

Paul Ivancic



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Apalachin mission prepares people for changes

APALACHIN — St. Margaret Mary Church recently concluded its seventh parish mission, which focused on the Commitment to Ministry process.

The mission, which was held Feb. 4-10, was hosted by members of the Parish Reflection Team.

According to June Casey, chairperson of the PRT, this year's mission intended to "educate the people for the changes to come in the church's future."

"We can't ignore what is happening around us; we're all being called to bring the gospel alive," said Casey, who has been a parishioner at the Apalachin parish for 15 years. "This year we were asked to prepare people for the changes to come and

that's what we did the whole week."

Each night's program consisted of a speaker, a witness and a prayer. Father David P. Simon, pastor, began "the week with the Lord Jesus" with his speech on the theme, "We Are God's Children."

Casey credited Father Simon with helping parishioners better understand the Commitment to Ministry process.

"We are so blessed with a pastor who encourages us to educate ourselves about the changes occurring in the church," Casey said. "He has helped us understand the important issues facing the church."

Casey said that one of the ways Father Simon has prepared the parish for coming changes is by getting parishioners to

become active in the church.

"He tells us to get out and do things. He sees the gifts of different people in the parish," Casey said. "When you join the parish, he finds out where your talents lie."

Father Simon said that "energizing" parishioners has been one of his main goals since he came to St. Margaret Mary seven years ago.

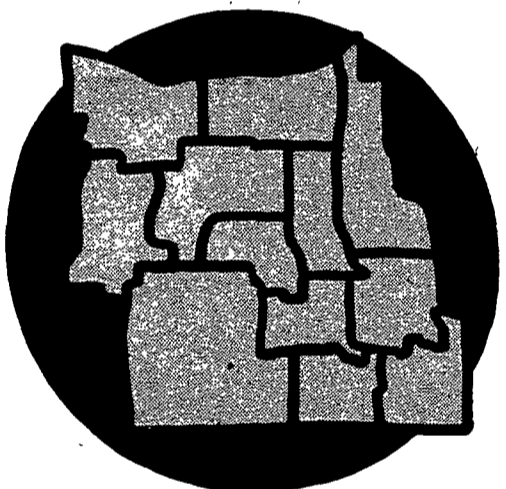
"People here have been adequately prepared for change ... they accept the ministries of their brothers and sisters," said Father Simon, who noted that there are 40 Stephen Ministers among the 750 families in the parish. "I believe that the ministry is very strong here."

One of the highlights of the mission was a midweek talk by Bishop Matthew H. Clark. The bishop's speech, "Visions of the Big Church," drew about 250 people. Average attendance for the mission other programs throughout the week hovered at approximately 200.

Other speakers during the week included Michael Mahoney, pastoral assistant at St. Columba/St. Patrick in Caledonia, and Sisters Noreen Graney and Nancy O'Brien, RSM, of the Tioga Rural Ministry program.

Casey said that the reflection team will follow up the mission during Lent.

— Richard A. Kiley



Sacramental series slated for church in Rochester

ROCHESTER — St. Stanislaus Parish is sponsoring a series of Lenten talks on the "Christian Pathway to the Kingdom."

The lectures will center on how a Christian approaches the sacraments, and what the sacraments accomplish in the renewal of Christian life. Each talk will end with Benediction.

The talks will be given on the following Monday evenings at 7 p.m.: March 5 — Father Albert Shamon will speak on "Eucharistic Celebration;" March 12 — Father Shamon will speak on "Mary: Our Path of Holiness to Christ;" March 19 —

Father John Glogowski will speak on "The Sacrament of Reconciliation and Healing;" March 26 — Father Melvin Walczak will speak on "The Meaning of the Christian life that has its roots in Baptism;" April 9 — Father Glogowski will talk on "Reflection for the Senior in the Christian Life and Death."

Retreats to center on loss

LIVONIA — Camp Stella Maris is hosting four "Beginning Experience" weekends in 1990. The weekends, which are open to people from all faiths, center on a structured process toward renewal from grief over divorce, separation, death, or other experiences of loss.

The following weekends will feature "Beginning Experience" at the camp: March 9-11, May 5-7, Sept. 28-30 and Nov. 16-18. Reservations must be made. For information call Lea Buzby at 716/377-0366.

