

Along The Way

With Bishop Matthew H. Clark



Some further and -- for now! -- concluding thoughts about our Thanks Giving Appeal.

This year's goal will be \$3,038,000. At the end of the long and careful process described last week, this is the amount we judge necessary to meet our common responsibilities and to make a generous response to the pastoral needs which challenge us.

The process we used studied not only our pastoral needs and our ability to respond to them, it also included a careful evaluation of past Thanks Giving Appeals.

Each year, the parish Appeal leadership team has evaluated and made recommendations on how to improve the process. Based on the input we have received from these evaluations and from many other sources, two significant changes will be initiated this year.

The first change is the decision to make the Thanks Giving Appeal clearly and distinctly a diocesan endeavor. In keeping with this, all of the monies realized in the Thanks Giving Appeal will accrue to the diocese and will be used to carry on our common mission.

This means, of course, that the division of money over a

parish quota with 80 percent remaining in the parish and 20 percent coming to the diocese has been superseded.

I am aware that this will be disappointing to many -- especially at first hearing. However, I am convinced that it will serve our best interests now and in the future.

It is not possible in this space to explain this decision in all detail, but let me note the two basic reasons for it.

- It allows us a clear, clean and unambiguous opportunity to tell the story of the diocesan Church.

- It allows us in a direct way to ask more of those more richly blessed and it allows such individuals to offer their total gift to this one purpose.

The second change will be made in the formula by which parish quotas are determined. In our first three years, we used a formula based on ordinary parish income with adjustments made for Catholic school enrollment and for religious education expenses. This year, we move to a formula based on the adjusted average household income of parishioners from the 1980 U.S. Census figures.

Those who have offered counsel in this regard are strong in support of this change because it brings about a more

equitable and fair method of establishing parish quotas than the previous method.

With these decisions I think we have come to a sharper and clearer vision for our Thanks Giving Appeal. I believe it is one which allows us to move into the future making sure and steady progress in our pastoral programming.

Although this year's Thanks Giving Appeal has required more work than earlier ones -- including the first -- I am very much satisfied that the effort has been well worth it.

I say this because I think we have a solid and excellent program which will serve us well for many years. But more important, I say it because the work is the fruit of the gifts and love of the people of our diocese.

You have read through these reflections for three weeks and I am very grateful for your effort and diligent care. Please pray for the success of this year's Thanks Giving Appeal.

Next week -- on to some other aspects of life as it has unfolded in August and September.
Peace!



Father Paul Maier, a Rochester native now pastor of St. Joseph's Church in Martinsville, Va. (right), holds the crucifix which will shortly be placed on the wall in the chapel of Becket Hall. With him, from left, are Dan Mykins, Joe Ringholz and Lance Gonyo, all residents; Father Schwartz and Father Robert Beligotti, associate pastor of St. Anthony of Padua Church.

Becket Opens Doors As New Institution

Becket Hall will open its doors to the public 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 9; and 2-5 p.m. and 7:30-9 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 11 at its new location, 314 Gregory St.

The occasion is historic in that the present Becket Hall marks the latest development in Church nurturing of vocations to the priesthood.

The Gregory Street Becket Hall houses 13 residents and Father James Schwartz, director.

None of the 13 are studying for the priesthood. Rather they are examining their lives, experiencing community prayer life and

community life, and deciding whether they out to become ordained priests, Father Schwartz said.

The men attend a number of area colleges, St. John Fisher, Nazareth College, SUNY Brockport, Monroe Community College and the University of Rochester.

In addition, they work at such institutions as St. Joseph's House of Hospitality, St. Boniface Church, and Ss. Peter and Paul Soup Kitchen, he said.

The idea is that the men in the program are "in the midst of the people they intend to serve," Father

Schwartz said, "an urban location."

Father Schwartz also said that while at Becket the men are encouraged to "reflect on the development of the relationships in their lives."

Father Schwartz indicated that the maturity of that reflection is a major factor in the decision to pursue the priesthood.

