escape genres (also known as trash in some quarters) are flourishing.

What's the problem? For one thing, modern "literature" is obsessed with gloom, doom and a spirit of overriding pessimism. Ask why and the authors and the companies who publish it will tell you that that is life. Not my life! Not a lot of other peoples' lives.

There are millions of us who can testify that despite an occasional dark spot, the time on earth is not one continual vale of tears. Love, hope and trust in God, our fellow creatures and ourselves are the hallmarks of our journey.

And when literature, films and other art media begin to mirror life as it really is, maybe they can lure me back.

AT YOUR PARISH

Holy Cross

A four-week summer program for students currently in grades K-8 will be held at Holy Cross School from 8:45 p.m. to noon, July 5-Aug. 2. Cost is \$50 for one class, \$40 for second class or second child. Classes offered are reading, math, language arts, grades K-6; math, grades 7-8. Registration is from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays, May 30, June 13 and June 27.

Holy Ghost

The Sacred Heart Society of Holy Ghost Church, Coldwater Road, Gates has scheduled its annual Spring Banquet for Monday, June 4 at the Johnson House, Churchville. All women of the parish are invited to attend. Tickets and information are available from Marie Bruno 426-2545, Anne Gunn 889-1373, or Kathy Maslanka 247-1983. Reservation deadline is May 29.

St. Michael

Penn Yan - There will be a special Mass of healing and anointing of the sick, the elderly, the handicapped, the young and those seriously ill at 3 p.m., Sunday, June 10 at St. Michael's Church, 312 Liberty Street, Penn Yan. Father Dan Karl, associate pastor, will minister the anointing. For pre-registration call Julia Teahan, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., before June 7th, at 315-536-2368.

Mercy Senior To Receive CWC Award

Erin Countryman of St. Joseph's in Rush and Mercy High School, will be the recipient of the first annual Marie McCann Award at the annual dinner banquet of the Catholic Women's Club June 6 at the Century Club on East Avenue.

The award will be given annually to a young woman who exemplifies the highest ideals of Catholic leadership. It is the result of a bequest from Marie McCann, a longtime club member who wished to provide a means for recognizing the work of young church women.

Miss Countryman is being honored for her leadership in her parish, school, diocese and at the national level. She has been president of her youth group, active in high school, a member of the Diocesan Pastoral Council and serves as one of 13 young people on the National Catholic Youth Council.

Father David Mura of the diocesan Office of Youth Ministry will assist the club in presenting the award.

The award is an addition to the club's long tradition of offering scholarships to young women high school graduates.

Vow Renewals Scheduled

Some 50 couples will renew vows at a Mass of Thanksgiving scheduled at noon, Sunday, June 3, at St. Andrew's Church, 923 Portland Ave.

Couples are expected from among those married within the past month to some who have been married for more than 50 years. Following the Mass, a champagne toast and brunch will take place in the main school hall.

A donation of \$10 a couple is suggested by the planning committee. The proceeds will be used to replace the rectory heating system.

St. Dominic

Shortsville - At 1 p.m., Sunday, June 10 the annual St. Dominic's Church Fair will be held on the church grounds, Rt. 21. There will be a country store featuring handmade items; pony rides; cake booth; games and prizes for all ages; refreshments and music.

St. Bridget

East Bloomfield - The Altar-Rosary Society of St. Bridget's Church will have an auction at the church hall from 10 a.m. until the goods are auctioned off Saturday, June 2. Mrs. Elaine Bailey and Mrs. Sandy Knopf are co-chairmen and Mrs. Karen Norman, president of the Society.

St. Charles

A forum on the bishops' pastoral "The Challenge of Peace," presented by Lourdes Albuerné-Perez of the diocesan International Justice and Peace Commission, will be at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 7 at St. Charles Borromeo Church, 3003 Dewey Avenue. A discussion will follow.



Sister Cities Meet

Sister Sheila Walsh, SSJ, left, welcomes Lord Mayor Richard Jones of Waterford, Ireland, and his wife Alice at a Mass honoring the sister cities connection on Sunday, May 20, at St. Mary's Church, downtown. Delegates from other sister cities -- Wurzburg, Germany; Caltanissetta, Italy; and Rennes, France -- also gathered at the celebration. A reception followed in the rectory.

Immaculate Conception

Members of the class of 1921 from Immaculate Conception School are making plans for their 63rd reunion, Thursday, June 21. Anyone requiring further information can contact Richard Lancer at 244-9244.



Holy Name Presents Musical

The parishioners of Holy Name of Jesus Church will present their third musical production, "Apple," at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, June 8-9, and at 2 and 8 p.m. on Sunday, June 10, at the Aquinas Institute auditorium. Tickets are \$4 for adults, \$2 for children under 12, and are available at the door or by calling the rectory, 621-4040.

Advisory

Parish correspondents are advised the Courier-Journal is legally restrained from publishing notices of any games of chance or prizes to be won in such games. Notices for publication in At Your Parish must be written and at the Courier-Journal offices, 114 S. Union St., Rochester, N.Y. 14607, no later than Thursday noon preceding Wednesday publication.

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SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO BANQUETS & PARTIES

August Workshop In Church Music

The Community Education Division of the University of Rochester's Eastman School of Music will have its second annual workshop for church musicians, Aug. 1-3, at the Eastman School of Music, the Lutheran Church of the Incarnate Word, and Colgate-Rochester Divinity Schools.

The workshop, "Church Music and the Church Musician," will feature lectures, and demonstrations for the benefit of organists, choir directors and others involved in music ministry. Participating faculty includes authorities in the field of music and liturgy, with representation from the Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Presbyterian, and Episcopal traditions.

Individuals may register for the three days for a fee of \$60, or parishes may register for a fee of \$200 which

entitles as many as five members of the congregation to attend. For those without transportation, a bus-pass may be purchased to provide daily transportation to and from workshop locations. Accommodations for out-of-town registrants are available at the Eastman School of Music Residence Halls, or at 111 East Avenue Hotel. Further information is available from the Community Education Division, (716)275-3015.

Edel Quinn Remembered

Diocesan members of the Legion of Mary joined members throughout the world in prayer commemorating the 40th anniversary of the death of Edel Quinn on May 12, in Nairobi, Kenya. The Legionaries are praying for the advancement of her cause for beatification.