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Vol. 99, No. 19 February 18, 1988
Courier-Journal (USPS 135-580)

Published weekly except week after July 4 and
Christmas, by the Rochester Catholic Press As-
sociation. Subscription rates: Single copy 50¢.
One-year subscription in U.S. \$15. Canada and
Foreign \$20. Offices: 1150 Buffalo Rd., Roch-
ester, N.Y. 14624, (716) 328-4340. Second Class
Postage paid at Rochester, N.Y. POST-
MASTER: Send address changes to Courier-
Journal, 1150 Buffalo Rd., Rochester, N.Y.
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Around the Diocese

St. Joseph's school registering

St. Joseph's, Penfield — Registration for the parish school's preschool and kindergarten programs will take place on Monday, Feb. 29, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and 7-8:30 p.m., and on Tuesday, March 1, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Children being registered for kindergarten must be five years old by December 1, 1988. Parents should bring proof of age, baptismal certificates and immunization records to registration. A non-refundable fee will be charged for each student.

New students wishing to register for other grades are also invited to register at the above times. The school also offers an after-school latch-key program. For information, call the school office, (716)586-6968.

Series aims at healing hurts

Blessed Sacrament Church, Rochester — The parish is sponsoring "Healing Life's Hurts," an eight-session series for those interested in deepening their prayer lives and building friendships while praying for the healing of memories.

Each session will consist of a videotape presentation by Fathers Dennis and Matthew Linn, SJ, and Sheila Fabricant. The video presentation will be followed by guided sharing periods and prayer for healing. Meditation and Scripture readings will be used at home to help integrate participants' prayer and daily lives.

Sessions, running from 7:30-9:30 p.m., will take place at Blessed Sacrament School, 546 Oxford St., Rochester, on Sundays Feb. 21 through April 17. The series has a registration minimum of 12 participants. For information or to register, call Liz Weber, (716)442-7517. The donation requested is \$10.

Ramp for handicapped now ready

Holy Ghost, Rochester — The parish is proud to announce that its ramp for the handicapped is now ready for use. The ramp, which is located on the north side of the church, can be reached by using the driveway adjacent to the rectory on Coldwater Road. After passengers have been discharged, drivers are asked to park in the area behind the garages.

For information, call the rectory, (716)247-3535.

Sister Carol Cimino, SSI, former director of development at Nazareth Academy, will be the speaker at the National Catholic Educational Association Convention to be held in New York City in April. Her topic is "Recruitment and Retention of Students," and deals with programs and efforts to boost enrollment in Catholic elementary and secondary schools. Sister Cimino's talk will be presented on Tuesday, April 8, at the Jacob Javits Center.

Since leaving Nazareth Academy in August, 1987, Sister Cimino has been Associate Director of the Catholic School Administrators Association of New York State.

Students at Nazareth Academy last month began a year-long effort to promote Students Against Drunk Driving's (SADD) "Challenge '88: Celebration of Life" campaign.

The campaign seeks to raise students' awareness of the dangers of drunk driving through a variety of events, including an alcohol-free fundraising party and "Absent Person Day," when 20 volunteers spent a silent day dressed in black to act as living reminders of the consequences of accidents due to drunken drivers.

During an opening assembly, organizers also described SADD's "Contract for Life," an agreement between students and parents. The agreement requires that: students and parents discuss the dangers of drunk driving; students call home for a ride rather than drive drunk or ride with an intoxicated driver; parents save any recriminations for later, and never drive while intoxicated.

More than 40 students participate in Nazareth's SADD chapter, which was founded in 1986. The group is headed by Karen Donner, student president, and Chris Yantz, vice president. Faculty moderator is Sister Marlene Pape.

Father Harold B. Gardner, CSB, principal of Aquinas Institute, has announced the creation of scholarships for Aquinas students who show artistic ability and achievement. The scholarships, which will be available for the 1988/89 school year, were created through a bequest from the estate of Francis J. Santini, a 1945 graduate of Aquinas.

The scholarship committee is in the process of developing criteria for the scholarships. The committee will announce information about application procedures on April 1.

Parish Notes

St. Thomas' registration opens

St. Thomas the Apostle, Rochester — The parish school has scheduled open registration for preschool through grade eight for February 29-March 2, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

The principal, Josephine Fama, and the classroom teachers will be on hand to discuss any questions parents may have. The average class size at St. Thomas is 24, and the school offers computer instruction, high school math, and remedial math and reading classes.

For information, call the school, (716)342-1401.

Fr. O'Brien leading mission

St. Stephen's, Geneva — The parish has scheduled a renewal mission with Father Bartholomew J. O'Brien for Sunday through Friday, Feb. 28-March 4.

Each evening's session will consist of a Mass at 7 p.m., followed by the mission at 7:30. Religious books and articles will be available for purchase each evening, and refreshments will be served.

All sessions will take place in the church, 48 Pulteney St., Geneva.

Fund to aid fire victims

Sacred Heart, Perkinsville — The parish has established a fund to assist Andy and Rema Pike and their two children, who lost their home in a fire on Thursday, Jan. 14. No one was injured in the blaze, but the house was destroyed and all the family's possessions were lost.

The Pike family is now living in the parish convent, and has received donations of food and clothing. Donations to the fund will help the family replace their household furnishings. Contributions can be made out to Sacred Heart Church Pike Fund, Perkinsville, N.Y. 14529. They may also be left in the rectory of Sacred Heart's sister parish, St. Pius V in Cochocton.

Neighbors

Rope-climbing and an obstacle course were on the agenda as 40 members of Aquinas Institute's Student Council and their faculty advisors gathered at Scottsville's BOCES Center for a "Down to Earth" leadership weekend last month.

The object of including physical as well as mental challenges in the weekend's activities was to build community spirit and encourage group problem solving, according to organizers.

"We depended on our own strengths to push us along, and also depended on the support of the group," explained Lori Lagiewski, a student participant. "We gained trust, friends and a good time."

Nearly 40 members of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Nativity of Our Blessed Virgin Mary #931, observed CDA Sunday with a procession, Mass and a reception October 18. Earlier in October, the court welcomed 10 new members at another Mass.

Ann Parsons this month offered fifth-graders at St. Theodore's School in Gates a chance to develop a new sensitivity and awareness of people with disabilities. During Parsons' visit to the school, sponsored by TRIADD (To Reach and Inform about Developmental Disabilities) and the Genesee Valley Office of Social Ministry, she shared her personal experience of accepting, coping and living with blindness.

Mother of Sorrows School has expanded its curriculum this year to include a Spanish course for seventh-grade students. The students will be able to continue the course in the eighth grade, thus completing the equivalent of a high school freshman course. The class is taught by Ana Coronel, a native of Uruguay, South America, who also teaches at St. Lawrence, Blessed Sacrament and the Berlitz School of Language.