

Mercy Union Leader To Address Sisters

Sister Helen Amos RSM, president of the Sisters of Mercy of the Union, will join the Rochester Sisters of Mercy Dec. 8 as the local congregation discusses leadership in religious life.

The day also will commemorate the founding of

Camp Reunion

The second annual reunion for counselors at Camp Stella Maris will begin 3 p.m., Friday, Nov. 23. The event features Mass, social hour, dinner and a program on camp history and future. Tickets to the event are \$10 per person. Further details and registration are available by calling the camp office, (716) 346-2243.

the Mercy order in Dublin, Ireland, Dec. 12, 1831.

According to Sister Audrey Synnott, spokesperson for the event, "Sister Helen will assist in the clarification of concepts and qualities of leadership for both congregational and Church leadership for the 80s, 90s, and the 21st century." The topic is the focus of the Rochester congregation's 1985 chapter, she said.

She described a chapter as "a special calling together of the sisters to consider matters of governance."

Sister Jean Marie Kearse, superior general of the Rochester Mercies, said chapter proceedings give each sister an opportunity to offer her "best thought, prayer

and presence" to the common effort of determining governmental structures best suited for the congregation's future needs and ministries.

Sister Helen is "well qualified to help sisters clarify the elements of leadership," Sister Audrey said. "Her present position reflects a growth in creative responsibility that has marked all of her religious life."

Sister Helen was elected provincial administrator of the Baltimore Province of her congregation in 1979. She has also served as president of the Federation of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas and she chairs its constitutions committee.

Her Dec. 8 presentation will set out some considerations for creative leadership in religious life during the next few decades, Sister Audrey said. The congregation will then be called on to discuss the rights and responsibilities of leaders in religious congregations, and



SISTER HELEN

"the creative vision leaders are called to bring to the service of the Church and to the broader Mercy community in the Americas and beyond."

Sister Helen will also help with small group discussions in which sisters will deliberate matters pertaining to the local group.

The day will close with a consideration of immediate specific actions in the Rochester congregation's election process. A new superior general and council will be named in April 1985.

Rosary Rallies Will Continue

In an effort to maintain the momentum of the recent national crusade of rosaries for peace sponsored by the Blue Army of Our Lady of Fatima, rosary rallies will be held on a regular basis around the country.

In Rochester, Mrs. Mary Kelly said last week, the first such rally will begin at noon, Saturday, Dec. 1 at Holy Rosary Church.

Msgr. Emmett Murphy, she said, would lead the procession, preside at the Mass and celebrate benediction.

Mrs. Kelly is president of the local chapter of the Blue Army and national secretary of the group.

The recent national crusade, led by Bishop Constantino Luna, recently drew several thousand diocesans to the Community War Memorial and to Sacred Heart Cathedral for prayers for peace.

Cancer Council Asks Volunteers

Newark — The United Cancer Council is seeking volunteers to work with the Genesee Region Home Care Association as members of the Hospice Team serving patients and families in their homes.

A three-week training program for interested person begins Nov. 27 and consists of twice weekly evening sessions and an all-day workshop.

Organizers are seeking men and women "able to offer support and encouragement in times of great stress; able to perform simple tasks requested by the patient's family; to give family members needed respite by staying with the patient; and provide a sounding board for patient concerns."

Volunteers are being sought throughout Wayne County.

Further information and application to the program is available by contacting Marilyn Pusateri, program director, or Sue Avedisian, 9 a.m.-noon, weekdays except Thursdays, at (315) 331-4147.

The council offices are at 510 W. Union St., Newark, N.Y.

Focus Rites

Focus on the Eucharist will be held 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 6 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. Evening Prayer and rosary precede the Mass. A meditation time will close with benediction time. Father Salem Faddoul will preside at the Mass.

Fr. Albert Shamon



Word for Sunday

'Little' Things Mean so Much

Sunday's Readings: (R3) Mt. 25/31-46. (R1) Ez. 34/11-12, 15-17. (R2) 1 Cor. 15/20-26, 28.

