

# WME Plans to Honor Couple Wed 74 Years

Salvatore and Marie Trobia of Rochester, married March 19, 1910 in Caltanissetta, Sicily, have been identified by Worldwide Marriage Encounter as the world's longest married couple.

The Trobias will be honored at a reception, 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 27 at Deacon's Family Center.

The WME program is geared to celebrate World Marriage Day, Feb. 18 this year. The Trobias were identified with the help of local media in November, 1983.

More than 150 couples were nominated in the program, and the nominations represent more than 100 years of married life.

All of the nominated couples are also slated to be listed in the Rochester World Marriage Day is sponsored by WME and is dedicated to promoting the positive values of marriage, the release said.



# Diocesan Meetings On Women's Role Asked by Bishops

Washington (NC) -- The bishops' committee drafting a national pastoral letter on women is asking bishops across the country to hold diocesan-level consultations with women in 1985.

The committee, headed by Bishop Joseph Imesch of Joliet, Ill., has scheduled a national hearing March 4-5 in Washington.

(Bishop Matthew H. Clark is a member of the committee. Dr. Toinette Eugene of Colgate-Rochester Divinity School is a consultant.)

Catholic groups ranging from the Catholic Daughters of America to the Women's Ordination Conference are being invited to give testimony at that meeting.

The purpose of the consultations will be to determine what issues women want addressed in the pastoral letter.

Msgr. Daniel Hoye, general secretary of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, announced the committee decisions Dec. 18. He said Bishop Imesch would write to the bishops to suggest that they hold local hearings and to offer ideas for conducting them.

At a meeting of the drafting committee and its consultants in November, it was agreed that the success of the pastoral letter depends heavily on the process behind it, and that this should begin with what women themselves feel and experience. But the process should also engage the attention of men, including priests and bishops, the committee said.

Msgr. Hoye said that organizations which participated in a two-day "Workshop on Women" with bishops in November 1983 would be invited to participate in the March national hearing.

Those groups were the Daughters of Isabella, National Association of Religious Women, Catholic Daughters of America, Las Hermanas, Women's Auxiliary of the Knights of St. Peter Claver, National Black Sisters Conference, the U.S. Bishops' Advisory Council and secretariat for the laity, the National Council of Catholic Women, Leadership Conference of Women Religious and Women's Ordination Conference.

# Expelled U. S. Priest Protests Chilean Torture

Chicago (NC) -- U.S. Columban Father Dennis O'Mara, expelled by Chile's military government Dec. 27 for protesting alleged torture of political prisoners, called his expulsion a sign of the government's commitment to "maintaining control by spreading fear and terror."

"It is as important to their system as it is in Russia or Poland -- so they protect their torturers and take harsh measures against those who protest against torture. Too many have washed their hands like Pilate," he said.

Father O'Mara arrived in Chicago Dec. 28 to be with his mother, Ellen, and brother, Steven.

He had been arrested in Santiago, Chile, Dec. 24 for passing out Christmas cards asking "for a Christmas without Herod, for a New Year without torture." The government released an Irish priest and two nuns who had been arrested along with Father O'Mara.

(Sister Janet Korn RSM, former Rochester missionary to Chile, last week described Father O'Mara, as a "peach, a swell guy, a gentle man." The priest worked in a parish adjacent to that in which the Rochester Sisters of Mercy are stationed.)

Father O'Mara said his involvement in peaceful demonstrations in Chile resulted in five arrests, being sprayed with water cannons, being tear-gassed, being hit by a policeman and finally being expelled from the country.

"My part in the anti-torture group has greatly affected me as a person. The people in the group are so special to me -- singing at the top of our voices, 'no more torture' outside the government offices, sharing the dangers and taking the risks, sharing the joking and making the best of it and praying together in jail," he said. "I remember the goodness of these men and women."

Father O'Mara said he has been involved in the movement against torture since May 1983, when he attended a church meeting where a doctor testified that two union leaders had been tortured.

Father Michael O'Loughlin, justice and peace coordinator for the Columban Fathers in the United States, said Jan. 2 he would formally protest the deportation of Father O'Mara.

"We feel it's just another instance in the whole area of harassment of priests and religious" working for justice and human rights in Chile, Father O'Loughlin said.

Father O'Mara, ordained a Columban priest in 1961, was assigned to work in Chile in 1978 and has been working in Santiago slums since then.

# 'Gleam of Hope'

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of public studies by the Pontifical Academy of Sciences on the dangers of nuclear war.

Last October, the Pontifical Academy of Sciences gathered 35 scientists from 15 countries for a papally sponsored meeting to discuss military and scientific aspects of space technology. Although the final report of the meeting had not been released as of Jan. 1, one speech released leveled strong criticism of space-based defense systems.

U.S. physicist Richard L. Garwin told the 35 scientists that space-based satellite defense systems would not be an effective deterrent against attack by a major nuclear power.

