

Old St. Mary's Slates Sesqui Lecture Series

"The Church on the Brink of the 21st Century: New and Enduring Questions," is the theme of a three-part fall series sponsored by St. Mary's Parish in its 150th year.

Father Walter J. Burghardt SJ, theologian in residence at Georgetown University, will be the first



FATHER BURGHARDT

speaker in the series. His address is entitled, "I Asked for Wonder... a Spirituality for the 80s," and will be given 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 29 at the church.

Father Burghardt, a noted teacher, writer, editor and lecturer, is a member of several distinguished theological societies. This year he was honored with the William Toohey CSC Award for Distinguished Preaching at the University of Notre Dame.

Other speakers in the series are Father Charles Curran, on "Morality, Legality, and Public Policy," Oct. 6; and Rosemary Haughton on "What It Means to Be Church: What We Are Called to as Community," Oct. 20.

Charismatic Mass

Ithaca — Father Paul Cloonan of Scipio Center will celebrate Mass for the Charismatic Renewal community, 7:30 p.m., Sept. 27 at Immaculate Conception Church.

The lecturers will also preach at all the weekend Masses: 4 p.m. Saturday; 8:30, 10 and 11:30 a.m. Sunday.

CWV Gets Federal Charter

Washington (NC) — Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America Inc. has been honored by Congress with a federal charter.

"Catholic war veterans everywhere are extremely pleased with our nation's honors of a federal charter," national commander David J. Zielinski said. "This is a recognition and tribute by our country for our 50 years of consistent dedication to the hospitalized veterans, our youth, senior citizens and the community."

Catholic War Veterans is the 59th organization nationally to receive the congressional honor.

The Washington-based organization, which will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 1985, serves hospitalized veterans in 65 veteran medical centers and 18 state veteran homes regardless of race or creed. It has a membership network in 21 states and 326 posts.

Speech Critiqued

Continued from Page 1. Georgetown University Sept. 18, praised Cuomo and the U.S. bishops for speaking out on the issue.

"I totally agree with what Gov. Cuomo is saying because what Gov. Cuomo is saying is what President Reagan is saying," he said, referring to protection of religious freedom.

Rep. Henry Hyde, R-Ill., planned to respond to Cuomo's speech with his own address Sept. 24 at Notre Dame's law school. Hyde called Cuomo's speech-making ability eloquent, inspiring and motivational, but said Cuomo's thinking was "both confused and incoherent."

Cuomo, a Catholic, maintained in the speech that while he personally opposes abortion, he must defend the constitutional guarantee of individual freedom.

He thrust himself into the forefront of the election-year debate on religion and politics in August by trading comments with Archbishop John O'Connor of New York on abortion.

At the time, Cuomo criticized a statement by Archbishop O'Connor asking how a Catholic in good conscience could vote for a pro-abortion candidate and accused the archbishop of trying to tell Catholics how to vote.

During his speech at Notre Dame, Cuomo said that because of subsequent talks with the archbishop, his initial impression "that official church spokespeople would ask Catholics to vote for or against a specific candidate" on abortion "was not accurate."

Cuomo also said he is not opposed to the U.S. bishops speaking out on politics. "God does not insist on neutrality," he said, adding that he agreed with an August statement by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops saying that it is not the bishops' place to

Sarah Child

All in the Family



Faces And Shoes

A little of this and some of that...

Hearing my husband tell the youngest when ole came in white bricks resembling lard with a little packet of coloring included set me off on a nostalgic trip. Sawdust on the meat market floor, radios four feet high, and long white cotton knit stockings worn my first winter in school are all things I'm glad to have left behind.

Unit-y Meets

A discussion entitled "Stress and Time Management as Related to Single People," will be the featured event of the next meeting of Unit-y, 2-5 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 7 at the Cenacle Renewal Center, 693 East Ave. According to spokesperson Steve Sagaties, the organization is for never-married Christian singles.

ME Information

Ithaca — A Marriage Encounter Information Night will be held 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 2 at 100 W. Seneca St.. The public is invited.

Just found a use for a loud rock station. It blocks out the sound of thunder which panics the dog.

