

# 'Karate Kid III' is disappointing



By Judith Trojan

Catholic News Service

"The Karate Kid Part III" (Columbia) is a major disappointment.

Featuring the same creative team responsible for the first two blockbusters, this third installment picks up with the return from Okinawa of 18-year-old Daniel LaRusso (Ralph Macchio) and his mentor, Mr. Miyagi (Noriyuki "Pat" Morita). Since their Los Angeles apartment building is being razed for condos, the pair open a bonsai shop and settle in for what they hope will be a lucrative and peaceful existence.

Not so. A sleazy philanthropist pal of their old karate adversary, Kreese (Martin L. Kove), is out to avenge Kreese's loss of dignity in the martial arts community. The sick pair and their henchmen use malicious threats and violence to blackmail Daniel into defending his championship title, a move that Miyagi insists is an improper use of karate.

Since Miyagi refuses to train Daniel to fight his chief bad-boy adversary, Mike

Barnes (Sean Kanan), Daniel unknowingly trains with the enemy and becomes a mean fighting machine.

When he realizes that he's been set up for the kill, Daniel returns to Miyagi for the wisdom and focus to defend his title in the way of true karate.

Screenwriter Robert Mark Kamen attempts to explore an important rite of passage between this makeshift father-son team and to negate the use of violence as a means to any end. But his script is so contrived and heavy-handed that it exploits the very violence it seeks to condemn. His heavies are such smirking fools and the tactics they use to pressure Daniel are so melodramatic and perverse that groans of disbelief, not cheers, may greet this clincher.

Macchio is still likable if a bit mature for the role of featherbrained Daniel. Morita's Miyagi looks more convincing than ever in his key karate sequence. Unfortunately, however this scene is sometimes hard to understand, which dilutes the pearls of wisdom he shares with Daniel.

Director John G. Avildsen ("Lean on

Me," "Rocky") has a way with underdogs. But this time out, Avildsen rushes through the implausible scenario skirting over the important philosophical and value-clarifying scenes between Daniel and Miyagi. Instead he plays up the nonsensical, violent encounters sparked by the bad guys. A subplot about Daniel's platonic relationship with a mountain-climbing potter (Robyn Lively) is witless and forced. Avildsen seems to have forgotten the positive reasons for the success of the first two films.

The exploitative, intense nature of the violence depicted lessens this film's suitability for preteens or impressionable young adolescents. Older adolescents will be able to see through the melodramatic episodes and grasp the positive values inherent in the original theme. The U.S. Catholic Conference classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested.

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Trojan is on the staff of the USCC Office for Film and Broadcasting.

Noriyuki "Pat" Morita (left) and Ralph Macchio return in "The Karate Kid Part III." The U.S. Catholic Conference says the film's script is "so contrived and heavy-handed that it exploits the very violence it seeks to condemn." Due to the exploitative, intense nature of the violence depicted, the USCC classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested.

## Dining Around the Diocese



**Big Apple Cafe**  
682 Park Avenue  
271-1039

A European cafe atmosphere greets you at the Big Apple Cafe, a comfortable fun place to dine. Located in the chic Park Avenue area, the Big Apple offers foods that are prepared fresh daily. Enjoy outdoor dining this spring and summer. Open menu all day. On Sundays, stop by after mass for a sumptuous brunch, from omelettes to french toast. Hours: 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. weekdays, Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to midnight, Sunday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

**Cannon's**  
1551 Mt. Hope Ave.  
(1 minute north of W. Henrietta  
Rd. exit off Rte. 390)  
(716)461-1026

A Rochester favorite for 23 years, featuring a diverse menu including seafood, steaks, chops, veal, and Italian dishes. For the late night diner we serve until 1 a.m. Mon.-Sat., and midnight Sun. Lunches are served daily from 11 a.m. til 3:30.

**Charlie Brown's Family Restaurant**  
495 Goodman St. North  
One block from Main St. E.  
(716)326-3606 Take out

One of Rochester's cleanest and newest restaurants, where you will find delicious food prepared and served in a comfortable atmosphere at reasonable prices. Breakfast specials daily starting at 95¢. Open 7 days 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. — Fri till 9 p.m. Senior citizen discount available on lunches and Fri night (except specials). Owned and operated by Charles D. Scanio.

