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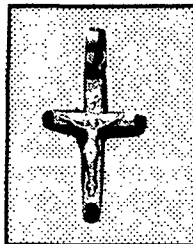
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Around the Diocese

Newark parish plans renewal

St. Michael's, Newark — Father Bartholomew O'Brien will lead a parish week of renewal beginning with weekend Masses on November 28 and 29. Since retiring as pastor of St. Mary Our Mother Parish in Horseheads, Father O'Brien has concentrated his efforts on the ministry of retreats, renewals and missions.

Families are especially invited to attend the renewal sessions together. The renewal will also be geared to the needs of Catholics who have not recently practiced their faith and are seeking reconciliation. Services begin at 7:30 p.m. Sunday through Friday. Renewal Masses and talks are scheduled Monday through Friday at 11 a.m.

Monsignor marks 50 years

Holy Cross/St. Thomas the Apostle, Rochester — Parishioners from both churches will join in honoring Monsignor Richard K. Burns on the 50th anniversary of his ordination to priesthood Tuesday, Dec. 8.

On Sunday, Dec. 6, Monsignor Burns will celebrate an anniversary Mass for relatives and friends as well as present and former parishioners at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, where the monsignor served as pastor for 29 years. A reception will follow in the school hall from 2-4 p.m.

At 5 p.m., Monsignor Burns will be the guest of honor at an anniversary dinner. Reservations for the dinner at the Mapledale Party House are available by calling Bus or Alice Crowley, (716) 266-2943 before November 28. Transportation can also be arranged.

On Sunday, Dec. 13, Holy Cross Church, where Monsignor Burns has served since 1985, will be the site for a second anniversary Mass, beginning at noon. All are welcome to attend a reception immediately following the Mass.

Church album to feature families

St. Joseph's, Wayland — In hopes of helping parishioners become better acquainted with one another, parish council has decided to contract with a company to compile a Church Family Album. Parish families have been invited to have their portraits taken free of charge between Friday and Monday, Dec. 4-7. Each family will receive an album free of charge. Families may also purchase copies of their portraits.

The Free Community Kitchen, located at St. Peter and Paul Parish Hall in Elmira, reopened in October after undergoing extensive and expensive plumbing repairs and renovations.

The kitchen, which served approximately 6,500 meals during 1987, operates five days each week thanks to the service of more than 200 volunteers.

Members of the kitchen's coordinating committee also depend exclusively on donations from the community to keep the outreach effort going, and are seeking extra help to pay for the renovations. Contact the Free Community Kitchen, 160 High Street, Elmira, N.Y., 14901.

Members of Mother of Sorrows' Home/School Association served more than 1,000 ice-cream sundaes to faculty, staff members, students and their families at the association's annual Ice Cream Social and Open House last month.

Students prepared special projects, including fall displays and artwork, for the enjoyment of visitors.

Members of the school's yearbook staff are compiling a photo history of classes, concerts, CYO events and other activities for this year's edition of "Reflections."

Yearbook staff members are: Joylyn Mathis, Jennifer Gibbons, Karen Wintermate, Marianne Pena, Mira Og, Jody Steinfeldt, Charles Cutler, Rich Lombardo, Alison Walker, Yvette Vargas, Jennifer Cianciola, and Robert Kluchko. Their faculty adviser is Sandy Compisi.

Father George R. Norton, diocesan director of communications, has appointed Sara H. Ayanian to the position of communications assistant. In her new job, Ayanian will write and disseminate diocesan news, assist in producing audio-visual material, and provide photography, graphics layout and design expertise.

Prior to her diocesan appointment, Ayanian worked in public relations for Citibank and Tanner and Associates.

Parish Notes

Series focus on lived faith

St. Mary's, Corning — The parish is presenting a monthly film series designed to explore how faith integrates with specific aspects of life. Entitled "My Faith, My Life," the series began Sunday, Nov. 15, and will continue through June. Topics will include marriage, sexuality, communication with teens; work and loss of a loved one. For specific dates and times of future sessions, contact the parish office.

On Sunday mornings beginning November 29, the parish will present a four-part filmstrip that explores the concept of peace making. Entitled "A Vision of Peace," the filmstrip will be shown each Sunday during Advent from 10:30-11:30 a.m. in the Brennan Center.

Counseling service reestablished

Immaculate Conception, Ithaca — The Southern Tier Office of Social Ministry has re-established counseling services in Ithaca, headquartered in the parish rectory. James D. Burns, Ph.D., will be available at the North Geneva Street address on Tuesdays from noon to 6 p.m. for individuals, couples and families experiencing problems with anxiety, depression, loneliness or relationships. Fees for services are flexible, depending on the individuals' ability to pay. For more information or an appointment, contact the Southern Tier Office of Social Ministry, (607) 734-9784.

Parish to host healing series

Holy Name of Jesus, Rochester — The Spirituality Committee has invited Franciscan Father Matthew Swizdor of Auburn to conduct a series of four healing services Monday through Friday, Dec. 7-11.

Each evening's service will include Mass, a presentation by Father Swizdor, and healing prayer. All are welcome to attend the services, which begin at 7:30 p.m. each night. The church is located on St. Martin's Way, just off Bonesteel Street in the Town of Greece. For information, call the parish rectory, (716) 621-4040.

Neighbors



FIXING A FEAST — First- and third-graders at St. Charles Borromeo School in Greece shared the preparation and the delectation of a holiday meal Wednesday, Nov. 26. Stirring up the stuffing are Joshua Klehmer, Nathan Spall, Amy Kruppenbacher, Debbie Lovelady and Doug Lynch.

John Trickey, diocesan director of financial services, has been elected a charter member of the board of directors of the newly formed National Catholic Risk Retention Group (NCRRG).

The group is a member-owned insurance company formed to address the insurance needs of the Catholic Church in the wake of the 1985/86 crisis during which liability insurance rates skyrocketed and availability of coverage plummeted.

Members of the diocesan Finance Council have recommended that the diocese join the NCRRG, subject to a review of the company's formal offering memorandum.