

## Pastoral options

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According to Father Schrader. Instead of paying a priest to assume all of Father Hewes' functions, Mount Carmel is only paying priests to do what only priests can do — fulfill the community's sacramental needs.

Father Paul J. Tomasso is serving as parish moderator, the position prescribed by canon law to cover supervision of a pastoral team. Assisting him are Fathers Kevin McKenna, Ray Fleming and Ed Dillon. Father Enrique Cadena, a Mexican priest who is staying nearby at Corpus Christi Parish, is also assisting with weekend Masses.

Sister Julia, who has been Mount Carmel's director of religious education for four years, is handling other pastoral responsibilities, which range from planning liturgies and coordinating the work of other staff members to dealing with a flood in the basement of the parish housing project.

At Immaculate Heart, Father Daniel Hogan served as moderator, celebrating weekend Masses and taking care of the parish's other sacramental needs.

"I took on a little more responsibility in things like coordinating the parish's liturgies," Sister Rita said. She also oversaw the parish's Thanks Giving Appeal drive, which exceeded its goal.

Both sisters added those administrative tasks to the responsibilities of their regular jobs. Admittedly, that was a strain, but not an unbearable one, as long as it remained temporary.

Thanks in large part to careful preparation, parishioners and parish leaders in both communities were receptive to the sisters' appointments.

At Immaculate Heart of Mary, Father Wainwright began preparing parishioners for his sabbatical long before he actually left. Since he is the parish's only priest, the congregation was already accustomed to such necessities as an occasional communion

service in place of weekday Mass.

Sister Julia credited Father Hewes with emphasizing teamwork among the staff and helping to develop lay leadership through the comite (parish council).

"He did absolutely everything he could to prepare," she said. "We didn't get left with any surprises."

Pedro Nunez, a member of Mount Carmel's comite, admitted that, at first, he was dubious about the arrangement. "Father Jim is a hard man to replace, even for a while," he said. "I wasn't too sure this thing would work."

Although Sister Julia has resolved such doubts by doing "a great job," Nunez and other parishioners intend to hold diocesan officials to a promise that come May 31, their priest will return.

"Everybody's got a lot of respect for (Sister Julia)," Nunez said. "She knows the community because she's been here before and she is a beautiful person. But it's still not the same."

Not is administering Mount Carmel the same as an earlier experience Sister Julia had at St. Patrick's Parish in Rochester. She served as administrator there in 1976 when diocesan officials decided to close and eventually sell the church. She was also principal of Mount Carmel School from 1969 to 1976, leaving a year before the school closed.

"It's a much more pleasant experience administering in a parish where you see life and growth, as opposed to closing a parish," she said.

However pleasant the experience has been in comparison to others in the past, Sister Julia doubts whether she would ever seek a parish administrator's job as a long-term goal.

Although the personnel division has not formally evaluated either situation, Sister Rita serves on the Personnel Commission subcommittee that is developing guidelines and qualifications for parish administrators.

"In the event that the diocese opens this up as a new kind of ministry, I would have a strong interest in it," she said.

## High school students to dance as part of Easter Seal Telethon

The Monroe Community College cafeteria will be dancing with activity on March 7 and 8. As part of the 1987 Easter Seal Telethon, high school kids will be raising money by participating in the first ever Easter Seal Dance Marathon.

The 12-hour marathon, sponsored by Pizza Hut and WMJQ 92.5 FM, will begin at 9 p.m. on Saturday, March 7, and partici-

pants will dance through the night until Sunday, March 8, at 9 a.m.

Pizza and soda will be provided courtesy of Pizza Hut.

Prizes will be given to dancers raising the most money, and trophies will be awarded throughout the night to dance contest winners.

## Father Albert Shamon

# A Word for Sunday



**Sunday's Readings: (R3) Matthew 5:38-48; (R1) Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18; (R2) 1 Corinthians 3:16-23.**

One of the most unforgettable novels I've ever read was Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel of 1961, *To Kill a Mockingbird*. It focuses on retaliation and love of neighbor (R3).

Atticus Finch (played in the movie by Gregory Peck, the actor Lee had in mind when writing the novel) stated its theme in advising his daughter, Scout. "If you can learn a simple trick, Scout," he said to her one day, "you'll get along a lot better with all kinds of folks. You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view—

"Sir?"

"— until you climb into his skin and walk around in it."

Atticus repeated the same advice to his son, Jem, after an explosive mob scene. "... You children made Walter Cunningham stand in my shoes for a minute. That was enough" — enough to defuse the volatile mob.

Throughout the novel, Atticus let Scout and Jem test this truth in their relationships with Mrs. Dubose and Boo Radley. And the climax came when Atticus tried to teach his son to give even a charitable interpretation to the murderous intent of his enemy, Bob Ewell. "Jem," he said to his son, "see if you can stand in Bob Ewell's shoes a minute."