**Conesus Inn**  
2170 East Lake Road  
(East side of Beautiful  
Conesus Lake)  
(716)346-6100

Now is the perfect time to take a leisurely drive to the Conesus Inn. Located on Conesus Lake, the Conesus Inn serves dinners Tuesday through Saturday from 5 p.m. and Sundays beginning at 4 p.m. As always you'll find the same spectacular Prime

Rib, Alaskan King Crab Legs and Australian Lobster Tail that you've come to expect and enjoy from the Conesus Inn. The beautiful surroundings and atmosphere of the Conesus Inn make it an ideal spot for dinner. Whether it's an intimate evening for two or a large gathering of friends...the Conesus Inn has a perfect evening of dining waiting for you. While you're there, remember to choose a fine wine from their extensive wine list. Reopen for yet another season of splendid dining, visit the Conesus Inn soon... "For The Prime of Your Life." Just ten minutes from exit 9 off 390. Call today for reservations.

**Crystal Barn**  
Corner Clover & Jefferson  
at the Barn Bazaar in Pittsford  
(716)381-4844

A pleasant blend of crystal chandeliers and Victorian motif set in an authentic country barn, creates a memorable atmosphere...for lunch, cocktails or an enjoyable dining experience. Your host George and Katherine Gerkos and Chef Russell Brindisi pride themselves in presenting you with the most carefully selected and prepared dinners as well as unique special creations for each evening. We most sincerely hope that you'll find our quality uncompromising and our service unsurpassed. Reservations are appreciated.

**The Holloway House**  
Rt 5 & 20, E. Bloomfield  
1-657-7120

Enjoy the colonial surroundings of the historic Holloway House for birthdays, anniversaries, or just plain dining out! Built in 1808 as a stagecoach stop, this restaurant (with a ★★★ Mobil Guide rating) offers both a full-course and a-la-carte menu including turkey, steak & seafood. Specials include a traditional Friday night Seafood Buffet served from 5:30-8:30 p.m. (7/7-9/15/89) and a Saturday Prime Rib Special from 5:30-9 p.m. Early Bird specials from 12-3 p.m. Sundays. Owned and operated by the Wayne Family for 29 years, they welcome you for lunch from 11:30A-2P or dinner from 5:30-8:30P. Sat. til 9 p.m., Sun. 12-7:30 p.m. Closed Mondays.

**Irondequoit Town Lounge**  
705 Titus Avenue  
(716)342-3465

Serving lunches 11:30-3 p.m. daily except Sunday. Featuring an Early Bird Special every night but Friday. Fish Frys every Friday. Our party room can accommodate up to 60 people for your next gathering. Clip out this ad and receive \$5.00 off two dinners (not valid on dinners under \$8.00), offer good Sunday thru Thursday, during the Month of August. Please present ad when ordering

**Mr. Dominic's at the Lake**  
4699 Lake Avenue  
(716)865-4630

Noted for their fine Italian dinners that include 11 veal dishes and homemade pasta, Mr. Dominic's is now open for lunch. Early Bird dinner specials Sunday-Friday. Also offering 10% senior discount. Delivery is available for your luncheon group of ten or more. Lunch hours from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. Dinner hours Monday-Friday 4:00-9:30 p.m., Saturday 5:00-10:00 p.m., Sunday 3:00-9:00 p.m.

**Mrs. Murphy's Smorgasbord & Lobster House**  
Bath, New York  
(607)776-6211

Our 50th Anniversary Festival is now on. Wednesday and Thursday Buffet, \$8.95. Also, 12 Early-Bird Specials \$3.95 and up, 5-8 p.m. Friday's, Famous Fish Dinners. Smorgasbord with Prime Rib and Crab Legs Fridays and Saturdays. Sunday Champagne Brunch 12-2:30, \$6.50. Sunday Smorgasbord 2:45 p.m. till. Take 390 S. to Rt. 17, exit 37 or 38.

