

Parish Notes

Genesee Valley

Pro-life Essay Contest

St. Thomas the Apostle, Rochester — Monroe County high school students are invited to participate in an essay contest sponsored by the parish's pro-life group. Students are asked to write between 350 and 1,000 words, imagining that they were

Haiti Trip Postponed

St. Joseph's, Penfield — A group of 11 parishioners planning a working mission retreat to Haiti have decided to postpone the trip temporarily because of the country's unstable condition. After consulting with the U.S. State Department, Father James Moynihan, the pastor who was scheduled to lead the retreat, believes the situation is too dangerous at present.

Reconciliation Series

St. Christopher, North Chili — Father Joe Brennen will lead the first of a five-week Lenten series with "Reconciled with Our Roots," Thursday, Feb. 20 at 7:30 p.m. Subsequent programs will include: "Reconciliation with the Pain of Substance Abuse," Awareness Theatre, February 27; "Reconciliation: Can the Christian Make It Work in Today's Society?" Father Dan O'Shea, March 6; "Reconciliation Within Family and Faith Community," Sister Kay Heverin, March 13; "Reconciliation as Sacrament," Father Joe Hart, March 20. All are welcome.

Reconciliation Renewal

St. Theodore, Rochester — "Reconciliation: New Life, New Beginning" is the title of a week-long Lenten renewal offered by the parish Monday through Friday, March 3-7. The series will begin with an opening Mass at 7:30 p.m. Monday, celebrated by Bishop Matthew H. Clark as part of his Crossroads IV program. Sister Mary Louise Heffernan of the diocesan Liturgy Office will lead services each evening at 7:30 p.m. Topics will include: Tuesday — "New Life — New Beginning;" Wednesday — "God's Call to Us;" Thursday — "Reconciliation;" Friday — "We Are Eucharist."

Daytime sessions are also planned. On Tuesday, March 4, an afternoon of recollection will be offered by St. Theodore's students from noon to 2 p.m. On Wednesday, parishioners are invited to an afternoon session. An afternoon session will also be held Thursday, March 6, at Dunn Towers. On Friday, Mass and a talk are scheduled at 10:30 a.m.

Italian prayers will be offered by Sister Frances Mary at 7 p.m. before each evening service. A solemn closing Mass will conclude the series.

Babysitting is available, and the church is handicapped-accessible. Each service will also be interpreted for the hearing-impaired. For more information, call (716)458-7806 or 594-2915 after 4 p.m.

answering the following question from a friend: "Why shouldn't I have an abortion?"

Entries, which are due by March 31, will be judged on address of the subject; clarity; correctness; persuasiveness and originality; and conformity with Church teaching.

A first prize of \$200 will be awarded. The second place winner will receive \$75 and \$25 will be given for third place.

For more information, call Greg Sampson at (716)342-3146 (home) or 477-6383 (office).

Week of Renewal

Guardian Angels, Henrietta — Father Bartholomew O'Brian will be the parish's special guest during a week of renewal, Saturday, Feb. 15, through Friday, Feb. 21. Father O'Brian will preach at Masses the weekend of February 15. Each evening, services are scheduled for 7:30 p.m., except on Wednesday, Feb. 19, when the service will begin at 5:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Loneliness Support Group

Blessed Sacrament, Rochester — Parishioner Linda SanAngelo is forming a support group for anyone suffering from loneliness as a result of divorce, separation or the loss of a loved one. The group will meet Thursday, Feb. 20, from 7:30-9 p.m. in Room 12 of the school. Call the rectory, (716)271-7240, for more information or if you need a babysitter.

Cursillo Holy Hour

Blessed Sacrament, Rochester — A holy hour is planned in conjunction with men's Cursillo #57, which is taking place the weekend of February 13-16. All are invited to the church Saturday, Feb. 15, from 7-8 p.m.

Cards and Camaraderie

St. Joseph's, Penfield — Test your skill at a euchre tournament Saturday, Feb. 22, at 7:30 p.m. in the school hall. Tickets are \$5 per person. Snacks and a light buffet will be provided and refreshments will be on sale. For more information, call (716)385-2305 or 381-2759.

Diocesan Adult Education

St. Cecilia, Rochester — "Voices of Hope: Prophets," a five-part series, will be presented at the school Monday evenings, February 24 and March 3, 10, 17 and 24, from 7-9 p.m.