In the Sermon on the Mount, our Lord told His disciples that their holiness had to exceed that of the scribes and Pharisees. This principle was the first of seven statements (Matthew loved septets). Six others follow regarding anger, adultery, divorce and oaths (last Sunday's gospel), and revenge and love of neighbor (this Sunday's gospel).

Regarding revenge, Jesus recited the *Lex Talionis*, the law of tit for tat. This Law of the Claw might at first sight seem very cruel, as though inviting retaliation.

Actually, it did the exact opposite. It declared that the punishment must not exceed the crime — not a life for an eye, nor murder for a bruise (Genesis 4:23). According to its precepts, we should let the punishment fit the crime.

However, Jesus improved even here.

"Offer no resistance to injury," He said. Some people are so touchy, suing even at the drop of a hat, let alone a shirt. A joker said there are three ways to get rich nowadays: inherit, earn and sue. Others would be willing to subvert even the government at the least provocation.

The Roman law of impressment was unjust. A Roman soldier could force a non-Roman to carry his gear for "a thousand foot-steps" (*mille passuum*), from which we get the word "mile." That happened to Simon of Cyrene. Far from counseling revolution, Jesus said to go an extra mile. Then, the "pay-off" — lend without interest!

But if you think all those demands are tough, listen to this one: "Love your enemies, pray for your persecutors." Here's the heart of the Sermon on the Mount, the heart of Christianity.

In Greek, there are four words for love: *storge* (parental love), *eros* (passionate love), *philia* (love of friends) and *agape* (Christian love). And what is *agape*? *Agape* is loving the unlovable — no matter how we feel about them, nor how unlovable they may be.

That's the way God loves. He doesn't discriminate, doesn't let His sun shine nor His rain fall only on the good. Similarly, we must let the light of our love and the rain of our good works fall on the good and the bad alike, the worthy and the unworthy. That is being perfect. That is being Godlike. That's being just like Jesus.

At the end of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Scout concludes, "Atticus was right. One time he said you never really know a man until you stand in his shoes and walk around in them." That's the way to follow the advice of Christ, on the natural level. For, as a French proverb has it, "To know all is to forgive all."

On the supernatural level, there are prayer and the sacraments, especially confession and Holy Communion. Sin divides; confession removes the divider. Love unites; Holy Communion is the sacrament of love.

And prayer? "More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of."

## School enrollment

Continued from Page 3

percent or more. But in each case, at least a portion of the increase could be attributed to closings and consolidations at neighboring schools such as St. Augustine's and Corning Catholic North.

Administrators at the Division of Education hope to support the recruiting efforts of all diocesan elementary schools by developing an overall marketing strategy.

The diocesan board of education has already established a subcommittee to work on a five-year marketing plan, Brother Walsh said. At the same time, diocesan officials are encouraging each individual school board or parish council to establish a marketing committee of its own.

The two-tiered approach was suggested by Richard Burke, a consultant for the National Catholic Educational Association, who worked with diocesan officials last September.

During the first week in March, Burke will return to the diocese to present workshops on Catholic school finances, image and enrollment.

On March 5, Burke will present a workshop in the Southern Tier for pastors, principals, school board members and others. The following day, he will speak to a similar group in Rochester.

Since he was named school superintendent last July, Brother Walsh said he has personally visited every diocesan elementary school and has talked with teachers and administrators one-on-one to learn more about what Catholic schools have to offer.

One of the difficulties of designing a marketing strategy for Catholic schools, he observed, is that they have an established "product" that is not very flexible.

"What we need to do is to build on the strength of the placement we already have and use it creatively," he said.

## School to offer new program for pre-schoolers in Penfield

St. Joseph's School in Penfield will open a new pre-school program in September, 1987.

Registration for pre-school and kindergarten classes is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, March 2 and 3, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m., and Monday, March 2, from 7

to 8:30 p.m. The school is located at 39 Gebhardt Road.

Registrations will also be accepted at those times for students in other grades.

For more information, call the school office at (716)586-6968.

## Buxtehude anniversary concert slated for Horseheads church

A choral, organ and instrumental concert of the music of Dietrich Buxtehude will be presented at Horseheads First United Methodist Church on Sunday, February 22, at 4 p.m. The combined choirs of First United Methodist Church and the Church of St. Mary Our Mother, under the direction of Joseph C. Crupi, will perform works of Buxtehude.

This year marks the 350th anniversary of the birth of Buxtehude, a Danish-German composer whose music had a strong influ-

ence on that of Johann Sebastian Bach.

The choral works will be accompanied by a string ensemble and organ. The string ensemble will be under the direction of Gary Chollet, director of music in the Horseheads school system.

All are welcome to attend the concert at 1034 West Broad Street, Horseheads. A free-will offering will be asked. A reception will take place in the Fellowship Hall after the concert.



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