Vince Lombardi in the 1960s was an eminently successful professional football coach. When asked how he produced winning teams, he answered, "Concentration on the 'little things' of the game, the fundamentals, like — blocking, tackling, kicking, passing, pass-patterns."

After a close game won by his Green Bay Packers, Lombardi called a special session for Monday morning. He felt his men were losing sight of the small details that guaranteed victory. Appearing before his players, Lombardi held a football high above his head and announced, "Men, we need to review the basics of the game. This is a football."

Max McGee, so the story goes, drawled, "That's a little fast, coach. Go over that again."

This week's gospel tells how "little things," the fundamentals are important — so important that eternity can hinge on them. "As often as you did it for one of my least brothers..." Of course big things are important, but not to the exclusion of the small ministrations to the least ones. The nations of the world will be divided into sheep and goats on the basis of their treatment of the least, defined as brothers of the Judge. Sheep and goats are obviously the saved and the lost at the Last Judgment. But who are the least brothers?

We can lump the least into the economically poor of the world. If we do, then we are to follow the example of Jesus who ministered to the poor and the outcasts of His own society. Jesus identifies Himself with every other human being, whether Christian or not, who objectively needs help. He doesn't say whether or not the hungry, naked, homeless, imprisoned are Christian. They are in need and that alone qualifies

them for a Christian response. A dying thief cried for help. The cry alone was enough to elicit a response from Jesus.

Or we can lump the least as missionaries sent to preach the gospel to all nations and those nations be divided into sheep and goats according to their reception of the missionaries. Matthew called disciples "lowly ones" and "little ones." Since the disciples are the agents of Jesus, an act of kindness to them is regarded as an act of kindness to Jesus. The disciples, in this interpretation, then, are not a part of the judgment proceedings but are standing to one side.

The Son of Man divides the peoples of the nations on the basis of their reception or rejection of Him through His agents or disciples — the least ones. Those who have given the disciples hospitality are declared blessed; those who have refused are condemned."

In "East of Suez," W. Somerset Maugham portrays a Chinese woman as saying:

"I know plenty about Christianity. My father velly poor man. He say, you go and be Christian. I go Catholic mission and they baptize me. English Church missionary, he come along and say, Catholic mission no good, you go hell. I baptize you. By and by Baptist missionary come along and say, English Church mission no go, you go to hell, I baptize you. By and by Presbyterian missionary come along and say, Baptist mission no good, you go to hell, I baptize you. All right, I say, you baptize me. I been baptized one, two, three, four, five times. I velly Christian woman. They all say to poor Chinese, love one another. I no think missionaries love one another velly much."

Whosoever the least be, the sins condemned are sins of omission, not commission. The goats have not oppressed or persecuted the least. They simply ignored them, as Dives did Lazarus. They did not reject the faith — they ignored it.



"Sunny" applies her makeup during a clown training session.

Nazareth Clowns Ready to Serve

Two dozen Nazareth Academy students have formed themselves into Nazareth's Clown Brigade, and as an outgrowth of the Youth Ministry Board, are offering their services to "carry cheer and good wishes to those who need a little laughter in their lives," Sister Carol Cimino SSJ, school development director, said recently.

The students "have spent many hours learning how to apply clown makeup, tie balloons into various exotic shapes, and generally cause mayhem when they get together to perform," Sister Carol said.

The students were organized and trained by Sister

Donna Marie Cucci SSJ, herself a clown.

"Sometimes it's only through the medium of clowning that you can reach people," Sister Donna Marie said recently. "Many times people will respond to other people only through the makeup and costumes and the simple humor of clowning," she said.

The group entertains for local nursing homes, children's wards and early childhood programs. The clowns are available to bring cheer to anyone in need, Sister Carol said.

Sister Donna Marie may be reached by calling Nazareth, 458-8583.



Exchange Student

Aysegul Samsunlu holds a calendar from Nazareth Academy which she is attending this year. Miss Samsunlu, a native Izmir, Turkey, is an exchange student and guest of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Peró of Irondequoit, whose daughter, Ann, is a Nazareth Junior.

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