St. Louis, Pittsford — "The Saints: Roots of Contemporary Spirituality," will also be offered on the same dates from 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Contact the Diocesan Office of Religious Education to register for either series or for more information, (716)328-3210.

Georgetown Chimes Perform

Holy Spirit, Penfield — The Georgetown University "Chimes" will perform at the church Saturday, February 22, at 8:30 p.m. A small men's group specializing in barbershop harmonies and show tunes, the Chimes have become an institution since their founding in the mid-1940s. The Chimes

include three members from Rochester — George Peacock '84, Mark Ouweleen '86 and Michael Ouweleen '89.

Admission is open to the public and tickets, at \$3, can be obtained by calling (716)671-5680. Children under 12 will be admitted free.

Parish Fundraiser

St. Francis Xavier/Holy Redeemer, Rochester — A spaghetti dinner, one of the parish's major fundraising efforts, is planned Sunday, Feb. 23, from 1-5 p.m. at

the church, 314 Bay St. Tickets for adults are \$4 and for children under 12, \$2. Take-out dinners will also be available. Bring the whole family.

Finger Lakes

Healing Services Scheduled

St. Joseph, Weedsport — The Northern Cayuga Cluster Parishes will sponsor a three-part Lenten enrichment series on healing at St. Joseph's Church, located on Route 34 in Weedsport. On Sunday, February 16, John Engels will present "Stories of Healing:

Personal and Biblical Perspectives" at 7 p.m. "Healing in Crises" will be Father Peter Warren's topic Wednesday, March 5, at 7:30 p.m. Father Matthew Swizdor will talk about "Healing the Total Person" Tuesday, March 24, at 7:30 p.m. Call the parish office for more information.

Accessibility Study

Two committees of the Finger Lakes Office of Social Ministry plan to study the accessibility of parish buildings to persons with disabilities.

The Catholic Charities and Justice and Peace committees will begin the study, modeled after a similar effort in Monroe County, in mid-February. Volunteers will visit each parish and review facilities with parish staff members. The study also aims to determine what religious education programs are available for disabled and learning

disabled people in the region.

Results will be tabulated and made available to the public in June, 1986. The project is being coordinated by a student intern from the Community College of the Finger Lakes and Empire College.

Lenten Liturgy Series

St. Patrick, Seneca Falls — The parish liturgy committee will sponsor a five-part Lenten series Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. beginning February 20. Topics and presenters include: "Praying the Mass," Sister Nancy Burkin, Feb. 20; "Before, After and Around the Eucharist — the Total Environment," Father Thomas Mull, Feb. 27; "The Liturgy of the Word," Sister Nancy Burkin, March 6; "The Liturgy of the Eucharist," Father Mull, March 13; and "Who Celebrates the Eucharist — Ministries," John Kubinec, March 20.

For more information, call (315)568-6486.

Southern Tier

Corning Lenten Series

St. Patrick, Corning — Join Father John Hayes for a five-part series on "Jesus According to St. Paul," Monday evenings, February 24 and March 3, 10, 17 and 24 from 7:30-9:30 p.m. A review of Christology as reflected in St. Paul's writings and a look at

each individual's personal relationship with Jesus are planned. The cost is \$10 per family. Register by calling the Diocesan Religious Education Office, (716)328-3210, by February 16.

Notre Dame Benefit

Elmira — "Hail the Comet — Journey to the Stars," a gala benefit for Notre Dame High School, is planned Saturday, Feb. 15, at the Elmira College Campus Center. Cocktails will be served from 7-8 p.m.

followed by dinner and dancing to the music of "Starlighters." Tickets are \$45 per couple and may be purchased by calling (607)936-9128.

Correction

Contrary to what was reported in a brief last week, meetings of the Association of Black Catholic Women of greater Rochester are not open to new members at present. The association plans a recruitment drive in April, according to Jacquelyn Dobson, a member of the steering committee.

Submitting items for Parish Notes:

If your parish is doing something of interest to our readers, send a typed notice (and black-and-white photo, if you wish) to Parish Notes, Courier-Journal, 114 S. Union St., Rochester, N.Y. 14607.

We'll try to include as many parish news items as possible each week.

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