As one who managed to feel both virtuous (for not spending the money) and guilty (for not spending the money) every time I passed a cosmetic counter, a recent report by health writer Jane Brody gave me pause.

With some 25,000 products to choose from, studies show the only known ingredients which can produce lasting benefits for a woman's skin is lanolin and petroleum jelly. I've a big jar of the latter, brand name Vaseline, which is also useful in cleaning leather shoes and purses. I guess that figures.

I read Ann Lander's advice to the new mother who wasn't getting any sleep, i.e. walking the floor prepares you for when they're teenagers and out late at night with the car. Sorry, Annie, nothing prepares you for that.

The tree company

which thins the foliage for the power lines was our in our backyard making sawdust out of our maples. I was about to go out and give them some lip until I glimpsed the tools they use: curved sabers on the end of 20-foot poles.

I've mislaid the letter from the East Rochester writer who grew up in Smethport. Mea Culpa. Please write again and include your phone number. I went to school with your cousin Bob.

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Bishop's Letter

Continued from Page 1.

to be a basic moral and religious principle of all social order.

Roman Catholic opposition to abortion is well-known. It is on this issue that one frequently hears the objection against legislating personal beliefs. Yet this continuing American tragedy claims the lives of more than one million unborn children each year. Protection of these innocent ones is hardly a matter of personal belief, but instead is a matter of deep public concern. I urge that in the course of your consideration of this issue that you note the advances in medical technology that have occurred in the years since the 1973 Supreme Court decision. I suggest that even the most ardent supporters of abortion rights need to ponder the implications of the ability of the unborn child to survive outside the womb before the start of the third trimester. Despite this the unborn child is devoid of rights including that which is most fundamental, the right to life.

There may be numerous political strategies to mitigate this tragedy, including taking steps toward eliminating the societal causes that lead to abortion and toward providing support for pregnant women in need. While I do not pretend to possess expertise in the area of political strategy, I do urge you to make the protection of the rights of the unborn a priority.

Just over a year ago, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops published a carefully developed perspective on the arms race. As I support this view fully, I am saddened that we have made no progress in recent years in reversing the dangerous competition. With my brother bishops I support our nation's right to defend itself. At the same time I hold grave moral reservations about policies that seek nuclear superiority over our international rivals. Such efforts grasp at illusory goals, and serve both to heighten tensions and to intensify the arms competition. Again, I do not pretend to possess the political expertise to reverse the arms race, and to repair relations with the Soviet Union. Yet I implore you, on behalf of current and future generations, to recognize your role and provide bi-partisan leadership to reverse the nuclear arms race and insure the survival of the world's people.

Finally, I call your attention to my concern for economic justice. It will be the subject of a major U.S. bishops' pastoral letter to be issued in 1985, and the pastoral will necessarily demonstrate, as does all Catholic social justice teaching, a particular concern for the poor. Accordingly, I am troubled by the United States Census Bureau's reports indicating a persistent increase in the number of Americans who fall below the poverty line. That this figure continues to increase even after some sectors of the economy recover from recession reaffirms the wisdom of the position that government must exercise a positive role in advocating for the poor. It is not enough to let the market work as it will. Poverty and unemployment rob people of their human dignity. It is imperative that the disturbing trend finding more and more Americans victimized by these circumstances be reversed. I urge you, therefore, to make the plight of the 35.3 million poor Americans one of your abiding concerns, and to seek to promote positive actions by our government that would serve them.

In closing let me state without equivocation that I raise these concerns not out of a spirit of political partisanship, but out of a concern for issues that are pressing on the very soul of our nation. If we fail to take positive action to change the course our nation is now on with regard to each of the concerns I have mentioned, I fear for our future. If on the other hand, we are able to build a future where all human life is respected, where international peace is a treasured value worthy of our most energetic efforts, and where our poor sisters and brother are the subjects of our service and not the objects of our derision, then we will have taken bold steps toward the realization of the ideals that are deeply embedded in our American heritage and in our nation's varied religious traditions. I encourage you to work for the construction of such a future.

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