

Hospice in Elmira plans training sessions for April

ELMIRA — The Southern Tier Hospice has scheduled six training sessions for people interested in working with the terminally ill and their families in April. All sessions will take place at the hospice offices, 244 W. Water St., from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Participants must attend all the programs, which begin April 9. Pre-registration is required by April 1. For information, call Joy Doolittle, 607/734-1570.



Sandy Bertog
Archbishop Joseph Cardinal Bernardin of Chicago ordains Divine Word Missionary Augustine "Gus" Wall to priesthood March 16 in Techny, Ill.

Parish begins fund drive for convent renovations

CANANDAIGUA — Officials at St. Mary's Church recently announced they will launch a campaign in April to raise \$160,000 for the renovation of the parish's convent. The money is needed to match a grant of \$160,000 from the state Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. Parish officials have until Aug. 31 to notify the state that the church can raise the necessary amount.

Once renovations are completed, the 167-year-old Greek revival building — listed on the national and state registers of historic places — will accommodate parish offices and the women religious who work in the parish school. The convent will also have meeting space available for area not-for-profit organizations.

The effort to renovate the convent became necessary after the building began

to deteriorate in recent years. The lack of money to make the necessary repairs, as well as the decreasing number of women religious living there, led the parish to sell the building to a developer in 1989.

Parishioners and neighborhood residents protested the sale, however, and the developer released the parish from the contract in the summer of 1989.

The parish then formed a committee to look into possible uses for the convent and ways to make any necessary repairs. Last summer the committee applied for the state grant, which was approved in the fall of 1990.

To meet the \$160,000 goal, individuals may either contribute money or labor, committee members said.

For information or to make a contribution of cash, labor or materials, contact Jim Rulison, 716/398-9910.

Italian classes scheduled for St. Theodore's School

GATES — In partnership with Nazareth College of Rochester, St. Theodore's School, 170 Spencerport Road, will offer Italian classes for children aged 8-13 this spring.

Beginning in mid-April, the classes will run for six weeks on Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$50.

Call the college's Continuing Education Office, 716/586-2525, for information.

Volunteers needed in effort to clean parish cemeteries

WAYLAND — Due to damage from the ice storm, officials at St. Joseph's Church are looking for volunteers to help clean up both cemeteries on Saturday, March 30, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Organizers of the effort also need trucks to haul away branches and debris. Call 716/728-228 for information.

Hornell man to celebrate Mass at St. Ann's April 7

HORNELL — Augustine "Gus" Wall, who was recently ordained to the priesthood in the Divine Word Missionary order, will return to his native city to celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at noon on Sunday, April 7, at St. Ann's Church, 31 Erie Ave.

A public reception for Father Wall will follow in the parish hall from 1-3 p.m.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. James R. Wall of Hornell, Father Wall was one of three men of the Society of the Divine Word Chicago Province ordained to the priesthood March 16 by Cardinal Joseph L. Bernardin, archbishop of Chicago, in the chapel at Divine Word International.

The Society of the Divine Word is an international congregation of priests and brothers whose 5,000 members serve in 54 countries on five continents. The headquarters of the Chicago Province — which encompasses the eastern half of the United States, Canada, and parishes in the Caribbean Islands — is at Techny, Ill., located north of Chicago.

Father Wall professed his first vows as

an SVD at Bay St. Louis in August, 1984, and his final vows at Techny in 1987. He was ordained to the diaconate on Sept. 16, 1990.

The Hornell native credited his family and the parish community of St. Ann's for nurturing the call to ministry in him.

