



Center seeks participants for therapy on sex abuse

ROCHESTER — Catholic Family Center is now accepting referrals for two therapy groups to help female survivors of childhood sexual abuse.

One group is scheduled to meet on Wednesday evenings and the other on Thursday nights. Meetings will take place at CFC's offices on the seventh floor of the Sibley Tower Building, 25 Franklin St.

Beginning Sept. 23-24, sessions will run 12 weeks with an option to renew. For information, call Jeanne Sloan at 262-7115 or Nan Pokalsky, 262-7114.



Top teachers honored

Six teachers at Auburn's Blessed Trinity School have been selected for inclusion in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers, 1992*. The honorees are (seated, left to right): Diane Baaden, Carol Raymond and Sister Helen Therese Koenen, SSJ; (standing, left to right) Ronald Kany, Kathleen Morgan and Richard Ozog.

Dryden parish reaches final stage of \$350,000 renovation project

DRYDEN — There will be a party at Holy Cross Church next month — and parishioners have been waiting four years to throw it.

When Bishop Matthew H. Clark visits this Tompkins County village to dedicate Holy Cross' new parish hall and refurbished church, his appearance will mark the end of a massive renovation project costing close to \$350,000.

"We're kind of excited about it. We hope to be done by the end of this month," said Father William M. Barrett, pastor of Holy Cross, 375 S. George Road.

According to Father Barrett, financing for the project grew out of a fund started by Father Thomas Cleary, Holy Cross' former pastor who died in 1989. Additional funding was raised through the sale of the old parish hall, pledges and such fundraising events as bingo.

Unlike the previous parish center,

which was located in the village about 1½ miles away, the new hall is attached to the church. It consists of six classrooms and meeting rooms, a kitchen, and an open area that will accommodate about 200 people.

The structure is being named Cleary Hall in honor of the late pastor. It was designed by the architectural firm of Doran Associates in Rochester, and construction was performed by the P.S. Griswold firm of Cortland.

Father Barrett noted that the building will be far more convenient than were previous accommodations for those attending religious-education classes, parish meetings, Bible study, senior-citizen events, wedding receptions and other functions.

"We've never had enough space to have a big celebration," Father Barrett remarked. "Even to have coffee hour after Mass in a meeting room, there would be shoulders jostling and coffee spilling on the floor."

The church itself is sporting a new look as well. That building has been remodeled to make way for a new chapel, library, utility room, bathrooms, lighting system and greater accessibility for the handicapped.

The sanctuary area is somewhat shorter than before, with approximate seating capacity reduced from 350 to 300 adults.

"We wanted to get the people closer together. We hardly ever got (350) people anyway — maybe a couple of times a year," Father Barrett explained.

Much of the work on this project was performed by parish volunteers who have painted, tiled bathrooms and installed furniture.

The dedication ceremony with Bishop Clark is scheduled in conjunction with the 5 p.m. Mass on Saturday, Sept. 12. The liturgy will be followed by a celebration either in the parish center or on church grounds, said Father Barrett. — Mike Latona

RIJM can remain open after successful appeal

ROCHESTER — Thanks to \$9,200 raised during its appeal to the community last month, Rochester Interfaith Jail Ministry will be able to continue its work in the Rochester area.

RIJM faced the possibility of closing earlier this summer when the ministry experienced a sharp drop in donations and state-funding cutbacks.

The ministry's board of directors also named R. Bruce Colburn, former assistant director, as RIJM's executive director on Aug. 10. Colburn succeeds the Rev. Randolph Fields, who resigned July 31.

RIJM's annual meeting will take place on Friday, Sept. 18, from 12-1:30 p.m. on the second floor of Downtown Presbyterian Church, 121 N. Fitzhugh St. The meeting will feature the election of new officers and an amendment to RIJM's bylaws.

Call 716/325-1942 for information.

Matt Talbot center opens next to Blessed Sacrament

ROCHESTER — Bishop Matthew H. Clark and Father Bruce Ammering, pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church, 534 Oxford St., led a dedication service on Tuesday afternoon, Aug. 11, for the new facility housing Matt Talbot Ministries/New Beginnings.

Located next to the church, the center at 514 Oxford St. will help guide people in recovery from addictions. The ministry also features a reconciliation program for individuals and families.

Counseling and programs are designed to foster emotional and spiritual health by helping people respond to fear, anger, depression and confusion in positive ways.

Matt Talbot Ministries/New Beginnings will offer one-on-one counseling, weekend retreats and workshops as well as daily or weekly support group sessions. Assistance is available to anyone, regardless of ability to pay. Support for the ministry is provided through donations from the community, churches and the center's clients.

The organization was named after Matt Talbot, an Irishman born in 1860. Talbot spent the last part of his life practicing various spiritual disciplines. Call 716/442-1204 for information.

'At Home Retreat' offered

ROCHESTER — Women who often find that a weekend-retreat experience is unavailable to them due to the demands of a family, home or job are welcome to participate in the "At Home Retreat."

Based on the Spiritual Exercise of St. Ignatius, the "At Home Retreat" is given to a limited number of women in the home of one of the participants. The group meets weekly for two hours for a period of 13 weeks.

A new group for married women is forming in Rochester and will hold its sessions on Friday mornings, from 9:15-11:15 a.m., beginning Sept. 11.

Call Ann Bodjak, 716/377-7588, or Karen Rinefierd at 586-1919 for details.



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