Such space defenses would "lead to the perfection of anti-satellite systems which could produce near-instant destruction of those satellite systems," said Garwin. The scientist is an adjunct professor of physics at Columbia University in New York and a staff member of International Business Machines Corp.'s Thomas J. Watson Research Center in Yorktown Heights, N.Y.

"The dream of security under a defense system so powerful that one could ignore tens of thousands of nuclear warheads would be replaced by a reality far more frightening than the present system of deterrence," Garwin said. The Star Wars concept would spawn "modernized and strengthened strategic offensive forces" and opposing defense systems "clearly more effective in countering a retaliatory strike than in nullifying a first strike," he said.

# College To Note Martyr's Dates

St. John Fisher College will celebrate the 450th anniversary of St. John Fisher's martyrdom and the 50th anniversary of his canonization with a number of events this year.

An academic convocation with appropriate pageantry will be held 7:30 p.m., Jan. 30 in the varsity gymnasium. The event will feature music, a procession, and an address by Professor John J. Scarisbrick, an English scholar, whose title is "St. John Fisher and King Henry VIII: The Story of a Confrontation." He will also receive an honorary degree.

Father Joseph B. Dorsey CSB will also receive an honorary degree then and will deliver a short presentation on St. John Fisher's legacy. Father Dorsey has long held posts at the college and is a member of its board of trustees.

Other events on the year's agenda include a Renaissance Dinner, a special Mass on the anniversary date of St. John Fisher's death in June and an academic symposium in the fall.

# Photo Exhibit At Arts Center

Color photographs of local landscapes by Lawrence Merrill will be on display at the Nazareth Arts Center Little Gallery through Friday, Jan. 18.

Merrill is adjunct instructor in art at Nazareth College. His photos depict scenes from Monroe County parks. He received a grant from the county, Arts for Greater Rochester and the State Council on the Arts to produce the exhibit.

The Little Gallery is open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays.

# Jackson to Pope: South Africa Needs Your Inspiration

Rome (NC) -- Pope John Paul II should visit South Africa "because his presence there would serve to inspire people" fighting against apartheid, said the Rev. Jesse Jackson Jan. 3 after a 20-minute meeting with the pope.

Mr. Jackson was accompanied at the meeting by Auxiliary Bishop Emerson Moore of New York, also an outspoken foe of apartheid, the white-minority government's policy of strict racial segregation.

Because of the pope's stated opposition to apartheid, a South African visit "would have a most profound impact in mobilizing the moral forces of the world to measure human rights by one yardstick," said Mr. Jackson, a black U.S. Baptist minister, at a press conference after the meeting.

"This is an activist pope and his actions often have more impact than his words," Mr. Jackson added. "In him the word becomes flesh."

The Vatican announced the Jan. 3 meeting but did not give details about what was discussed. It was Mr. Jackson's second papal meeting.

Mr. Jackson would not say what the pope's reaction was to the suggestion to visit South Africa.

"It would be appropriate for the pope to respond to that" at a time suitable to him, said Mr. Jackson.

Bishop Moore said the meeting was mostly "a listening session by the pope." Bishop Moore added that he accompanied Mr. Jackson because as "a black Catholic bishop I support the concerns raised by Mr. Jackson." These issues cross religious boundaries, he added.

"I make his Rainbow Coalition ecumenical," said Bishop Moore, who was recently arrested outside the South African Consulate in New York in an anti-apartheid protest.

# Sarah Child



All in the Family

# He Paints Peaceably Who Paints Alone

The week before Christmas we had a painter come in and give the family room and kitchen fresh coats of paint. Somebody pointed out that we could have done it ourselves and used the money to replace the white sofa in the living room long since savaged by dogs and kids.

The idea was tempting, particularly after a new set of throw pillows failed to cover the ravages of teenage parties and dog snoozes.

But I resisted. What were a few dog hairs and onion dip stains when weighed against the greater desire of keeping my marriage intact?

After 21 years of wedlock, I know what most endangers wedded harmony and it has nothing to do with the kind of fooling around they feature in those nighttime soap operas.

New wives who think problems come in the shape of comely blondes who weigh 10 pounds less than they would be wise to re-evaluate marriage's real trouble spots.

Shaky ground is what you'll find yourself on if

you insist on too much togetherness -- particularly in chores around the house, such as painting, papering or even putting up the Christmas tree.

No doubt there are couples who can work harmoniously together, but we are not one of them. Compromise? Ha. The last time we compromised, we ended up painting the bedroom red and covering the floor in the same color because what else goes with it?

At least in the bedroom we had a little space in which to work. It was papering the downstairs powder room that almost wrote finish to our association. Two days together in a space 4 x 5 is conducive to nothing except maybe mayhem.

When the painter came to start the family room walls, I thanked him and apologized for taking him away from his family just before the holidays.

"No problem," he said and went on to explain that they had just moved to a new house and his wife was busy settling in, choosing paint colors and new wallpaper.

"You'll do it together, I suppose," I said.

He gave me a look. "You kiddin'? When I work, I work alone."

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