

Sarah Child



All in the Family

Trip Over, Inspiration Persists

A trip can be a wonderful thing. I have returned from our two weeks in Italy fired with enthusiasm, full of good intentions. I promise myself that I will learn Italian, simultaneously bone up on European history and in between write a specialized cookbook of Mediterranean specialties.

The language should be a snap, I decided. After all, it is in my blood. I grew up hearing one set of grandparents speak nothing else. I've had several years of Spanish which is similar and, most important, I think I have the accent as demonstrated in one very useful phrase which I acquired several trips ago.

"Come se chiama questa?" I asked several times a day, pointing to an exotic dessert, a flowering plant or an unidentified monument. Back would come the answer in a lyrical spate of vowels that enlightened me not at all but convinced me I was taken for a native.

To learn ITALIAN Italian, I hope to find a taxi driver akin to the one who drove my husband and me north from Sor-

rento to Caserta on a personal quest. Sometimes he started a sentence in English and concluded in Italian. Sometimes the reverse. Often he would alternate whole sentences. At the end of eight hours in his company, I found I understood far more than I had in an adult education class I had once taken where the teacher had insisted on explaining tenses, syntax and other superficial points.

Starting my history regimen, I opened the Encyclopedia Britannica to Frederick II who held, among other titles, that of Holy Roman Emperor, King of Jerusalem and King of Sicily. Alas, at the end of the first half hour I faced one sad fact. It is just as difficult now keeping the Fredericks and the Henrys and the Louises straight as it was when I was in high school. Too bad, more royals didn't follow Charlemagne's parents' lead and give their darlings distinctive names.

The cookbook I have high hopes for. I plan to cajole my sister Thom to be co-author. One of those inspired cooks who can take three cabbage leaves and two potatoes and produce ambrosia, she's just the one to translate my fond memories into workable recipes.

L'Osservatore Romano Asserts Surrogate Motherhood Wrong

By Agostino Bono
Vatican City (NC) — Using a surrogate mother to have a child is morally wrong because it violates "the biological and spiritual union of the parents," said an editorial in the Sept. 26 Vatican newspaper, L'Osservatore Romano.

The editorial, titled, "Regarding the Question of Mothers for Rent," advocated adoption or dedication to the children of others as a solution for couples with biological or medical impediments to having children.

"Church teachings exclude every procreative intervention which is not tied to the biological and spiritual union of the parents," said the editorial, signed by Father Gino Concetti, an Italian moral theologian.

"To commission a woman, married or unmarried, with the task of conceiving and managing maternity for a sterile or even unsterile couple wanting to have children, contradicts the fundamental ethical statute of marriage as designed by God," the editorial said.

Surrogate motherhood provides for a woman to be artificially inseminated with the sperm of the father, carry a baby to term, and then give it up to the father and his spouse. In some cases, surrogate mothers provide the service for pay.

The editorial added that Pope John Paul II stated church opposition to surrogate mothers in an Oct. 29, 1983, speech to the World Medical Association.

The pope did not specifically mention surrogate motherhood during that talk, in which he addressed genetic manipulation in general.

However, in speaking of solutions to medical pro-

blems, he said "we have only to think of the handicap of definitive physical sterility, for which some couples find compensation in adoption or in devoting themselves to others' children."

He also warned against

genetic "intervention" harming "the origin of human life" which is "procreation linked not only with the biological but also the spiritual union of the parents, united by the bond of marriage."

Father Gusmer to Speak On RCIA for Children

Father Charles Gusmer will present a workshop, "Along the Way: The Journey of the Baptized, Uncatechized Child," 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 18 at the Church of the Assumption of Our Lady in Fairport.

The workshop is sponsored by the Office of Religious Education and is aimed at religious education personnel, parish teams and RCIA coordinators.

Father Gusmer will address the issue of adapting the process of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults for children who have been baptized but have not received religious education.

