

Church to host forum on violence in media

PITTSFORD — Transfiguration Church, 50 W. Bloomfield Road, will host a forum on "Violence in the Media — We Can Make a Difference," on Thursday, Feb. 10, at 7:30 p.m. in the parish's education building.

Guest speaker Mary Lopocar, an associate professor of communications at St. John Fisher College, Pittsford, is a member of ChildVision, a local group teaching teachers how to educate children to interpret the media rather than be manipulated by it.

Joining Lopocar on a panel to answer questions about violence in the media will be Ellen Leifield, managing editor of Rochester's *Democrat and Chronicle* and *Times-Union*; Doug Emblidge, of WOKR-Channel 13 News in Rochester; and Anthony Sciolino, presiding family court judge.

Call 716/248-3922.

CFC seeking drivers to aid STAR Program

ROCHESTER — The Catholic Family Center is in desperate need of licensed drivers to volunteer for its Support to Aged Residents (STAR) Program. Drivers will assist Monroe County senior citizens with errands and physician appointments. Mileage reimbursement is available.

Call Paula E. Smith, 716/262-7055, for information.



S. John Wilkin/Staff photographer

Celebrating schools' week with song, dance

As part of its Catholic Schools' Week celebrations, Good Shepherd School in Henrietta invited Joe Trionfero and Tom Connolly to perform their Show of Love for students, parents and faculty. Above right, Trionfero gets audience members into the act with a dance routine. Above left, first-grader Zachariah Gonyea reacts to the antics of his peers. The Show of Love uses music and audience participation to build self-esteem.

Catholics slated to meet state politicians

Increasing the minimum wage and passing an earned income tax credit are among the legislative priorities the New York State Catholic Conference is supporting this year.

The conference, which represents the state's bishops, plans to lobby on behalf of such measures during its annual public policy day in Albany on Tuesday, Feb. 15.

John Cardinal O'Connor, archbishop of New York City and president of the NYSCC, will celebrate Mass at Empire Plaza for the more than 1,000 Catholics expected to attend, including a contingent from the Rochester diocese. Other bishops, clergy, religious and lay people will be present.

In addition to calling for the minimum wage's raising to \$5.50 an hour, and giving a tax break to workers, the NYSCC wants legislators to oppose any death penalty legislation; guarantee universal access to health care; increase appropriations for technology in schools; give tax credits to non-public school parents; and require minors seeking abortions to notify parents.

The NYSCC will also present an award for exemplary service to Rochester banker R. Carlos Carballada, chancellor of the state Board of Regents since 1992.

Carballada "has placed the needs of children first and foremost on the agenda of the Regents," according to John M. Kerry, executive director of the NYSCC. "With integrity and courage, he has always directed his energies toward improving the educational system to benefit students."

The conference will also give an award to State Senator John J. Marchi of Richmond County for his work on public-policy issues that interest the church.

— Rob Cullivan

Marriage Encounter will honor couples on Feb. 13

This year's World Marriage Day will be celebrated on Sunday, Feb. 13. The theme is "Love One Another."

The annual day to honor couples is sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter.

Marriage Encounter weekends are held at Rochester-area hotels and retreat houses. Three couples and one priest lead the weekends, which run from 8 p.m. Friday through 5 p.m. Sunday. The weekends include group talks, followed by private time for couples to discuss and communicate feelings about the topics presented. Individual meetings are always available at the end of the day.

In addition to a non-refundable \$50 deposit, participants are asked to offer a donation at the end of the weekend to cover costs. However, couples are never refused the opportunity to participate in the weekend due to lack of funds.

This year's Marriage Encounter dates in the Rochester area are: Feb. 25-27, March 25-27, April 15-17, May 13-15, June 17-19, Aug. 19-21, Sept. 16-18, Oct. 14-16, Nov. 11-13, and Dec. 2-4.

Call Bill and Kathie Lenhart at 716/964-2383 for information.

St. Patrick's set to host retreat by Fr. Gallagher

MACEDON — Father Simeon Gallagher is scheduled to direct a Lenten retreat from Feb. 13-17 at St. Patrick's Church, 52 Main St.

The retreat's theme is "The Theology and Spirituality of Relationships — Yahweh is Near."

Each evening's session will begin at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome. Call 315/986-5671 for information.

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