

Seminarian likes 'career change'

SPENCER — After receiving his associate's degree in data processing from Tompkins-Cortland Community College in 1988, Steve Shululu began to pursue his career at Cornell University.

Yet the call to serve God on a full-time basis — a voice that he had heard as far back as the early 1980s — never quite grew out of earshot from Shululu.

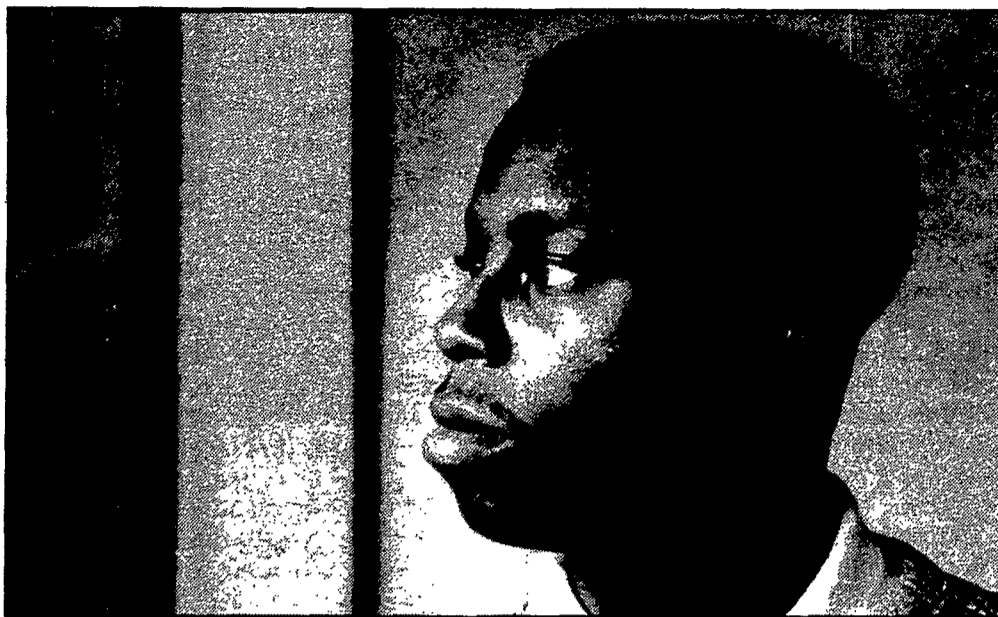
So in early 1991, upon receiving a questionnaire from the Priests and Brothers of the Sacred Heart, Shululu responded quickly.

"The literature seemed very appealing. It triggered off my urges of wanting to pursue the priesthood," said the 26-year-old Shululu, who recently spoke with the *Catholic Courier* while making a holiday visit to his family in this Tioga County village.

In the summer of 1991, Shululu took his first steps toward becoming a priest of the Sacred Heart. He spent time performing community service in South Dakota and then began undergraduate studies in San Antonio, Texas, which continue to this day. Shululu is majoring in French.

His agenda will also include four years of graduate requirements. Shululu anticipates that his ordination will occur sometime in 1998.

His ultimate goal, he said, is to perform missionary work in many parts of the world — the type of activity which reflects the main objective of the



Steve Shululu, a parishioner at St. Pius X Church in Van Etten, is studying to become a priest of the Sacred Heart.

Priests and Brothers of the Sacred Heart. Based in Hales Corner, Wis., the order numbers nearly 200 priests and brothers in the United States.

These religious dedicate themselves to social justice and peace, particularly in minority-laden communities. For instance, Shululu worked extensively with Sioux Indians during his trip to South Dakota two summers ago.

Born in Ithaca, Shululu moved to New York City when he was 4 years old and returned to the Southern Tier at 13 when his family settled in Tioga

County. The oldest of four children, Shululu is a 1984 graduate of Spencer-Van Etten High School. His parents, Steve and Marcia, are natives of Tanzania, East Africa. The Shulus are parishioners at St. Pius X Church, 132 Main St., Van Etten.

Thus far, Shululu is extremely happy with his vocational choice.

"This was an inner calling, I guess. There are no signs telling me otherwise that this isn't for me. I'm totally confident."

— Mike Latona

Events to celebrate Catholic schools

The following information has been furnished to the *Catholic Courier* regarding Catholic Schools Week events.

• St. Charles Borromeo School, 64 Maiden Lane, will welcome any interested visitors to the school during the week of Feb. 1-5. Hours to visit will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. In addition, Feb. 3 is National Appreciation Day for Catholic Schools.

Registrations for new students are being accepted. For information, call 716/663-1220.

• A weeklong series of events will highlight Catholic Schools Week at Immaculate Conception School, 320 W. Buffalo St.

An open house is scheduled on Tuesday, Feb. 2, at 7 p.m. in the school building, which houses grades pre-kindergarten through 8.

Among the other events will be a "Friendship Day" presented by the Immaculate Conception elementary and middle school grades, a Student Council vs. faculty/parent basketball game, a Mass for school families, alumni and friends, a DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) graduation ceremony.

In addition, a 30-minute documentary on Catholic education will air on Ithaca community access Channel 13. Titled "Catholic Schools: The Good News in Education," the program is produced by the Diocese of Rochester. The program will be shown on Sunday, Jan. 31, at 3 p.m.; Wednesday, Feb. 3, at 9 p.m.; and Saturday, Feb. 6, at 5 p.m.

For information about the week's activities or school and registration information, call 607/273-2707.

• St. John of Rochester School, 10 Wickford Way, Fairport, will host the Rainbow of Arts Festival on Saturday, Feb. 6, from 1 to 4 p.m.

The event will include 4-6 grade chorus, 7-8 grade chorus, band, strings and art projects. In addition, the program will feature individual musical performances, story telling and folk dancing. The festival is being coordinated by music and art teachers.

