

Activities Around the Diocese

Seminar focuses on politics, Catholic morality

The St. Thomas More Lawyers Guild's fall seminar will be Friday, Oct. 18, 8 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Holidome and Convention Center, 1111 Jefferson Road, Rochester.

The topic is "Morality and the Catholic Politician — a response to Governor Cuomo." The speaker will be Father Francis Canavan, SJ, professor of political science at Fordham University. Father Canavan holds degrees in philosophy and theology and a doctorate in political science.

The seminar is designed as a Catholic response to a highly publicized address Gov. Cuomo made to the theology department of Notre Dame University prior to last year's presidential election. The governor spoke of the Catholic politician's responsibility in a pluralistic society in dealing with such diverse political issues as divorce, birth control, nuclear war, economic justice, the 'right to die,' artificial insemination, embryos conceived *in vitro* and abortion.

In regard to abortion, the governor expressed a moral justification for Catholic



politicians who, like himself and former vice presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro, while personally agreeing that fetal life should be protected, nevertheless feel obligated to maintain a public position of inaction and even support for legalized abortion.

According to William P. Polito, and Robert J. Edelman, co-chairmen of the event and former presidents of the guild, the guild directors felt that the extensive media coverage given to Gov. Cuomo's statement created confusion among Catholics and the public. Although a few dissident theologians immediately gave support to Gov. Cuomo's position, the mainstream response of the Catholic Church seemed to be a rejection of such political inaction. Instead, Church leaders continued to urge all politicians to support and work for the passage of protective laws for the unborn.

"The identification and application of those moral rules to political responsibility necessary to protect innocent human life have taken even more significant proportion ... in view of the recent vocal support of some segments of society and organizations in favor of the legalization of 'mercy killing' of the elderly," Edelman said.

Members of the public are invited to attend the seminar at no charge.



Mercy Homecoming

The Alumnae Board of Our Lady of Mercy High School has announced plans for its annual Homecoming Banquet, Saturday, Oct. 19.

Homecoming begins at 3 p.m. at the school, 1437 Blossom Road. Ten classes will be honored at the banquet, which begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Wishing Well Restaurant. Dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$15 per person.

Pictured above are Mercy Alumnae Board officers for 1985-86: (from left) Mary Kay Schuler Motesbocker '75, vice president; Mary Foss Parsons '76, recording secretary; Sr. Marguerite Whalen '35, moderator; Dorothy Thompson '47, co-president; Marilyn Leo Schicker '62, treasurer; Kathleen Spiegel Borkhuis '66, co-president, Chris Kramer Doyle '69, corresponding secretary.

Pastoral Letter Dramatized at St. Bridget's

A dramatization of the Appalachian bishops' pastoral letter "This Land is Home to Me" will be presented Tuesday, Oct. 22, at 7:30 p.m. in St. Bridget's Church.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the document, signed by both Bishop Matthew H. Clark and Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, which describes the oppression of Appalachians resulting from the demand for coal.

Lou Buttino is editing and directing the

production, which is one of two events sponsored by the Genesee Valley Office of Social Ministry during Peace with Justice Week, Oct. 19-25.

"The message and implications of this letter are easily transferred to oppressive situations the world over," said Sister Christine Wagner, justice and peace director of the Genesee Valley office. "It seemed an appropriate message to highlight during this week."

Members of the public are invited to attend the seminar at no charge.

Series on Aging

St. Mary's Church, Elmira, in conjunction with the Mercy Center with the Aging, is presenting a family education series on aging.

The series will be conducted by Sisters Anne Maloy, RSM, and Gratia L'Esperance, RSM, of the Mercy Center. Registration will

be at a registration table in the back of church after all of St. Mary's Masses October 19 and 20. A \$5 donation is requested to cover the costs of an information packet. Those who cannot register in person for the series, may call Jerry Harrington, St. Mary's director of religious education, at (607)734-5220.

Church History Series

Liz Maurer, director of religious education at Blessed Sacrament Church, is presenting a five-part series on church history. Meetings

Secular Franciscans

St. Patrick's Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order will meet Sunday, Oct. 20, at Aquinas Institute, 1127 Dewey Ave.

Novice instruction will take place at 1:15 p.m., with recitation of the rosary at 1:30 and Mass at 2 p.m.

will be on Wednesday evenings from 7:30-9:30 p.m. in the school.

Participants will study the following eras, giving special attention to the people, the issues of the time, and the ways in which they were resolved: "The Middle Ages and Scholasticism — 700-1300 A.D.;" "The Reformation and Our Response — 1300-1800 A.D.;" "The Events Leading up to Vatican II — 1800-1960;" and "Vatican II, the Continuing Vision — 1960-present."

To register, call Maurer at (716)442-7517. The fee is \$10 for the series, which began Oct. 16.

Adult Education Programs

Mother of Sorrows Adult Education Committee will sponsor "Changing Lifestyles through the Eyes of Teens" Sunday, Oct. 20. Angelo Gallo, regional director of the Ministry to Separated, Divorced, Bereaved and Remarried Catholics, and a panel of teenagers will share presentations.

