

Parish Notes

Breakfast to honor society officers

St. Andrew, Rochester — The Rosary Society, which is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year, has scheduled a Communion breakfast on Sunday, May 3, in honor of the group's past presidents, beginning with Mabel McGrath, the first acting president.

Rosary Society members have served as honor guards at funerals and as singers at Masses, and proceeds of Rosary Society functions have benefited the parish. Although membership originally was open exclusively to women, the organization recently opened its membership to men as well.

The breakfast will be served in the school cafeteria, following the eight o'clock Mass. Reservations may be made — before April 27 — by calling Lucy Caton, (716)342-0221, or Mary Sdoia, 467-3678.

Parish slates rock'n'roll reunion

St. Margaret Mary, Irondequoit — Several Rochester-area musicians of the last 25 years will highlight the parish's fourth annual sock hop, which is scheduled for 8 p.m. on Friday, May 1. Sponsored by the Home-School and

Athletic associations, the dance is a benefit for school programs.

Scheduled to perform are Jay Capozzi, a former member of the Showstoppers, Brass Buttons and the Rascals; Danny Labbate of the Brass Buttons; Chuck Brucato and Bob D'Andrea of Rustix; and Maharishi Scungilli & the Screamin' Seagulls, a band incorporating former members of the Oxford Watch Band, the Groop Ltd., Ye Bitter End, The Angry Young Men, the Krax and current members of the Majestics, Third Time Around and Nostalgia. Each of the now-defunct bands recorded on national labels — Columbia Records, Motown, Atlantic and Bell.

The sock hop performers will lead dancers on a rock 'n' roll journey through the music of the 1960s. The dance will be in St. Margaret Mary's gym, 400 Rogers Parkway. Tickets — restricted to those 21 years of age or older — are \$5 in advance and \$6 at the door, and they include the cost of refreshments.

Tickets may be obtained by contacting Tom O'Neil, 107 Somershire Drive, Rochester, N.Y. 14617, (716)266-2491.

Spectrum to play at parish dinner-dance

Immaculate Conception, Ithaca — The theme for the annual spring dinner-dance is "spring fling." The dance, set for May 2 in the grade school gymnasium, will feature the well-known Ithaca band Spectrum.

Dinner will be at 8 p.m. with dancing from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Tickets, priced at \$13.50 per person, are available at the parish rectory.

'Life in the Spirit' seminar scheduled

St. Mary, Auburn — A "Life in the Spirit" seminar has been scheduled for seven consecutive Wednesday evenings, beginning April 29. A registration session will be conducted on April 22 at the church, Clark Street in Auburn. Sessions will begin at 7 p.m.

For preregistration or information, call Alice Kany at (315)252-0683 or Lea Moschetti at 252-5539.

Blessed Sacrament schedules colloquium

Blessed Sacrament, Rochester — The parish religious education office has scheduled a psychological colloquium for Wednesdays, May 6, 13 and 20. The colloquium will be presented by Father Francis Blighton and is based on the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI). This indicator focuses on the ways in which people's gifts differ and how participants can constructively use their individual characteristics to increase work efficiency and to improve relationships with associates.

The colloquium will run from 7:30 to 9:30 on the three evenings. Topics and dates are: May 6, Your Personality, Your Gifts and You; May 13, How Others Relate to You; and May 20, How You Relate to God.

Those who have never taken the MBTI profile may obtain the questionnaire at registration. The cost for the program is \$5 per person, and registration is limited to 30 people. For information or registration, call Liz Mauer at (716)442-7517. Registration deadline is April 28.

CROSSROADS '87

By Father Thomas P. Mull
Director, Office of Liturgy

The great 50 days of Easter should be treated as one day — one extended celebration. In his Gospel, St. John reminds listeners that the gift of the Holy Spirit has brought forgiveness of sins and has empowered the Church to continue offering forgiveness. The baptized and confirmed members of the Church, therefore, may constantly feel the embrace of a forgiving community's love.