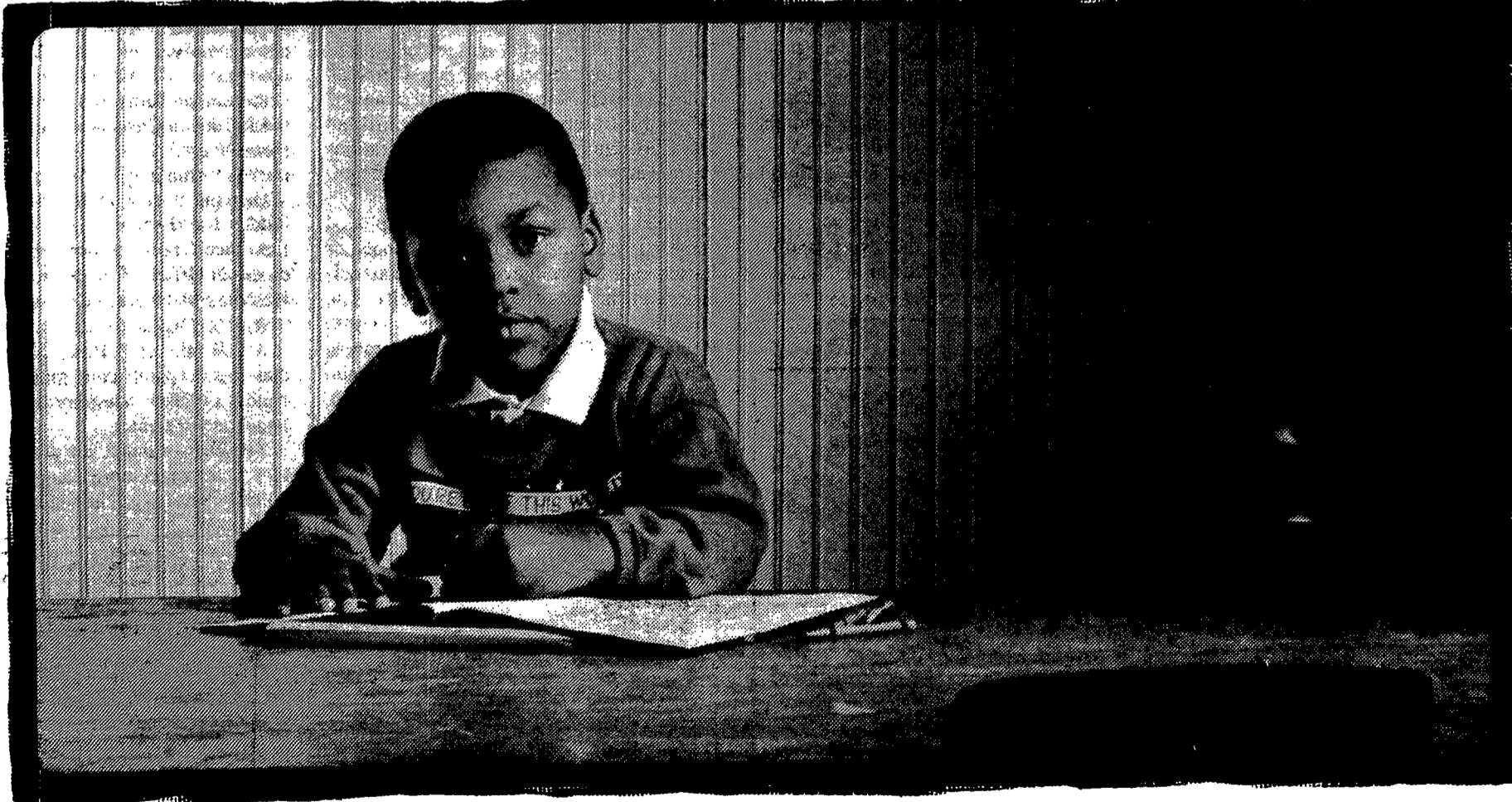
"I think as a priest I will be trying as best as I can to live out the faith I first received at St. Ann's from my parents, the Sisters of Mercy and the priests," he said.

"So many showed me God's love by their love for me. All through my studies from high school on, the folks there have been tremendously supportive with their letters, donations and continually being present to me. I really appreciate that," Father Wall continued.

Father Wall will leave the United States on Aug. 16 for a six-year assignment in Kenya, East Africa.

Two of his brothers, Thomas and Andrew Wall, and his two sisters, Mary Beth Lindeman and Monica Wall, all reside in Hornell. Another brother, Peter, lives in Canisteo.

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