

Area blacks

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The church in Rochester has come a long way, acknowledged parishioners at both Immaculate Conception and St. Bridget's. Members of both parishes had high praise for the white priests who were their pastors.

"Father (Bob Werth) comes right down from the podium and gives us what we call a good preaching," noted Juliet Anderson, a parishioner at St. Bridget's. Anderson said that the priest has incorporated many African-American elements of worship in the Sunday Masses, such as gospel singing and, occasionally, liturgical dancing.

During Mass at Immaculate Conception, a painting of a black Jesus behind the altar looks down upon Father Edward Dillon, and Sister Frances Sweeney, pastoral team member. The two whites are loved and respected by their black parishioners, who consider them "holy" people who have worked over the last decade to make Mass more appealing to the parish's African-American majority.

Nonetheless, local black Catholics are

Leadership conference set

American Collegians for Life will hold its third-annual National Pro-life Leadership Conference at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. Jan. 20-22, 1990.

The conference will take place in conjunction with the annual March for Life, which is scheduled for Jan. 22, 1990.

Registration for the three-day conference is \$30 before December 20 and \$40 afterward. The conference fee includes all workshops, meals, housing (if necessary) and a banquet.

For information, write to: American Collegians for Life, Conference Committee, 3316 Dent Place, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20007.

Literacy group needs help in teaching reading, writing

Literacy Volunteers of America is seeking people to train as tutors in basic reading and writing and in English as a second language. Prior teaching experience or knowledge of another language is not needed to participate.

The first of the fall workshops begins October 2 at the offices of Literacy Volunteers, 907 Culver Road, Rochester.

Training will be provided through workshops, consisting of 21 hours of intense instruction in seven, three-hour classes. Volunteers have a choice of morning or evening sessions.

Interested individuals should call 716/288-5232 for information.

Support group meeting set for those affected by illness

Cancer Action, Inc. has scheduled a Make Today Count support group meeting for family and patients with serious illness on Monday, Sept. 25, at 7:30 p.m.

Dr. Richard Mallard, a psychologist from the University of Rochester Medical Center, will speak on the topic "Medical and Non-medical Methods of Pain Control."

The group has scheduled regular meetings, which will take place on the third Monday of each month at the Cancer Action offices, 225 Alexander St., Rochester. Free parking is available.

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still dissatisfied that there are no black priests working for the diocese. Nor does the diocese have any black sisters, brothers or seminarians. Weber sarcastically commented that an Imani Temple couldn't be established in Rochester because there are no black priests here to found it.

Currently, no black priests are being considered for ministry in the diocese, according to Father George Norton, diocesan spokesman. One black parishioner at St. Briugot's has recently expressed interest in pursuing the priesthood, according to Father Thomas Valenti, assistant for vocations to Bishop Matthew H. Clark.

Despite their dissatisfaction with the local and universal church, it is doubtful that local black Catholics will be leaving the church in large numbers in the near future. Instead, it is more likely that they will continue their struggle to awaken the church to their presence and needs.

Gaynelle Wethers, who as principal of St. Monica's School, is the only black heading a diocesan school, supported Father Stallings' efforts in Washington. The church must realize, she said, that it is time to aggressively integrate blacks into the wider Catholic community.

In a poignant manner, she described the perception that black Catholics too often have of themselves in the church. "If in all of our churches, the image of Jesus is blue eyes and long hair, doesn't that make me Jesus' stepchild?"

League title

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Elmira Notre Dame does not compete in the Private-Parochial League, but the team will have to fight a battle of its own: lack of consistency.

The Crusaders (2-2-1) opened their season at Bath, posting a 2-1 win over the traditionally strong Rams. In another good effort, Notre Dame pulled out a 2-2 tie against powerful Addison.

But then in the Notre Dame Tournament, the Crusaders lost in the finals to Campbell, 2-0. And more recently, Notre Dame registered its second loss this season in a lopsided 5-1 setback to Horseheads.

The loss to Horseheads was particularly tough, noted Crusader coach Steve Weber.

Weather

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came after Notre Dame recovered a Southside fumble at the Green Hornets' four-yard line.

Following a missed conversion after their second touchdown, the Crusaders took a 13-0 lead into the locker room at halftime.

The game quickly turned, however, in the second half. Crusader quarterback Mike Bennett threw an interception, and

The two teams played almost evenly, with Horseheads taking a 2-1 lead late in the game. But then Notre Dame's goalie, Sandi Pace, was forced to leave the game because of an injury, and Horseheads scored three quick goals to ice the game.

Weber said he expected Pace back for a scheduled game against Southside High School on Sept. 19. He believes his team is strong defensively, but he is concerned about its scoring punch. The Crusaders have outshot every opponent with the exception of Addison, but they have had trouble converting their scoring chances.

Weber attributed the lack of scoring to new players trying to fill the roles of Katie Cain (nine goals) and Heather Lejedel (nine goals), both of whom graduated last June. The team will rely on returning starter Melanie Crisco (nine goals) to fill the void left by Cain and Lejedel.

Southside (1-1) drove 31 yards in 13 plays to score. The Green Hornets scored again at the beginning of the fourth quarter, and held Notre Dame scoreless to preserve the victory.

For the game, the Crusaders mustered only 125 yards total offense, compared to Southside's 200. Bennett suffered a poor night, completing four out of 19 passes for 86 yards.

This Friday night, the Crusaders will try to get back on the winning track against Susquehanna Valley.

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