In the second reading, Peter witnesses to the imperishable nature of life received through the resurrection of Jesus: "You may, for a time, have to suffer the distress of many trials, but this is so that your faith — which is more precious than the passing splendor of fire-tried gold — may by its genuineness lead to praise, glory and honor

when Jesus Christ appears."

The first reading invites us to visit the apostolic community that formed after the coming of the Spirit. The members of that community were dedicated to "devoting themselves to the apostles' instruction and the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and prayer." Inspired by our own baptismal renewal on Easter Sunday, we continue to make a commitment to witness to the resurrected Jesus' loving presence in the world. Taking a cue from the early apostles, we may well look at our community to see how we continue to grow through the power of the Spirit within us.

Bishop Clark, in his homily during the diocesan Chrism Mass, challenged his listeners to recognize the holiness within one another. The oils that were blessed during that Mass are those used in sacramental celebrations throughout the year. Our holiness is signified not only by these oils but also by the power of God as it is revealed in and through those who share life with us, in our basic family units and in our parish communities/families.

Our holiness is present because of the Spirit, which has taken residence in our hearts. Since these oils — the oils of catechumens, chrism and the infirm — are used lavishly during the Easter Season, it is good to be aware of their significance. Furthermore, when these oils are used, participants should be filled with a humble sense of God's presence in the prayer of the community and in the sacramental experience. Thus, one discovers the ongoing nature of God's abiding presence.

Our neophytes — those who are baptized and confirmed, and have shared in the Eucharist during the Easter Vigil — are now in a period of mystagogia. This period is so named because of the mysteries now being revealed to the neophytes, who have become aware of the great privilege they receive in sharing the Eucharist. The neophytes have been invited to continue in their prayerful discernment of their involvement in the community, and must now put their sacramental experience into practice. Having accepted the invitation of Christ to become



Jeff Goulding/Courier-Journal

Monsignor Richard K. Burns washes the feet of parishioners at Holy Cross Parish, as Father Thomas Wheeland, pastor, follows close behind with towels.

one within the Church, they now must help witness the Church to others.

This is often a difficult decision to make. How does one best fulfill a commitment, especially a commitment that involves God's activity? The days of the mystagogia, which are filled with listening and observing, prepare the neophytes for future decisions.

In a way, the neophytes now scrutinize the faith community: their conversion experience continues. They ask themselves, "How do I best witness the transforming power of the Spirit in my life? How do I best become one with my community?"

This second week of the Easter season will be filled with activity in the Diocese of Rochester, as all priests gather with the bishop for consultation and instruction. As they do so, we are all reminded of the gift of ordained priesthood and of the service with which our priests touch the lives of so many people. Bishop Clark has asked that all pray

for the priests of the diocese in a special way this week.

At the same time, in the absence of ordained priests, lay men and women will continue to lead local communities. This leadership can be seen as another development of the Spirit; it signals the continuation of the community-building that began at Easter and will not end until the fulfillment of Easter's promises.

The Church is alive. Alleluia! It is a haven for all who seek reconciliation and God's presence. It is holy because of God and God's people.

THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER



EDWIN SULEWSKI
FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Why don't we forget funerals and get on with living?

When president and national heroes die the nation has elaborate ceremonies to mark their deaths. We mourn heroes because their lives mean something to us, they are important to the morale and life of our nation. When someone we love dies we mourn also. They are important to us and we need to mark their passing with appropriate ceremonies. The ceremonies we have for the deceased help us express our feelings about the person's life and our feelings of loss. Through ceremony we express tribute and say goodbye to those who have been close to us. If we did not take the time to express our feelings at a formal ceremony we would find it more difficult to let go of the past and get on with living.

We purchase all forms of insurance to protect our family & assets, not because we expect the worst to happen, but to be prepared. Doesn't it make sense then to prepare for what will happen. Let our trained counselors assist you with the many options available in planning for a worry-free future.

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