Churches offer guides to daily Masses

By Kathleen Schwar Staff writer

Like other Catholics whose daily routines vary, Nancy Mockevicius, a parishioner at St. George's Lithuanian Church, is attending Mass daily at various churches during Lent.

She has attended a 5:30 p.m. Mass (available Tuesday and Thursday) at St. Cecilia's Church, the 12:15 p.m. Mass (available Monday-Friday) at St. Ambrose, and a 4 p.m. Mass (available Monday-Thursday) at St. Ann's of Greater Rochester nursing home.

She recalled a conversation about church hopping with a couple she met at St. Ann's.

They were telling me about the schedules of different churches," Mockevicius said. "They said Christ the King has an 8 a.m., the Cathedral has a Mass at noon (12:10 p.m.) ... It would be nice if there was a list somewhere so people who like to go to Mass during Lent would know where they could go.

Parishioners in some parts of the Rochester diocese have to look no further than their church bulletins to find a daily Mass to attend during Lent.

Churches in the Chemung/Schuyler region published a bulletin insert listing all their various daily Masses, Saturday morning Masses, penance services, confession times, Stations of the Cross, adult education programs, lenten devotions and parish missions. They offer a total of 16 daily Mass times and three Communion service times at nine churches during Lent, with anywhere from eight to 11 Masses/Communion services on any one day.

"It makes me feel good there is a church to go to any time of day," said Jim Pirozzolo of St. Anthony's/St. Patrick's Church, Elmira. "At the beginning of Lent every

SUNDAY



Matthew Scott/Staff photographer

Father Walter Cushing leads parishioners through the Stations of the Cross during a daily Mass at St. Cecilia Church, Irondequoit, Feb. 21.

church issues a schedule. As a matter of fact, it's right on the refrigerator. It's virtually impossible if you want to go to Mass."

The Chemung/Schuyler churches have collaborated on these daily Mass schedules for eight or nine years, according to Father Paul J. McCabe, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Elmira. The pastors meet in January to coordinate the Masses and avoid duplication. Father McCabe also posts Corning church Masses on the church bulletin board because so many parishioners work in Corning.

Mary Fitzgerald of St. Anthony/St. Patrick's Church was surprised such publishing of schedules isn't more commonly done.

"I think there's a very, very good schedule of Masses for this community," she said, noting also that the Dominican monastery on Church Street in Elmira offers a 7:30 a.m. Mass on weekdays. "Other churches don't do this?"

Auburn's city churches, however, do collaborate on such schedules, as well.

'We have a slew of them to accommodate people," said Father Robert Beligotti, pastor of Auburn's St. Francis of Assisi Church. The schedules are published as inserts in the church's bulletins.

"It's a way of encouraging them to come," Father Beligotti said. "All they have to do is set aside a little bit of time and they certainly can find a place offering Mass."

In Irondequoit and northeast Rochester, a more informal awareness of several church schedules allows parishioners to attend each other's Masses. Staff of the churches there exchanged each other's schedules for the Lenten season daily Masses, so presumably each's office would have the information available for callers, according to Sister Roberta Tierney, SSND, parish life coordinator for St. Cecilia's.

"Many try to go to daily Mass during Lent more than other times of the year,

By church offices having Mass schedules at hand, she added, "It is a way of giving good information to people when they call rather than say, 'Call the next place.' I think it's a little more hospitality."

Storm claims fireman's life

By Lee Strong Associate editor

A windstorm with gusts of more than 70 mph early Feb. 22 caused the death of a parishioner of St. John the Evangelist, Spencerport.

Firefighter Robert Fowler, 54, was responding to emergency calls when a tree fell and crushed his car. The freak accident occurred at Union Street and Lyell Avenue, before he had reached the Spencerport Fire Department firehouse.

The 22-year veteran of the volunteer fire corps was killed instantly. His 15year-old son, Tim, who was with him, sustained head and back injuries and was treated at Strong Memorial Hospital. The youth, an Explorer Scout, is a junior firefighter with the department.

A funeral service was scheduled for 10 a.m. Feb. 27 at the church for Fowler, who taught sixth grade in the Byron-Bergen School District

Many parishioners had just found out about the death before Sunday's Masses, noted Father Robert Michatek, pastor.

"It was a very quiet Sunday," the priest reported. "People would come up with tears in their eyes

As the parish reels from the death, people are also beginning to realize how much Fowler did for others, said the parish's youth minister, Sue Versluvs.

"He was always helping people, but always on the q.t." Versluys said.

The night before the accident, he had called 22 youth group members to remind them of an upcoming fundraiser for their trip to the National Catholic Youth Convention in November, He had also volunteered to go as a chaperone, Versluys added.

Father Michatek pointed out that the Fowlers had been a family of faith. Robert Fowler and his wife had in the past helped with marriage preparation, for example. Tim volunteers Thursdays to answer telephones at the rectory.

Don Magin, a fellow parishioner and member of the fire department, noted that Fowler had been someone on whom the rest of the department could count to help with children's activities, or maintenance and fundraising efforts.

"He wasn't one of those guys who was brash or noisy, but he was there," Magin said. "He's one of those guys who's going to be missed."

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7:30 pm St. Boniface Church	15 Whalin St., Rochester			
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MONDAY	11174			
7:30pm St. Michael's Church	Corner S. Main & Frankiln, Newark315-331-6753			
TUESDAY				
10:00 am Our Lady of Perpetual Help C	ChurchBingo Palace, Rochester716-467-2725			
7:30 pm St. Stanislaus Church	1150 Hudson Ave., Rochester716-544-9951			
7:30 pm St. Helens Church	Gates Center Bingo, Westmar Plaza716-235-1210			
7:30 pm St. Francis Xavier				
WEDNESDAY	10.0			
7:30 pm Holy Family Home School Ass	socWater Tower Park, Rochester716-235-0860			
THURSDAY				
7:30 pm St. Stanislaus Church	1150 Hudson Ave., Rochester716-544-9951			
FRIDAY	2 8 2			
SATURDAY				
12:30 pm Our Lady of Perpetual Heip C	ChurchBingo Palace, Rochester716-467-2725			
7:30 pm Good Shepherd Church	3288 E. Henrietta Rd., Rochester 716-334-3518			

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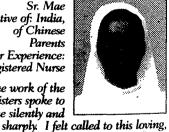
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