• Re-registration and student placement at Monroe County quadrat schools is taking place through Jan. 29. New registration is scheduled for Feb. 22-26. Call 716/328-3210 for information.

Mass recalls Christie Simonetti's vivacity

GREECE — "I was so certain, so confident that I would never have to be standing here today," a teary-eyed Father Robert S. Bourcy told the congregation packed into St. John the Evangelist Church.

Yet the day, which Father Bourcy and so many thousands of Rochesterians tried to prevent from occurring over the last several months, had arrived. Last Saturday, Jan. 23, Christie Simonetti's Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. John the Evangelist Church, 2400 Ridge Road W., where she was a parishioner.

On Monday, Jan. 18, 8-year-old Christie had died at Strong Memorial Hospital after a nearly two-year bout with leukemia.

Her illness had gained significant attention after her parents, David and Lorrie, made a public plea for bone-marrow donors last March.

The ensuing drive saw nearly 4,000

people respond in an attempt to find a suitable match for a transplant, and a fund was also established to help cover Christie's numerous medical expenses. (Father Bourcy, who serves as parochial vicar at St. John's and had been integral in initiating last March's drive, told the *Catholic Courier* that remaining funds from the drive will be donated to Rochester-area facilities for ailing children.)

Although the efforts of all involved did not ultimately save Christie's life, her funeral Mass revealed the tight bond she and the community shared.

The touching service included an array of music and eulogizers over two-and-a-half hours. The Mass ended with the St. John's adult choir performing a rousing, hand-clapping version of "Hail Holy Queen" — just as it sounded in *Sister Act*, one of Christie's favorite movies.

This upbeat conclusion was reflec-

tive of the entire Mass, which paid homage to Christie's unwavering optimism throughout her illness. In fact, in a fitting piece of irony, a burst of sunlight came through the church windows just as the entrance procession was ending.

"Call it nature. (But) I think it was affirmation," Father Bourcy said after the Mass ended.

The service's final speakers were Christie's parents, who thanked the public for its support.

"Please don't cry for (Christie) anymore," Lorrie Simonetti implored. "I hope you have enjoyed this Mass, because I don't want to think of it as a funeral — it's Christie's tribute."

"Christie was as special as everyone said she was," added David Simonetti. "We may live to be 75 years old, and I hope we all will, but we may never do as much in our lives as Christie did."

— Mike Latona

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	BINGO TIMES & LOCATIONS
	St. Charles Borromeo St. Mary	1 Holy Apostles St. Francis Xavier St. Stanislaus Our Lady of Mercy	2 Bishop Kearney Guardian Angels Holy Family Home School Assoc. Our Lady of Perpetual Help	3 St. Anne St. James St. Mary Our Mother St. Michael's St. Stanislaus St. Jude the Apostle	4 Holy Ghost Most Precious Blood St. Cecilia's St. Mark's	5 Good Shepherd St. Thomas the Apostle	Bishop Kearney 125 Kings Hwy. S. 671-1065 Wed. 8p.m. Good Shepherd 3288 E. Henrietta Rd. 334-3518 Sat. 7:30pm Guardian Angels Church 2061 E. Henrietta Rd. 334-1412 Wed. 7:30pm Holy Apostles 6 Austin St. 254-7170 Tues. 7:30p.m. Holy Family Church 899 Jay Street 328-3110 Sun. 7:30pm Holy Family Home School Assoc. 899 Jay St. 328-4800 Wed. 7:30p.m. Holy Ghost 220 Coldwater Rd. 247-3535 Fri. 8p.m. Most Precious Blood 179 Stenson St. 458-6079 Fri. 7:30p.m. Our Lady of Mercy 600 Denise Rd. 865-0775 Tue. 7:30pm Our Lady of Perpetual Help 923 Portland Ave. 467-2725 Wed 7:30pm St. Anne 1600 Mt. Hope Ave. 271-3260 Thur. 7:30pm St. Boniface 15 Whalin St. 271-1468 Sun. 7:45p.m.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	St. Cecilia's 2732 Culver Rd. 467-4286 Fri. 8p.m. St. Charles Borromeo 64 Maiden Lane 663-3230 Mon. 8p.m. St. Francis Xavier 316 Bay St. 482-3211 Tues. 8p.m. St. James 119 Brockley Rd. 482-9796 Thur. 7:30p.m. St. Jude the Apostle 41 Lyell Rd. 247-4322 Thur. 7:45p.m. St. Mark's 54 Kuhn Rd. 225-3710 Fri. 8p.m. St. Mary Lyceum Hall. Auburn 315-252-9545 Mon. 7:30p.m. St. Mary Our Mother 811 Westlake St., Horseheads 607-739-3818 Thur. 7:30p.m. St. Michael's 869 Clinton Ave. N 325-4040 Thur. 7:30 & 9pm St. Rita's 1008 Maple Dr. 671-1100 Sun. 7:30pm St. Stanislaus 1150 Hudson Ave. 467-1472 Sun. 6:15p.m. Tues. 7pm & Thur. 8pm St. Theodore 170 Spencerport Rd. 429-6811 Sun. 7:30p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle 41 Colebrook Dr. 342-2323 Sat. 8p.m.
Holy Family St. Ambrose St. Boniface St. Rita's St. Stanislaus St. Theodore	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Holy Family St. Ambrose St. Boniface St. Rita's St. Stanislaus St. Theodore	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Holy Family St. Ambrose St. Boniface St. Rita's St. Stanislaus St. Theodore	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Holy Family St. Ambrose St. Boniface St. Rita's St. Stanislaus St. Theodore	28	FEBRUARY BINGO CALENDAR					
SPECIAL PAID ADVERTISEMENT							

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