"Caring for Aging Parents" will be offered Tuesday, Oct. 22. Stan and Pat Donals will share their experience with an aging parent, along with speakers from St. Ann's Home/the Heritage, Catholic Family Center and St. John's Home.

The church hall, 5000 Mt. Read Blvd., will be the site for both programs, which begin at 7:30 p.m.

Seniors' Camp

Another seniors' vacation camp is planned at Camp Stella Maris Tuesday to Thursday, Oct. 22-24. Geared to the interests and abilities of people aged 50 to 85, activities include boating, fishing, handicrafts, games, dancing and dramatics.

The \$40 fee covers meals, lodging in the main building, snacks, entertainment and instruction. Contact Florence Mauro or Raymond Tette at (716)346-2243 for more information.

Father Patrick Braden retiring from St. John Fisher next year

At the October 8 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of St. John Fisher College, college President Father Patrick O. Braden, CSB, advised the board of his intention to retire from college administration, effective no later than August 1, 1986.

Father Braden noted that during the past 19 years he has served two presidencies — the University of St. Thomas, Houston, and St. John Fisher — and that he will be 62 in February, 1986. He said he would like to return to teaching, study and research. He expressed his continuing interest in the problems of hunger in Third World countries, and the need there for educational and technological development.

Father Braden, appointed without term in 1980 as Fisher's third president and now serving his sixth year, stated: "I have accomplished most of the goals I established for myself as president, including raising Fisher to a graduate-level institution with a successful MBA program, and I feel that we have many sound programs for the future well under way. With faculty initiative and trustee support, other academic achievements in recent years, including majors in international studies, computer science and gerontology are all doing well. We are addressing the need for more dormitory capacity and are planning a hoped-for college union, which would provide a meet-

ing area and activity center for the college. The dormitory will be built immediately, and the college union is under intense study now by the trustees and the administration.

"When I came to Rochester in 1980," Father Braden continued, "the greatest threat to Fisher's future was the potential serious decline in college enrollment in the Northeast. However, we are now well into that projected period of decline, and Fisher's strength as a liberal arts college with recognized professional and pre-professional degree programs has enabled us to maintain the enrollment. I am now persuaded that from our sound position, both academically and fiscally, Fisher can look to a robust future. At this time the college needs a president who can make a longer commitment than I can to oversee its continued academic and financial development during the next several years."

James D. Ryan, chairman of the Fisher board of trustees, said, "Father Pat can look back with great pride on his many accomplishments. Members of the board and myself regret his leaving Fisher and appreciate the many contributions he brought to Fisher. Father Braden realized the great need for Fisher to dramatically increase its endowment fund and to enlarge its dormitory facilities, and these needs are being addressed. We will miss Father Braden's finely tuned wit, keen sense of humor and ability to hone in on the nature of problems. But we must respect his wishes and will begin now to search for new leadership that can continue to direct St. John Fisher College to fulfill its mission of excellence."

Finger Lakes DSW Events

Divorced, Separated and Widowed Ministry plans a number of events this month in the Finger Lakes region.

On Saturday, Oct. 19, events include: a regional meeting at Wells College; fall get-together, St. Francis DeSales Church, Geneva, 6:30 p.m.; continental breakfast at the Federated Church in Ovid.

Volunteers are needed for a Halloween

TGIF to be hosted by the Finger Lakes group Friday, Oct. 25, in Rochester. A Halloween drop-in is also planned at St. Francis DeSales in Geneva Saturday, Oct. 26.

For information on these and other events, call Carl, (315)789-2686; Art, day: (315)789-3200 or evening-789-6367; or Ruth, (716)394-1953.

Mime Presentation

The Youtheatre Program of Nazareth Arts Center presents "Mask and Mime with Fintushel," a series of short pieces from the repertoire of mime Eliot Fintushel, Saturday, Oct. 19, 1 and 3 p.m. in the Small Auditorium of the Arts Center.

Fintushel, artistic director of the MIMeworkshop, takes mime a step beyond

the traditions of silence and white-face. He performs clown theater, illusionary mime and even a sing-along in this 40-minute performance.

Tickets for the performances are \$1.50 and go on sale one hour before each show. For information, contact the box office, 4245 East Ave., or call (716)596-2420.

Infant Screening Clinic

A special clinic designed to detect communication problems in children from birth to three years will celebrate its 1,000th evaluation Thursday, Oct. 17.

The Infant Screening Clinic of Nazareth College's Speech and Hearing Program,

which began in 1977, will offer free tests from 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 1-3 p.m.

Babysitting services are available for other children. Appointments may be scheduled by calling (716)586-2525, ext. 314. Later clinics are planned November 19 and March 6.

Golden Age Luncheon

St. Mary's Golden Age Committee plans a pass-the-dish luncheon Thursday, Oct. 17, at noon in the Marian Centre on Franklin

Street. Meat, beverage and entertainment are provided, but bring table service.

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