**National Hotel**  
Rte. 20A & 39  
Cuylerville, NY 14481  
(716)382-3130

Built in 1837, the 150 year old National Hotel is a landmark in and of itself. Serving dinners only, Tues.-Sat. 4:30-10 p.m. and Sundays, 12-8 p.m. A special Senior Citizen menu is featured nightly and Sunday. From Rochester, take 390 South to exit 8. The National Hotel is located on Rts. 20A & 39 in Cuylerville just 3 miles south of Geneseo or 3 miles east of Letchworth State Park. Reservations are appreciated.

**Omega Family Restaurant**  
Cedarfield Commons,  
496 Long Pond  
225-3400

Bring the whole family to Omega Family Restaurant and enjoy a great meal at a great price! Monday-Wednesday, prices range from \$3.95 to \$5.95 for a number of dishes. Children's portions are 99¢ including a small drink. Seniors enjoy a 10% discount from 4 to 10 p.m. Monday-Thursday. Sample the many breakfast specials or the soup & sandwich lunch specials. Open breakfast, lunch & dinner.

**(Oswald's) Hof Brau Haus**  
406 Lyell Ave.  
(716)458-2084

Authentic German cooking in an old world Gasthaus decor. Specializing in German wines, and featuring more than 50 imported beers. Special arrangements for groups. Serving lunch and dinner. Live Bavarian entertainment on weekends.

**Papa Joe's**  
8506 Grieg Street  
Sodus Point, NY  
(315)483-6372

Your hosts Don and Jude Buchwald welcome you to Papa Joe's Restaurant located on the scenic waters of Sodus Bay. Featuring steak, veal, chicken, seafood and pasta dishes. Not one, but two chefs, Chef Pasquale and Chef Nique, prepare all your meals fresh daily on the premises for your dining pleasure. Every Thursday we feature Prime Rib, Chicken French or Chicken Centra for only \$7.95 each. Steak and lobster, at only \$14.99, is served daily for the season. Enjoy complete lunch and dinner menus on our casual outdoor deck or in our elegant indoor dining area. Lunches and dinners served 7 days a week, 11:30 a.m. til 10:00 p.m. Major credit cards accepted. Reservations appreciated. "Papa Joe's...A truly unique dining experience."

**The Redwood**  
Rtes. 21 & 53  
Naples, New York 14512  
(716) 374-6360

Serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner, The Redwood features a Prime Rib Dinner Special Wednesdays and Saturdays; Fish Frys every Friday, and Barbeque Beef Rib Saturdays. Open 6 a.m. - 8 p.m. Tues. - Thurs.; Fri. & Sat. till 9 p.m.; Sun., 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. Closed Mondays. Reservations are recommended.

**Sherwood Manor Restaurant**  
60 W. Main Street  
Honeoye Falls, NY  
(15 Minutes south of Monroe  
and Clover Sts.)  
(716)624-3580 Closed Mondays

Your host, Andy Carafos, invites you to dine in relaxed elegance, sampling from a menu featuring the finest quality prime rib served in upstate New York. Fresh seafood, veal, steaks, chops, and poultry, as well as several daily luncheon, dinner and early bird specials round out the extensive menu. Banquet facilities available for parties to 125.

**Sodus Pt. Fish & Crab House**  
Sodus Pt., N.Y. 14555 (on the  
Seaway Trail)  
(315)483-2314

Discover Sodus Pt. at its finest! The area's first waterfront fish and crab house serving lunch and dinner on beautiful Sodus Bay. Surrounded with glass and decking, the breathtaking view is surpassed by the food. Join us for dining or dancing in our authentic Cape Cod nautical atmosphere. Located on Greig St. in Sodus Pt. Reservations are appreciated.

### Dining Around the Diocese

The first issue of each month, the *Catholic Courier* will be featuring some prime dining spots in and around the Rochester diocese. If you, or someone you know, would like to have your restaurant included in our Dining Guide, call the *Catholic Courier* at (716)328-4340. Look for our Dining Guide in the upcoming months, and pay a visit to the restaurant of your choice, and enjoy a pleasant evening of "Dining Around the Diocese."