Young Adults Invited to Prayer Meeting

Young adults, aged 18-35, single or married, are invited to an evening of prayer at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 11, at St. Anne's Church, 1640 Mt. Hope Ave.

The event is the first in a series of spiritual, social and educational programs planned this Fall for young adults and sponsored by the diocesan Commission on Young Adult Ministry.

Further information is available from Karen Rinefield, Young Adult Ministry coordinator, at 586-1919.



The new Becket Hall on Gregory Street.

Catherine of Siena Subject of Lecture

A special lecture on St. Catherine of Siena, mystic, teacher and Doctor of the Church, will be given by Sister Suzanne Noffke, OP, at the Cenacle Renewal Center, Sept. 30.

Sister Suzanne, who holds a PhD, is past president of the Racine Dominican Sisters, and is widely acknowledged as an expert on St. Catherine. Sister Suzanne has prepared new translations of

the "Dialogue" and the "Prayers" of St. Catherine.

A slide presentation is included with the lecture. Discussion and refreshments will follow.

According to Cenacle spokesperson Shirley Grasso, \$3 will be requested of those attending to defray expenses. Reservations are made by calling Marlene Green, 265-9734, or Mr. and Mrs. Steve Murphy, 265-0925.

Diocese Schedules Fall Music Events

The Music Committee of the Diocesan Liturgical Commission has scheduled its Fall series of workshops and events for pastoral musicians.

A four-part series for organists, guitarists and cantors is scheduled from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 25 and continue Tuesdays, Oct. 9, 23 and Nov. 13 at St. Louis Church, 60 S. Main St., Pittsford. The sessions are designed to update and improve the musical skills of parish musicians. This series will be presented from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 17, at St. Mary Our Mother, Horseheads.

A day-long workshop will be offered Saturday, Oct. 20, at St. Mary's, Canandaigua. Tom Conry, a composer and musician from Portland, Ore., will address "Develop-

ing the Parish Music Program." The conference aims to aid musicians, liturgy committees and staff members in developing an effective liturgical music program.

The committee also is sponsoring Evening Prayer services at 4 p.m., Sundays, Oct. 14, Nov. 11 and Jan. 6 at Sacred Heart Cathedral. The services will offer an opportunity for people to come together to pray as well as to provide a model for celebration in the parish. A different choir and presider, drawn from parishes within the diocese, will lead the services.

Further information is available from the Liturgy Office, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624 (716)328-3210.

Fr. Shamon Homilist At 39th Red Mass

Father Albert J. Shamon will speak on "The Higher Law" at the 39th annual Red Mass at 12:15 p.m., Friday, Sept. 14, at Old St. Mary's Church. Bishop Matthew H. Clark will be celebrant of the Mass sponsored by the St. Thomas More Lawyers Guild.

Father Shamon is pastor of St. Mary's parish in Waterloo and has written the popular "Word for Sunday" column in the Courier-Journal since 1968. He also has written numerous articles on catechetics and moral theology, including "Behind the Mass," "First Steps to Sanctity," and "Catching Up on Catechetics." He taught at

Aquinas Institute, St. Andrew's Seminary and lectured widely on dogmatic and mystical theology.

William McGinn, guild president, said, "We are pleased to have Father Shamon as the homilist this year. His ties are particularly close to the legal community through the many lawyers in his family including two nephews and a brother who practiced in the Auburn area."

Deadline

The editorial deadline for the Courier-Journal is Thursday noon, preceding Wednesday publication.



RITA LEWIS

Rita Lewis To Become RSM Novice

Rita Lewis, 28, a nurse in Intensive and Coronary Care at St. Joseph's Hospital in Elmira since 1979, will be received as a novice into the congregation of the Sisters of Mercy, during a 3:30 p.m. prayer service, Saturday, Sept. 8 in the motherhouse chapel.

Miss Lewis is the daughter of Gerald and the late Gladys Lewis of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Elmira.

She is a 1974 graduate of Elmira Free Academy, and a 1979 graduate of St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing.

As a postulant last year she lived in her home parish convent.

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