

**ALL
DIOCESAN**

Meetings

■ **WED., JULY 14** — Awareness session: on courses and programs at St. Bernard's Institute, a graduate school of theology and ministry located at 1100 S. Goodman St., Rochester; Commons Room, St. Mary Church rectory, 15 St. Mary's Place, Rochester; noon; Georgia Crissy, leader; brown bags welcome; call 716/271-1320, ext. 299.

Retreats

Social Events

■ **JULY 15-17** — 11th Annual Medina Canal Festival '93: Routes 31 & 63 (15 miles north of Thruway exit 48-A), on the Erie Canal, Medina; rides open daily at 11 a.m.; booths open daily at noon, 10 a.m. Sat.; features live bands, children's activities, shows, parade and more; all welcome.

**CHEMUNG
SCHUYLER**

Religious Activities

■ **FRI., JULY 9** — Mass: of praise and joy and adoration to the Holy Spirit; St. Cecilia Church, 950 Lake St., Elmira; 7:30 p.m.; also prayers of blessings and healings; all welcome.

■ **SAT., JULY 17** — Wedding anniversary Mass: for couples celebrating their anniversary in June, July, or August; St. Mary Our Mother school cafeteria, 816 W. Broad St., Horseheads; 9 a.m.; followed by social time; call Bob and Judi Pichette, 607/739-4599.

**MONROE
COUNTY**

Entertainment

■ **SUN., JULY 11** — Concert: Bart Dentino and Kevin Huber, sponsored by Gates Parks and Recreation; front lawn, Gates Town Hall, 1605 Buffalo Road, Rochester (inside if weather is bad); 2 p.m.; bring lawn chairs or blankets; all welcome.

■ **SAT., JULY 17** — Concert: second annual "REACH OUT, ROCHESTER," featuring music by The Bethel Full Gospel Choir and Band; Manhattan Square Park, Rochester; 7 p.m.; rain location: Bethel Church, 321 East Ave., Rochester; bring lawn chair and friend.

Fundraisers

■ **SAT., JULY 10 & 17** — Gigantic Clearance Clothing Sale: Holy Apostles School, 2 Austin St., Rochester; 9 a.m.-noon.

■ **WED., JULY 14** — Concert: Italian Wedding Reception, by Sacred Heart Cathedral Choir; rectory hall, Sacred Heart Cathedral, 296 Flower City Park, Rochester; 7 p.m.; proceeds go toward choir's pilgrimage to Rome in October; \$5 per person, \$8 per couple, \$12 per family; for information or tickets, call Shirley, 716/381-3640.

■ **SAT., JULY 17** — Benefit: for Creations Great & Small, a non-profit group creating employment opportunities for those recovering from emotional disabilities; Putt Putt Golf, 70 Jay Scutti Blvd, Henrietta; noon-8 p.m.; special price is \$2 a game (three games available), \$1 donated; please mention playing for Creation Great & Small.

Meetings

■ **THU., JULY 8** — Workshop: "Orientation to Family

Day Care," sponsored by Western New York Child Care Council; Chili Community Center, 4400 Buffalo Road, North Chili; 7-9:30 p.m.; pre-registration required; call 800/743-KIDS or 716/244-3960.

■ **WED., JULY 14** — Support group: Ileitis and Colitis Support Group, sponsored by the Rochester chapter of the National Foundation for Ileitis and Colitis; second floor conference rooms 1, 2 and 3, Park Ridge Hospital, 1555 Long Pond Road, Rochester; 7-9 p.m.; call 716/244-9457.

Religious

■ **JULY 16-20** — Renewal: third annual, "Discerning the Holy," sponsored by Sisters of St. Joseph; motherhouse, 4095 East Ave., Pittsford; for information or registration, call Sr. Anne Alderman, SSJ, 716/586-1000, ext. 76.

■ **SAT., JULY 17** — Service: for hope, healing and remembrance for people impacted by AIDS, sponsored by Greater Rochester AIDS Interfaith Network and Rochester Zen Center; Rochester Zen Center, 7 Arnold Park, Rochester; 7:30 p.m.; all welcome.

Social Events

■ **THU., JULY 8** — Musical program: of traditional songs with dulcimer and Celtic harp, second of "Book Banquet" series; Central Children's Room, Rochester Public Library, 115 South Ave., Rochester; 7 p.m.; Mitzie Collins and Roxanne Ziegler, performers; all families welcome; call 716/428-7360.

■ **FRI., JULY 9** — "TGIF:" sponsored by Single Adult Ministry of St. Louis Church, Pittsford; Daisy Flower Mil, 1880 Blossom Road, Rochester; 5-7 p.m.; all singles invited; call John, 716/225-6169, or Jo, 716/671-4886.

■ **MON., JULY 12** — Charismatic Mass: Christ the King Church, 445 Kings Hwy. S., Irondequoit; 8 p.m.; all welcome.

■ **FRI., JULY 16** — Mass: in honor of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel; Carmelite Monastery, 1931 W. Jefferson Road, Pittsford; 9 a.m.; Fr. Kevin McKenna, celebrant; all welcome.

■ **JULY 16-17** — Festival: Holy Ghost Church, 220 Coldwater Road, Gates; starts at 6 p.m.; features raffle, games for all ages, flea market, homemade baked goods.

■ **JULY 16-17** — Festival: Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary church grounds, 152 Main St., Brockport; 4 p.m.-closing Friday, opens at noon Saturday; features chicken barbecue (takeouts available), children's games, food booths, sales and more; karaoke and disc jockey, Saturday at 7 p.m.; rain date: July 18.

■ **SAT., JULY 17** — Dance: sponsored by Hope and Healing Ministry, St. Charles Borromeo Church, 3003 Dewey Ave. (near Maiden Lane), Rochester; 9 p.m.-1 a.m.; \$5 donation at the door.

