## Holiday Gift Guide >

wrong way, they don't understand what Marriage Encounter is about. Marriage Encounter is for good marriages. We just want them to have the good experience of a Marriage Encounter weekend." The Williams are at 716/872-3180. The Southern Tier number is 607/776-4870.

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★ Another type of "retreat" - a cruise around Key West and Grand Cayman sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph, March 9-16. Price is \$1,375 minimum for seven days, with a portion benefiting the congregation. Call Sister Mary Anne Laurer, 716/586-1000, ext. 151.

★ An engraved brick for the Memorial to the Unborn Child, a diocesan project organized by the Finger Lakes Chapter of

the Knights of Columbus and to be built at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Irondequoit by May. Cost is \$50; the brick will be placed in the "Walkway of Life" and the buyer will receive a certificate.

"A number of people have ordered them for Christ-

mas presents,

Mary Jo Maurer of the memorial committee said. "The money for the bricks is what's really building the memorial."

Call Maurer at 716/342-3216 or Dorothy Hayes, 716/342-4175.

★ Spiritual bouquets. These are a favorite of Maurer's, whose children have designed cards featuring flowers with "gifts" written onto the petals.

"You write people, that you are going to pray for them, and what you are going to pray – a rosary, a half-hour at an adoration chapel," she said. "I just love spiritual bouquets."

★ Prolife Feminism: Yesterday & Today, edited by Rachel Mac-

Beatrice Ganley, SSJ, diocesan women's Extraordinary Preaching collection of sermons, and the colorful Abbey Psalter, a copy of that used at the Abbey of the Genesee. Check religious and other local bookstores listed in the Yellow Pages, and the local motherhouses' gift shops.

★ "Surprise Sayings by the Saints and Saintly," page-a-day calendar by Alan Archibald, a 1965 Aquinas Institute graduate who went on to St. Michael's College in Toronto and taught in Nicaragua, and now lives in Hillsborough, N.C. The first calendar sold out overnight at Borders Books and Music, Henrietta, last year and the 1997 edition (\$12.95) is available there, as well as at The Catholic Shop, Rochester.

> Archibald told the Courier that an "unsatisfying and occasionally

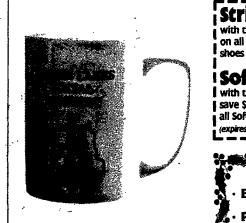
cloying pietism" of materials on the saints drove him to uncover untold wit and wisdom of the saints. The Oct. 15 entry in-

forms us that Teresa of for instance, declared, Avila. "God deliver us from sullen saints!'

★ Spiritual book club membership. Caroscio, of the Finger Lakes Social Ministry, said this is one of the best gifts she's received.

"First of all, it was helpful personally," she said. "And I've used the books a lot in my work, shared them with staff and social ministry meetings, retreat experiences. They help groups understand why they do what they do ... carrying on the mission of Jesus Christ.'

★ Journals. This is a favorite of Sister Carolyn Rosica, RSM, who writes in several journals entries."



journals that can be turned into a tree ornament and hung year to year.

"The artists do stuff out of the spiritual motivation, something deeper," said Father Brian Cool, who also appreciates the fact that much of the work is by local talent.

Angel shops rank high among discerning shoppers as well. And, of course, subscriptions, memberships and donations to a number of worthy organizations are among other ideas diocesan parishioners favor.

A few years ago Jane Rector and her husband David of St. John's of Rochester, forwent Christmas cards in order to doto the Catholic nate Charities Courier/Catholic Christmas Appeal. Lately they've kept up both practices, and include with their cards pictures of them with their 11 grandchildren.

The cards' distributor - Mercy Home for Boys and Girls in Chicago -- "is one of my favorite charities," Jane Rector said. "I guess I started doing it because my mother did."

But as Christmas nears and anxiety heightens over choosing the perfect gift, perhaps a word from Mary Pierce, founder of Logos Bookstore, will be of help: "As we think about it, any gift that sends the messages Jesus came to give, is a perfect Christ-



## Santa To Me Phone Call or Letter!

To get a personalized phone call or letter from Santa to your child before X-mas Just send \$4.95 per child in check or m.o. along with childs name, age, wish list, address & phone # to: The U-N-US Co., PO Box 15497 Rochester, NY 14615 all letters received by Dec. 15, 1996 will be guaranteed before X-mas delivery all phone , call orders will receive confirmation by mail of the time and date Santa will be calling.

> If you have any questions please call our toll-free number 1-888-221-8555

