

Catholic Worker

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the poor. "I wanted to give a part of my life," he said. "That corporate, sterile environment was a long way from what I thought were people in need."

At a ministry training workshop in Massachusetts, Larch met a woman from Rochester who invited him to visit St. Joseph's. He arrived expecting to help others, but before long, he learned otherwise. "It's not me helping them; it's us working together," he explained. "Sometimes, people will really start getting to me, or I'll have to throw someone out. Having to let that person back in the next day has helped me learn to be more patient and more forgiving."

Sister Marilyn Pray, SSJ, is the most recent arrival at St. Joseph's. The head of the religious studies department at Nazareth Academy, she has long searched for ways to live the Gospels she teaches. In the past, her efforts have led to her work in the diocesan mission in Tabasco, Mexico, and at St. Martin's Place, a meal program on Rochester's north side.

"Talk is cheap. You have to put your life somewhere," she said last week as she sliced a block of cheese for lunch. "This was an opportunity to live in a house that's involved in serving people and to maintain my commitment at Nazareth."

Paul Tantillo, a Mount Morris native, first read about Catholic Worker houses during his college years. One day as he drove down South Avenue, he noticed St. Joseph's sign and pulled into the parking lot. Soon he began volunteering once a week.

A year ago, he decided to take a leave from his job as a school librarian and move into St. Joseph's. "I had wanted to take some time off, and this seemed like a good place to do that," he said.

What Tantillo found has come as little short of a revelation to him — that working without earning a salary is refreshing. "This is one of the few things I've done where I don't pause from time to time and ask if it's really worth doing," he said. "You're not constantly checking to see whether you're in the proper income bracket for what you're doing. You do the work, and your needs are met."

"I feel like this life is pretty rich — just kind of close to the ground and not real frivolous," he added.

On the other hand, life at St. Joseph's is not idyllic. One reason for the constant ebb and flow of staff members is the frustration that comes from confronting needs far beyond one's ability to respond. "Sometimes it's very difficult to see that we make any difference," Affleck said.

When he encounters someone exceptionally needy, like the 14-year-old boy at lunch who can barely read or write his name, Affleck sometimes thinks about testing the earning

power of his master's degrees and his doctorate. Being part of a community with a common philosophy helps. "If you're going to do this work for a long time, (then) someplace in your heart, you have to be convinced that we're setting in motion events that will have consequences in God's time," he explained. "We think we're called to build the kingdom of heaven. That's going to take my lifetime and

many other lifetimes. Needing to see results is a trap of modern America. We need to be more committed to service and love."

Even though each departure leaves a little pain behind, Affleck views the ever-changing faces at St. Joseph's as a blessing rather than a concern. "One of our strengths is that we can be a stop on life's journey for a lot of different people," he said.

'Polish Fest '87' scheduled for Dome Arena this weekend

Polonia Civic Centre Inc., Rochester's largest non-profit Polish-American organization and a cornerstone of the Polish community since 1918, will be sponsoring the fifth annual "Polish Fest '87" on August 21, 22 and 23. The event will take place in Minett Hall of the Dome Arena on the Monroe County Fairgrounds.

Hours for the gala are noon to 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. to midnight on Friday, August 21; 3 p.m. to midnight on Saturday, August 22; and noon to 8 p.m. on Sunday, August 23.

The annual ethnic celebration will feature polka bands from around the country, as well as the organization's own Krakowiacy Polish Dancers and The Kopernik Dancers from Binghamton.

Polish foods to be offered include pierogi, golomboki, kielbasa and more. Polish vendors from Buffalo, Pennsylvania and Ohio will be on hand to present Polish made dolls, wooden plates, embroidery items and a variety of

other Polish-American novelties.

The final day of the festival will begin with a Polish-English Mass at noon, followed by a procession in costume and military uniform within the fairgrounds of Monroe County's Dome Arena.

Call (716) 342-2136 for information.


Smoking withdrawal clinics set at United Cancer Council Office

The United Cancer Council will begin a series of smoking withdrawal clinics from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday, September 8, at the council office, 1441 East Ave., Rochester. Each clinic will consist of five consecutive Tuesday evening sessions.

The program emphasizes steps to help participants quit smoking and continue not smoking, as well as stress management and weight control during cessation.

For information or registration, call the United Cancer Council at (716) 473-8230.

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General

Card of Thanks 2

GOD, LORD JESUS, all Saints, grant another miracle speedy recovery for Josephine Zagami Mancuso. Husband Thomas Mancuso promises donations yearly, will publicize. Grant good health for Thomas and Josephine Mancuso.

MAY THE Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the homeless, pray for us. Thank you St. Jude for prayers answered. B.M.S.

THANKS TO St. Jude and Sacred Heart of Jesus for prayers answered. J.H.

THANKS ST. Jude, Jesus, Blessed Mother, Guardian Angel, all Saints for present, future favors. W.W.

Employment

Help Wanted 14

BUSINESS MANAGER for St. Bernard's Institute. Part-time, approximately 16 HPW. Send resume to SBI, 1100 S. Goodman St. Rochester, N.Y. 14620 by August 31.

SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST: Experience necessary. St. Ambrose Rectory. Call 288-5000, M-F, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

ADVERTISING MANAGER: Award-winning Upstate group seeks enthusiastic, dynamic sales professional. Major account, agency experience critical. Leadership skills and marketing background important. Must be team player. Salary, commission, bonus. Reply confidential to NYPA, Attn: Help Wanted, 10 Thurlow Terr., Carriage House, Albany, N.Y. 12203. (NYSCAN)

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Business Opportunities 16

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Books 28

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