**SENECA
CAYUGA**

Social Events

■ **SUN., JULY 11** — "Strawberry Social:" St. Alphonsus Church, 95 E. Genesee St., Auburn; 2-4 p.m.

**STEBEN
COUNTY**

Social Events

■ **SUN., JULY 18** — Festival: sponsored by St. Mary Church,

Rexville; 11:30 a.m.; features chicken barbecue dinners at \$5 for adults and take-out, \$3.75 for 1/2 chickens, \$2.50 for children under 12; also games, baked goods, cake & pie wheel.

**YATES
ONTARIO
WAYNE**

Fundraisers

■ **JULY 9-10** — Sale: garage, craft and bake sale; St. Mary, Our Lady of Hills Church, Route 20A, Honeoye; 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; all welcome; call 716/229-5007.

Religious Activities

■ **DAILY** — Rosary: for world peace; St. Michael Chapel, 401 S. Main St., Newark; 6:20 a.m.

Retreat

■ **JULY 16-18** — Workshop: on "Life Experience;" Notre Dame Retreat House, 5151 Foster Road, Canandaigua; \$195 offering; call Notre Dame Retreat House, 716/394-5700 (9 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays).

Social Events

■ **SUN., JULY 11** — Parish picnic: and pig roast, sponsored by Catholic Community of the Blessed Trinity's Activities Society; bay shelter, Fair Haven State Park; pig, hamburgers, hot, beverages provided; bring dish to pass and own table setting; free for parishioners, \$5 for guests; sign-up sheets at churches; call 315/594-9430.

■ **JULY 15-18** — Summer festival: parking lot, St. Mary's Church, 16 Gibson St., Canandaigua; features lawn sale on Thursday and Friday, auction on Saturday, chicken BBQ on Sunday; also Midway July 22-24.

Book takes its reader on journey with Merton

A *Seven Day Journey with Thomas Merton*, by Esther de Waal; Servant Publications (Ann Arbor, 1992); 114 pages; \$12.99.

By Dr. Christine M. Bochen
Guest contributor

For many of us, summer is a time for travel: short jaunts to enjoy scenic vistas, trips to visit family and friends, a few days at the lake, journeys across the country or abroad, or perhaps pilgrimages to a sacred site.

Even at home we are inclined to find ways to "get away from it all" by taking time out from the ordinary routine and relaxing. Whether our summer plans involve getting away or staying home, Ester de Waal's new book invites us to make a journey — an interior journey — a retreat from the busy routine of our lives. We need not go to a special place to begin this journey. We may begin where we are right now. No reservations are necessary either; any time is right.

Thomas Merton, the famous Trappist monk and writer, is our "fellow-pilgrim" on this seven-day journey and de Waal serves as our knowledgeable, articulate, and experienced guide. She has published many books on Benedictine and Celtic spirituality, including *Seeking God* and *Every Ear-*

thly Blessing. She also has conducted retreats and given numerous lectures on monastic and spiritual topics in England, her home, and throughout the United States.

Although de Waal includes a brief account of Thomas Merton's life and provides a rich and representative sampling of his writings as well as a marvelous collection of his photography in this new book, she notes that this is not a book about Merton. Rather, it is a book that invites us to look beyond Merton, to what, throughout his life and writing, he was inviting us to notice and experience.

The "real journey" in life, Merton insisted, is interior: "it is a master of growth, deepening, and of ever greater surrender to the creative action of love in grace and in our hearts." The author lays out an itinerary for a seven-day "interior" journey, including prayer, reflection, and deepened awareness of God's presence in our lives.

Each day de Waal invites us to focus our prayer in reflection on a theme she develops by drawing from Merton's writings, Scripture, the heritage of Christian spirituality, and her own insight into that tradition. These include God's call, our response, the solitary within, our encounter with Christ, the demands of love, the common and the

ordinary, and integration.

Reflecting prayerfully on these themes, we become aware that God — who has called each of us by name — invites us to be still, to spend time in solitude and silence, and prayer. God invites us to know that we are forgiven, to realize that we are called to become more human (in Merton's language to become "our true selves"), and to recognize our total dependency on God.

We are called to know Christ in our lives, to reach out in compassion to our brothers and sisters in Christ. We are invited to recognize that the most simple realities — ordinary, created things — are a way to God. And we are challenged to strive for balance in our lives as we integrate prayer and activity.

A *Seven Day Journey with Thomas Merton* is a handsome book — a pleasure to look at and read. Passages from Merton's writing and related selections from the Psalms are laid out like lines of poetry. The effect is to invite the reader to read slowly, to linger, to cast an eye over the whole passage, and return to an especially meaningful phrase.

The photographs (some are de Waal's; most are Merton's) call attention to the ordinary things of life: a

chair, a tree trunk, a stone, a basket. "It might," Merton wrote, "be a good thing to open our eyes and see." His photographs have the effect of making us see, as do his words.

The reader should be warned that page references in the end notes are off by several pages, making the task of identifying the source of a particular quoted passage frustrating. That is an unfortunate thing but such a minor flaw does not detract from the fact that this is a beautiful book.

Merton's readers will be sure to want a copy — for the photographs of course, but also because de Waal has read Merton closely and well. She has a knack for identifying key passages in Merton's writings. In fact, I found myself reading some sentences as though I had never seen them before. I must have glossed over these in my own reading and I am grateful to de Waal for bringing them to my attention.

Some readers will find, as I do, that this book will serve well as a guide for a private "retreat." But there is no need to limit oneself to seven days on what is truly a lifelong journey. This is a book readers will pick up again and again.

Bochen is a professor at Nazareth College of Rochester.