Dinner dance scheduled

ROCHESTER — St. Theodore's Parish will celebrate a dinner/dance at the Mapledale Party House on Saturday, Feb. 24. The festivities will begin with hors d'oeuvres at 6:30 p.m., followed by a steamship round buffet dinner at 7:30 p.m.

"Third Time Around" will provide dancing music from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Tickets are available at the rectory office from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For information, call 716/458-7846.

School slates screenings

ROCHESTER — Holy Cross School is currently accepting applications for 1990-91. Screening will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 28, for kindergarten applicants. Students applying for grades 1-8 will be screened on Feb. 27 and March 1. For information, call 716/663-6533.

Prior to registration, Catholic students who have not received the sacraments of baptism, Eucharist or penance must make arrangements to do so through the school's religious education office.

Call 716/621-8133, weekdays, between 9 a.m. and noon.

Syracuse priest to direct Lenten retreat in Auburn

AUBURN — Father Steve Rossetti, a priest of the Syracuse diocese, will lead a Lenten retreat at St. Mary's Parish from March 4-7.

Father Rossetti directs The House of Affirmation, a residence for troubled priests in Hopedale, Mass.

Each session of the retreat will begin at 7:30 p.m. The topics for each night will be: "Choosing the Kingdom" (March 4); "Suffering and Healing" (March 5); "Sin and Reconciliation," with a penance service (March 6); and "Grace and Transformation" (March 7).

Participants can attend any or all of the sessions.

Knights support parishes

SPENCERPORT — The Pope John XXIII Knights of Columbus recently donated more than \$800 to various parishes in northwestern Monroe County.

At the Knight's Annual Religious Appreciation Dinner on Dec. 1, former Grand Knight Ralph Handley of Brockport presented checks totaling \$730 to each of the parishes involved in the council's Charitable and Benevolent Program. An additional \$115 was distributed to Nativity, St. John's and St. Boniface's parishes to be used for Christmas food baskets for the needy.

Rock 'n' roll shows slated

BRIGHTON — Our Lady of Lourdes Parish youth group is sponsoring a series of rock 'n' roll shows for seventh- and eighth-graders. Admission to a show is \$3, and soda will be on sale at each performance, which will run from 7-9:30 p.m. Students who attend the shows will be expected to stay until they are picked up by family members at the end of the show.

The following bands are scheduled: "Syzygy" and "The Whyos" on Feb. 16; "Three Boxes" on March 23; and "The Urban Squirrels" on May 4.

For information, call Johan Engstrom at 716/244-9763.

RECOGNIZING ...

★Dr. Kim Panosian, appointed pathologist and medical director of laboratories at St. Joseph's Hospital, Elmira.

★Those who supported the "Peter, Paul and Mary" holiday concert sponsored by the Founders Club of the Sisters of Mercy, which raised \$60,000 for the sisters' continued education.

★Bishop Kearney High School varsity cheerleaders, who placed first and earned the grand championship of the Wilson Invitational Cheerleading Tournament Feb. 3 near Buffalo. Kearney's cheerleaders also captured the grand champ title in the Greater Rochester Tournament the previous week.

★Sister Barbara DiFiore, RSM, who took part in a 10-day workshop for veteran missionaries last month in San Antonio, Texas. Sister DiFiore has served for two years in Jamaica, West Indies.

★Aquinas Institute, which is among nine local high schools selected to participate in the "Math is Radical" program, a national effort to strengthen math skills.

★New parish council members at St. Ann's, Owasco: Mary Burns, Donna Breed, Paul Hickey, Ann Metzler and Sherry Westover.

★Father William Devereaux Council No. 7980 of the Knights of Columbus in Caledonia, named the winner of the Columbian and Father McGivney Awards for 1988-89. The awards recognize outstanding membership recruitment and retention, and sponsorship of programs that serve families, church, youth and community.

★Carolyn A. Portanova, executive director of the Catholic Family Center, nominated for the 1990 Athena Award recognizing women for professional excellence, creativity, and support for other women's advancement.

★Sister Seraphine Herbst, executive director of the School of the Holy Childhood, named Phi Delta Kappa Educator of the Year in honor of her years of leadership, service and contribution to education.

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