

# Retreat offers occasion to revisit Assisi

By Bishop Matthew H. Clark  
Tuesday, Oct. 10

As I indicated in last week's column, I'll be leaving on Sunday afternoon to go to Assisi, Italy, where I'll be leading a five-day retreat for 60 priests from the Diocese of Rockville Centre, N.Y. We'll be stopping in Rome for a couple of days on the way home; I'll be arriving back in Rochester on the evening of Oct. 31.

I have been looking forward to the experience for quite some time. The invitation has given me an opportunity to think in a systematic way about issues that are important to me. It has also forced me to try to organize my thoughts about them as sharply as I possibly can.

Having said that, I must also acknowledge the fact that once the retreat begins it will be important for all of us to surrender to the love and guidance of the Holy Spirit. The person charged with leading the retreat can hope only to suggest themes, share some reflections and raise questions that may help the retreatants open their hearts more generously to God's healing, sanctifying power.

And because we are celebrating the experience in the stone town of Assisi, I am

sure that the birds and trees, the sun, moon and stars also will be guiding all of us.

Assisi holds special memories for me. You may know that I spent many years studying and ministering in Rome. Between 1959 when I began my theological studies and 1979 when I was ordained a bishop, I spent 13 years there. During the three different sojourns I enjoyed in Rome during those years, I traveled to Assisi on many occasions. Some of those trips were for retreats, others were for shorter trips with fellow students or visitors.

This week I was remembering two of those Assisi trips in particular. One was the first trip I ever made outside of Rome. It was at Christmas time, 1959, and it was the first year the students at the North American College were allowed any travel privileges during the holiday seasons.

As I recall it now, we had about two-and-a-half days for the trip. I still have photographs taken during that experience. They show Tom Votraw, Joe Delaney, Jim Morrison, Sam Wheeler and me looking incredibly young and painfully thin! I remember that we froze, but that we had a wonderful time.

The other trip I remember especially was

the last one I took in Italy before being named a bishop. It was at Easter time in 1979. I had two more months to serve on my seven-year commitment to the North American College, and had invited my mother and my sister to visit one last time before I returned home. Our trip to Siena, Florence and Assisi during those days is still a happy memory and the source of some family stories I wouldn't dare repeat in this space!

Shortly after they returned home I was appointed bishop. I remember breaking the news to my mother by asking her — only about 10 days after she had left — how she would like to return to Rome. She said she'd love to even before she heard any explanation.

So the thought of returning to Assisi includes more than preparing for the retreat with the bishops and priests of Rockville Centre. It embraces many personal memories and invites me to be in touch with the stories of Clare and Francis, which have so profoundly enriched humanity.

I promise that I shall keep the intentions of your hearts with me during those privileged days. And I do ask for your prayers



for all of us who will gather there next week.

I won't have a column for next week's paper, but I'll be in touch with you in two weeks.

Peace to all.

Catholic Courier (USPS 135-580)

Vol. 102 No. 40 Oct 18, 1990

Published weekly except week after July 4.

Subscription rates: single copy, 50¢; one-year subscription in U.S., \$15; Canada and foreign \$15 plus postage.

Offices: 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624, 716/328-4340.

Second-class postage paid at Rochester, N.Y.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Catholic Courier, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624.

AMC TRAVEL, INC.

MOTORCOACH GROUP TOURS & CHARTERS

ONE DAY TOURS

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS  
Tues.-Thurs., Nov. 27-29  
Includes: Jim Nabors Show  
Wheeling, West Virginia

CHRISTMAS  
EXTRAVAGANZA  
Monday, December 3  
Cullen Gardens, near Toronto

NIAGARA FALLS  
FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS  
Wednesday, December 5  
Includes: Niagara on the Lake

For free brochure please write to:

AGNES MARIE COON  
7 CAYUGA STREET  
ROCHESTER, NY 14620  
716-473-8338



## Diocese accepting applications for development campaign grants

The Diocese of Rochester is now soliciting applications for 1991 national grants through the Campaign for Human Development.

To apply, groups must comprise at least 50 percent low-income representation and submit grant proposals meeting the following criteria: innovative projects that

address basic causes of poverty by effecting changes in laws, policies or institutions; and innovative projects designed to develop economic strength and political power within low-income communities.

Currently only requests over \$10,000 will be accepted. The average national grant size is \$28,800.

Groups interested in applying to the Campaign for Human Development grants are required to submit pre-applications by

November 1. Projects that meet the minimum criteria and guidelines will be encouraged to submit full applications by January 31, 1991.

For pre-application forms and criteria contact: Kevin Hennessy, Finger Lakes Office of Social Ministry, 315/789-2686; Ken Maher, Justice and Peace Department, Catholic Family Center, 716/546-7220; or Kathy Dubel, Southern Tier Office of Social Ministry, 607/734-9784.

## Elmira hospital foundation posts earnings

ELMIRA — The St. Joseph's Hospital Foundation has posted 1990 third-quarter earnings of \$45,205. The Oct. 11 announcement marked an increase of nearly \$25,000 — or 54 percent — in contributions and special-event income over the same period in 1989.

The foundation's director, David

Sullivan, credited the rise in earnings to two special events presented recently. "The Robert Kennedy Jr. environmental program and the Ed Widman Memorial Golf Tournament had great response from the community and accounted for a bid jump in our deposits," Sullivan said in a prepared release.

OPEN 'TIL CHRISTMAS

Make reservations today for your Christmas party, Anniversary, or other special occasion at the ...

CONESUS INN  
"For the Prime of your Life."

2170 East Lake Rd.  
(on Beautiful Conesus Lake)  
716-346-6100  
Dinners served nightly except Monday

Century 21 HOME SPIRIT

2510 Chili Avenue  
247-7700

You'll receive special attention when you list your home with us.

Bob Malone      Jean Herrera

OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday, October 23rd  
6:30p.m.-8:30p.m.

QUALITY CATHOLIC EDUCATION

BISHOP KEARNEY HIGH SCHOOL

For more information call: 342-4000  
125 Kings Highway South, Rochester, NY 14617

Travel Trends ... invites you to SHOP! SHOP!! SHOP!!!

Philadelphia, PA  
Tuesday, Nov. 6/Thursday, Nov. 8, 1990  
\$193<sup>50</sup> Includes:

OUTLET MALL shopping with over 150 stores, including Filene's, Saks, Ann Taylor and Gantors; HOME DESIGNER OUTLET MALL, and 3 STORY MALL which houses Macy's, Bloomingdales, Wanamaker's and a host of others; hotel accommodations, daily breakfast & dinner, plus musical show "Hit Parade."

UPCOMING TRIPS ...  
New York City Shopping Trip - December, 1990  
Italian Cooking Tour (Italy) - 1991  
Scotland Golf Tour - 1991  
Call or write for our list of upcoming shopping trips today.

(716) 544-0136  
TRAVEL TRENDS  
745 Titus Avenue  
Annex Building  
Rochester, New York 14617

MOONEY'S FORMERLY EFFINGERS

Your Hosts: Don & Joanne Mooney

ALL YOU CAN EAT  
PIG ROAST \$8.95

SAT., OCTOBER 20: 5:30-10:00PM  
SUN., OCTOBER 21: 3:00PM-11

Live Entertainment...  
Saturday: Johnny Dunlap & Co.  
Sunday: Jerry Fingers & Co.

LUNCHES: 11:30 - 2:30  
DINNERS: 5 - 9:30

TUESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY  
MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS TODAY!  
1582 E Main St — 482-5220