

Parish Notes

Founder of Marian movement to visit

Holy Trinity, Webster — Father Stephano Gobbi of Milan, Italy, will speak at a Cenacle gathering at the parish on Monday, June 8. The founder and promoter of the worldwide Marian Movement of Priests, Father Gobbi is the author of "Mary Speaks to Her Beloved Priests."

He will speak on the nature of his movement and will give a special spiritual message on the need for consecration to Mary in today's world. The visit to Holy Trinity is part of Father Gobbi's two-month, 27-stop tour throughout the United States and Canada.

The Cenacle meeting, which is for priests and deacons only, will begin at 3 p.m. at the church, and will be

followed by roast-beef or fried haddock dinner at the Webster Knights of Columbus center. Reservations for the dinner, which costs \$10, are required, and accommodations are available for priests from outlying areas.

At 6:30 that evening, Father Gobbi will lead the rosary in the Holy Trinity parish center. Lay people and religious are invited to attend the service, which will be followed by a celebrated Mass and reception. Admission is free.

For information on the events, contact Deacon Leo Kester, 1673 Woodard Road, Webster, N.Y. 14580, (716)265-2192.

Holy Spirit to be focus of weeklong series

St. John the Evangelist, Clyde — A week of prayer celebrating the gifts of the Holy Spirit is scheduled for Monday, June 1, through Friday, June 5. Mass of the Holy Spirit, to be celebrated each evening at 7:30, will feature

special scripture readings and guest homilies. At the conclusion of services, participants may receive special blessings and/or anointings.

The speakers for each evening and their topics are: Monday — Courier-Journal columnist Father Albert Shamon will discuss *The Holy Spirit and the Gift of Healing*; Tuesday — the Rev. Dayton Reynolds, an elder of Elim Fellowship and pastor of New Covenant Fellowship in Penfield, will discuss *The Holy Spirit and Christian Unity*; Wednesday — Sister Anita Rourke of the Sisters of the Cenacle will consider *The Holy Spirit and Mary, Mother of the Church*; Thursday — Father Anthony Valente, pastor of Our Lady Queen of Peace Church in Brighton, will speak about *The Holy Spirit and the Gift of Prophecy*; and Friday — Father Thomas Nellis, pastor of St. John's in Clyde and St. Patrick's in Savannah, will consider *The Holy Spirit and the Gift of Joy*.

The sessions are open to the public.

By Father Thomas P. Mull

The Gospel for the sixth Sunday of Easter recalls Jesus' farewell discourse, in which He promises the coming of the Holy Spirit. This Spirit is sent to strengthen the hearts and minds of the faithful, and to make



them joyous in the presence of God. The Acts of the Apostles describes the Samaritan experience: "The rejoicing in that town rose to fever pitch." This echoes the story of the Samaritan woman, which was told during the Lenten Season. She ran to her neighbors, called them out and spoke of life-giving waters. The apostles brought life-giving waters into their ministry. It was in the power of the Spirit that Jesus was able to touch the hearts of many.

In the second reading, Peter states: "Should anyone ask you the reason for this hope of yours, be ever ready to reply, but speak gently and respectfully." During this Easter Season, hundreds of people are being confirmed in the Spirit. I have the special privilege of accompanying Bishop Joseph Hogan as he celebrates with various communities throughout the diocese the coming of the Spirit in the sacrament of confirmation. Each parish offers its own celebration. Candidates have spent time preparing,

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praying and worrying about this event. They generally are nervous, but also happy and excited.

In his homily, Bishop Hogan always takes time to challenge the adults present. "You are not here to fill this church. Nor are you here to watch these young people receive a sacrament. You are here to confirm these young men and women with the second-most powerful action in the world — the power of good example." The bishop pauses to let the congregation think about that statement for a moment, then continues: "Don't forget them after this service; remember your responsibility to provide good example."

What type of example are our young people receiving from the adult members of our community? Do we speak of the community with joy? Is there a sense of valued allegiance to God? How does one demonstrate the dignity of baptism that is affirmed in confirmation? In what ways are our young people being confirmed by the

power of human example?

These questions can raise the awareness of each adult member as to his or her role within the community. So often, parents feel they can breathe a sigh of relief when their child is confirmed. Even though we teach and preach that this "is not graduation," the feeling is still there. Have you ever heard it said: "Well, now I have done my job, the rest is up to him!" This comment speaks of an individualism contrary to the community we foster within the Catholic Church. This weekend's readings are a real challenge to see if there is joy in our Christian life. If there is no such joy, why not? Do we have a sense of ongoing contribution to the building up of

one another's lives? If not, what needs to be changed in order to make this attitude a realistic attitude?

The Easter season is moving toward its conclusion. We will hear more and more about the promise of the Holy Spirit in the readings of the days ahead. This coming of the Spirit was not a one-time event. Continually, in the sacramental life of the Church as well as in the community life of which we are all a part, the Spirit continues to bind and link us together as one. This bond of unity is the single, most-powerful symbol of the presence of the Spirit. Do not let this season pass you by without taking time to realize the power of the Spirit in your life and the baptismal calling we have all received to witness the power of this Spirit continuing in the world.

Bishop appoints MacAvoy to chair TGA drive

Bishop Matthew H. Clark recently announced the appointment of Thomas C. MacAvoy of Corning as the diocesan general chairman for the 1987/88 Annual Catholic Thanks Giving Appeal.



As the senior volunteer leader of the Thanks Giving Appeal, MacAvoy will work with the diocesan appeal staff as they carry out their responsibilities for implementing the drive. MacAvoy will act as a liaison between the two major planning committees of the TGA, the Priests' Advisory Committee and the Operational Steering Committee.

MacAvoy retired from Corning Glass Works in April after 31 years of service. Having joined the firm as a chemist in 1957, he was named vice president in 1966 and president in 1971. He was vice chairman of Corning Glass at the time of his retirement.

The new general chairman earned B.S., M.S. and doctoral degrees in chemistry from Queens College, St. John's University and the University of Cincinnati, respectively. He serves currently on the boards of directors of Corning Glass Works and the University of Rochester, and is a past president of the National Boy Scouts of America.

MacAvoy is a member of St. Mary's Parish in Corning. He and his wife, Margaret, have four children: Moira, Ellen, Christopher and Neil.

Diocesan Appointments



Bishop Matthew H. Clark has announced the following diocesan appointments:

Father John H. Hayes, from deacon internships to priest internship at St. Catherine, Mendon, effective June 30.

Father Dennis J. Shaw, from pastor at St. Francis of Assisi, Rochester, to pastor at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Rochester, effective June 30.

THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER



EDWIN SULEWSKI
FUNERAL DIRECTOR

**My friend's baby died.
How can I help?**

Infants are very important to their parents. The hopes that are built during pregnancy, the excitement at birth and the thrill of getting to know the infant are dashed when the baby's life ends. Parents ought to be allowed to grieve and express their feelings. If possible, an opportunity to talk with other parents who have also lost young children can be most helpful. It is usually not helpful to suggest that now there is another angel in heaven or that the parents' grief will be eased by simply having another child. Visit the family often and allow them to tell you of their loss and what the infant meant to them. Please call us for referrals to local support groups.

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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