

Rochester Mercy Sisters Welcome Second Chilean

Santiago, Chile — Soledad Cantillana-Calderon was scheduled to become the second native Chilean to enter the congregation of the Sisters of Mercy last Monday, the feast of the Transfiguration.

The rites were scheduled at the newest Mercy community here, Comunidad Senora de la Misericordia (Our Lady of Mercy Community).

As a postulant, Ms. Cantillana-Calderon will live in community with Sister Jane Kendrick, postulant director, and Sister Graciela Lagos

Donoso, the first native Chilean Sister of Mercy of Rochester.

Ms. Cantillana-Calderon is training to be a nutritionist. She also ministers in the Christian community at Capilla Esperitu Santo, a part of San Luis Parish. As a volunteer, she works there with youths, in sacramental preparation of children and in children's para-liturgical celebrations.

She recently said she was moved to enter the congregation because, "I was able to share and participatae in the

work of each sister and see firsthand the joy with which one is able to work to build the Kingdom... Most importantly, I have an unexplainable feeling inside myself, or better said, an unexplainable Someone, who invites me to work in the vineyard of the Lord in the name of the Sisters of Mercy."

She added, in a letter to Sister Jean Marie Kearse, RSM, superior general, "I would like to let you know my deepest desire: to serve God by serving my brothers and sisters. I would like to show the light of Christ to those who don't know this light; to demonstrate His peace which means to confide in Him. In other words, I want to be an instrument of the Lord."

Sister Jean Marie commented, "We're very happy



Sister Jane Kenrick, right, and Ms. Cantillana-Calderon.

to welcome these women, "Chela" (Sister Graciela) and now Soledad, into our diocesan congregation, and we're happy to be able to serve in mission in Chile. Our presence there is made largely possible through the generos-

ity of the Rochester Diocese, since the majority of our financing comes through the Diocesan Missions Collection."

Fr. Albert Shamon



Word for Sunday

God Allays Our Fears

Sunday's Readings: (R3) Mt. 14/22-33. (R1) 1 Kgs. 19/9, 11-13. (R2) Rom. 9/1-5.

Norman Vincent Peale wrote that a priest or minister should speak about fear at least once a month. He then told the story of an angel meeting Cholera one day. The angel asked Cholera where he was going.

Cholera answered, "I am going to earth to take 50,000 lives."

Later, the angel again met Cholera returning from earth. The angel said to Cholera, "I thought you said you were going to earth to take only 50,000 lives. You took 150,000."

Cholera replied, "I did take only 50,000 lives. It was Fear that took the rest."

As a small lad I can remember how I used to be afraid in the dark when I was all alone. The fear would immediately leave me whenever I knew that someone else was with me. Much fear in life today can be traced to the mistaken belief that we journey all alone. The last words of our blessed Lord were, "Know that I am with you always, until the end of the world" (Mt. 28/20). Long before, David, who had been a fugitive for 18 years, confessed, "I fear no evil." And why? Because David always firmly believed in the protecting presence of God. "For you are at my side with your rod and your staff that give me courage" (Ps. 23/4).

One of the most consoling truths of our Faith is God's omnipresence. God is with us always: in the tiny whispering sound or in the strong headwinds, in the quiet periods of our life and in the stormy periods. Elijah found Him in the still sound; Peter and the disciples, in the storm at sea. But the point is — He is always there, especially when we need Him. As He did not climb the hill of Calvary alone, He does not expect us to bear the burdens of life alone. He wants to be a Simon of Cyrene to us; and His Mother wants to be our mother. So, "Do not be afraid!"

The problem so often is

that we are liable to focus too much on our problems. "Elijah was afraid and fled for his life" from Jezebel. He had tried and tried to serve the Lord and all he got for his pains was a kick in the teeth. So he prayed, "This is enough, O Lord! Take my life." Imagine Elijah praying like that! The problems of life seemed too much even for him; still, God came to his rescue in the tiny whispering sound. God did not abandon him. He never does. So, do not be afraid.

The disciples experienced the same thing. They were in a storm at sea — alone, so they thought. They were terrified, for they were without the visible Jesus. But He came to them in their need, walking on the waters. Their fear was so great, they couldn't even see straight. "It's a ghost," they said. As if Jesus could not bear to have His own suffer even for a moment, He hastened to reassure them. "Get hold of yourselves! It is I. Do not be afraid!"

Just a few hours before, He had multiplied loaves and fish. With such a one around, they should not have fear. Still, their faith was weak. Peter had to be shown. "Command me to walk on the water," he said to the "ghost." "Come," said the Lord. And behold, Peter walked on water. Imagine! He did the humanly impossible with Jesus! But for Peter it was too good to be true, so he took his eyes off Jesus and focussed on the winds and the waves and sure enough he began to sink. In desperation he called out to Jesus, who saved him, but rebuked his weak faith. Once in the boat, they all declared, "Beyond doubt, you are the Son of God!" It took a lot of doing to extract that confession of faith. Maybe all our problems are simply the things we need to develop a real faith in Jesus!

Do not be afraid, therefore, for we walk not alone! Do not be afraid, for problems are no problems to Jesus. No food? He fed 5,000 with little or nothing. Stormy weather in life? He walked the storm waters and quieted the winds. Fear knocked at the door. Faith answered and no one was there!

Cenacle Sister Takes First Vows

Sister Marsha A. Smith will make her first vows of temporary profession in the Congregation of Our Lady of the Cenacle, Saturday, Aug. 11 at the Cenacle in Pittsburgh, Pa.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Smith of Greece was born in Jamestown and moved to Greece in 1959, where she attended St. John the Evangelist Church and school.

Sister Marsha is a member of the pioneer class of 1966 from Cardinal Mooney High School, and graduated Nazareth College in 1970.

Before entering the Cenacle, she worked as a

buyer for Sibley's for 11 years.

Her Cenacle formation has so far included six months as an associate at the Cenacle in St. Louis, Mo., and two years at the Pittsburgh Cenacle where the novitiate is located.

After first profession, she will join the ministries staff at the Toronto Cenacle where she spent several months as part of her novitiate experience.



SISTER MARSHA

Holy Cross Schedules Blood Drive

Holy Cross Parish will sponsor a Red Cross blood drive from 3-7 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 20 in the school auditorium.

Chairperson for the drive is Father Rosario LaDelfa, associate pastor. The parish goal for the drive is 80 pints.

For further information, contact Joanne Fisher at 865-0231.

Alumni Picnic

The third annual Bishop Kearney High School Alumni Picnic will be held noon-6 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 12 on the school grounds. The event is sponsored by the Alumni Association and is open to all graduates of the school and their families. Participants bring their own picnic makings, and beverages will be available.

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