

# Trio of events offers special times

By Bishop Matthew H. Clark

This week brief comments on three events, one past and two to come:

1.) Thanks so much for your prayers for my niece, Jane Early, and Scott Neff as they celebrated their marriage at St. Mary's in Waterford last Saturday. It was a beautiful day in every way and a wonderful occasion on which to celebrate life and its promise, the importance of family, the blessings of friendship.

I know you'll take it as a statement totally free of avuncular pride when I note that Jane was a radiant bride and that it was sheer delight to be with her and her sisters for the wedding feast.

Images, memories that return as I write: Watching Kathleen, Margaret, Mary Ellen, Grace and Jane as they processed down the aisle of the church. The elegant, tender first dance between Scott and Jane. The five sisters — just the five of them — dancing to "We Are Family." The wonderful group dances when we filled the floor and just had fun. The times when I really did try to follow Kathleen's lead only to discover that it's much easier to assume some positions than to recover from them. Bishop Hubbard kindly reminding me that I was skipping the nuptial blessing. The pride of Helen and Jim in their daughters, and their happiness at the presence of family and friends. The extra gift



**A**

**LONG THE WAY**

of post-event conversations on the night of the wedding and the following day.

2.) I hope that you'll enjoy the news about our Synod in this week's *Catholic Courier* and that you'll support our weekend gathering at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center with your prayer and sacrifice, however you may choose to offer those gifts.

This is a very special moment in the history of our diocese. Thousands of you have invested deeply in the process. You have shared your talent, your experience, your faith and your love. And you have done all of that in the name of Christ.

Because of that, I have no doubt that we will be blessed as we come to the end of our Synod experience. I am not sure, and cannot be, precisely how that will occur. The "how" depends on both the final recommendations of the weekend and on the strength of our common commitment to put the recommendations into effect. But I am confident about all of it because the Lord is ever-faithful and you are ever-generous.

3.) On October 9 the bishops of the eight dioceses of New York state will be leaving for Rome to visit the Holy Father and several of the agencies that support him in his ministry. This visit — known as the *ad limina* — occurs every five years and has in the past afforded some wonderful opportunities to converse with John Paul II.

By all indications we will have similar opportunities this time. I'll be sharing the experience with you when I return, but mention it now with the request that you pray for all of us, that it will strengthen the bonds of faith and charity that join us in our life and ministry as bishops in the church.

One final note: I have been wanting to use the word avuncular in a written sentence ever since Grace was born, but I never had the nerve before. You can use words that don't even show up in your spell check only with dear friends. Thanks so much for indulging me!

Peace to all!

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**"Human life is sacred...from its very inception it reveals the creating hand of God."**

Pope John XXIII

A new monthly calendar will appear in the Catholic Courier on the last Thursday of each month.

**THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS**  
WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY?  
The following prayer was dictated by Our Lord to Sister Josefa Menerdez, at Poitiers, France, on the Feast of The Sacred Heart, June 3, 1921, with the instruction: "Josefa! Repeat these words daily!"

**JESUS PRAYER FOR HIS PRIESTS**

O Jesus, by Thy most loving Heart, I implore Thee to inflame with zeal for Thy love and glory all the priests of the world, all missionaries and those whose office it is to preach Thy word, that on fire with holy zeal, they may snatch souls from the devil and lead them into the shelter of Thy Heart, where forever they may glorify Thee.  
Imprimatur: E. Morrogh Bernard, Vic. Gen. Westmonasterii, May 5, 1953

Mass  
Rosary  
Fasting  
Day Offering  
Offering of Sufferings  
Eucharistic Adoration  
Divine Mercy Chaplet

Or whatever the Lord inspires you to offer Him on behalf of His Priests.

**OCTOBER, 1993**  
DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER, NY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
For subsequent months or extra copies write to: <b>THE MPRP, 70-A Green Knolls Drive, Rochester, NY 14620-4746</b>				Reverend Fathers:	1 Joseph M. McDonnell	2 Thomas J. Florack
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Look for next month's MPRP CALENDAR in the Catholic Courier's October 28th issue.

**BRING Bach ALIVE**

Friday, October 1, 8 pm  
*Motets of the Masters*  
J.S. Bach, J.M. Bach, J.C. Bach  
Mendelssohn, Brahms & Bruckner

Sunday, October 3, 3 pm  
*The Appeal of the Masses*  
Concerto for Organ and Orchestra  
in G minor, BWV 1030  
Missa in G minor, BWV 235  
J.S. Bach  
Missa Longa in C, K. 262  
Church Sonata in C major, No. 14, K. 329  
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