"As more and more parishes are renewed through the RCIA process, such children are coming forward to enter religious education programs, and also to seek the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist," a diocesan release stated.

Father Gusmer will be assisted by Sister Maria Anna Stelmach OP who has directed such a program at her parish in Baltimore. The two will lead the participants through an experience of information and reflection to consider how to prepare these children for reception of sacraments, how to celebrate the journey of faith of these children, and how the RCIA can serve as a model throughout the process, the diocese said.

Father Gusmer is professor of Liturgy and Sacramental Theology at Immaculate Conception Seminary in Mahwah, N.J. He also serves on the editorial board of Sadlier Publication's "Christian Initiation Resources," and is author of many articles related to the RCIA.

Further information and pre-registration is available by contacting the Office of Religious Education, (716) 328-3210.

Canada Gives Boot To Tony Alamo Trio

By NC News Service

Three members of the Tony and Susan Alamo Christian Foundation have been told to leave Canada for distributing anti-Catholic literature, and a New York firm charged that a photo of the pope appearing on the cover of one of the leaflets was used illegally.

An immigration judge in Edmonton, Alberta, told the three Arkansas men, who were stopped for "transportation of illegally imported

goods," to leave Canada by Oct. 1.

But they will not be charged with possession or distribution of hate literature because it was felt the charges would not stand up in court, said John Scrimshaw, executive assistant to Attorney General Neil Crawford.

The three foundation members were identified as Alan Lee Knetter, Douglas Joseph Pendleton and John Joseph Kiel.

Debra Allan, an immigration official, said the three crossed the border illegally the evening of Sept. 13. Immigration officials alerted Edmonton city police, who arrested the three Sept. 14, two days before Pope John Paul II's arrival in the city.

Two men were caught leaving their motel to distribute the literature. A third was picked up at a city shopping mall distributing leaflets in a parking lot, Ms. Allan said.

DEATHS

Sister Catherine Sullivan SSJ

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated of Sister Catherine Sullivan of the Sisters of St. Joseph Sept. 30. Sister Catherine died Sept. 27, 1984.

The principal celebrant of the Mass was Bishop Thomas Larkin of St. Petersburg, Fla. He was assisted by Msgr. William Shannon. Also present were Fathers Chester Klock and William Gordnier.

Sister Catherine (formerly

Emile G. Eckert

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Sept. 26 for Emile G. Eckert who died Sept. 22, 1984. The rites were celebrated at St. Andrew's Church for Mr. Eckert, an active member of Commandery 39 Knights of St. John, who died at the age of 87.

Mr. Eckert had been a member of the organization for 67 years and held posts on the local, state and national levels.

Sister Mary Timothy died unexpectedly. She was shortly to have celebrated her 74th birthday. She was in the 57th year of her religious life.

Sister Catherine entered the congregation from Bridgeport, Conn in 1928. She received her teacher education at Nazareth Normal School. She taught in a number of diocesan schools over a period of about 37 years. Among the schools are St. Ambrose, Rochester;

Holy Trinity, Webster; St. Mary, Auburn; St. Patrick, Mt. Morris; Holy Rosary, Rochester.

She retired from active teaching in 1968 and took a course in nurse's aide work and worked in the congregational infirmary. She fully retired in 1974.

She is survived by a sister, Mrs. John (Mary) Stafford of Bridgeport; and several cousins.

For many years he was president of the commandery. He also served as regimental adjutant and was colonel of the Rochester regiment. For four years he was president of the New York Grand Commandery and a vice president of the Supreme Commandery, which he later served as inspector general.

A sports enthusiast, he participated as a player and coach in various baseball,

basketball and football teams, and, in the words of his friends, "was a better than average bowler."

In 1918 he formed the Rochester Book Bindery, a firm he headed until it disbanded in 1976.

He is survived by his wife, Olive Schultheis Eckert; a son, Eugene; five grandchildren, one great grand child, one brother and one sister.

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