

Death, life mark Memorial Day weekend

Sacred Heart Rectory is quiet on this holiday morning. It will likely remain this way since so many families will be enjoying a day of rest and celebration.

I'll be doing similar things as soon as I finish writing. I am looking forward to a run in the beautiful sunshine and then to a Red Wings baseball game at Frontier Field.

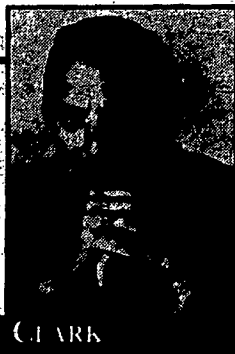
The peace of the morning is welcome because it affords an opportunity to review the weekend, which was truly one to remember. It included the funeral liturgy of Father Andy Grzela, pastor of St. Thomas More Parish, Brighton.

Andy was born and raised in Poland, and was ordained there in 1963. After brief service in Poland he served for several years as a missionary in Papua New Guinea.

He came to us in 1981, serving the people of St. Stanislaus Kosta, Rochester, before going to St. Thomas More a little over a year ago. He was beloved by the people of both parishes. Over the years he also endeared himself to his brother priests, and to all of the women and men who were his co-workers.

When Andy went to St. Thomas More to replace Father Bob Collins, he went as temporary administrator. Very shortly after Andy's arrival in the parish the people began to write to me in ever increasing numbers asking that he be appointed their pastor.

along the way



By BISHOP MATTHEW H. CLARK

When I did appoint him to that office a few months later, I received a great number of letters thanking me for the decision. Clearly Andy won the hearts of the people of the parish, and they won his heart very quickly.

This morning I pray for the people of St. Thomas. They lost Andy as he began the 60th year of his life. Shortly before that they lost two other priests, who were intimately connected with their lives: Father Bob Collins, their pastor for 12 years, and Father John Whalen, generous servant of the parish since his retirement from full-time ministry 14 years ago.

Such great loss has not been easy for the people of St. Thomas, but they have borne it with faith and generous spirit. As I pray for them I add the prayer that others, inspired by their ministry, might consider a vocation to the priesthood.

If the shadow of death touched the weekend, so did the promise of Easter life. That promise was central in the liturgy for

Andy. It was also present in two other events. One was in a visit to the home of Mike and Cheryl Coppola to visit with them and their twin boys, Ty and Austin.

I had the joy of baptizing those boys almost two years ago when we blessed the new baptismal font at St. Louis, Pittsford. Since then the Coppolas have kept me updated on the development of the boys by note and by a growing collection of photographs in which I take great delight. I left them touched by the beauty of those little guys and by the generous, tender care that Mike and Cheryl lavish on them.

The second weekend event touched by the promise of new life was the wedding of Diane Gill and Ed Denning, which we celebrated at St. Louis, Pittsford. Ed and Diane are gifted and caring young people who, among many attractive qualities, manifest a strong sense of service of others.

What most impresses me about their relationship is the solid friendship that is clearly its foundation. One cannot miss the admiration and respect they have for one another nor the happiness they experience in one another's company. Nothing is automatic. But I am sure that what has begun so beautifully in Diane and Ed will grow through the years. They will give to one another. Together they will give to others.

Now for the run. Then, the ball game. I hope the Red Wings win today. Peace to all.

The Monthly Prayer Request For Priests

Will you pray for a priest each day?

THOU ART A PRIEST FOREVER

"To live in the midst of the world without wishing its pleasures; to be a member of each family, yet belonging to none; to share all sufferings; to penetrate all secrets; to heal all wounds; to go from men to God and offer Him their prayers; to return from God to men to bring pardon and hope; to have a heart of fire for charity and a heart of bronze for chastity; to teach and to pardon, console and bless always. My God, what a life! And it is yours, O Priest of Jesus Christ!"

- Lacordaire

Prayer Suggestions: Mass, Rosary, Fasting, Day Offering, Eucharistic Adoration, Offering Sufferings, Divine Mercy Chaplet

June, 1998

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Revs.	Joseph M. McNamara	Robert Grzybowski, OFM Conv.	Ronald A. Artinorelli	Peter M. De Bellis	William G. Endres	Bishop Matthew Clark
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Pope John Paul II	Inactive Priests	Daniel F. Holland	John C. Murray, CSB	William Onuh	John T. Reif	Louis A. Vasile
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Mitchell Zygadlo	Thomas J. Wheeland	Victor W. Bartolotta, Jr.	Lee P. Chase	William G. Darling	Msr. John F. Duffy	Clarence W. Gardner
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Austin B. Hanna	Leo A. Hetzler, CSB	John H. Hayes	Brian E. Jeffers	James J. Marvin	Gerald Ragis, OSB	Conrad J. Sundholm
28	29	30	Look for the July MPRP Calendar in the June 25th Courier.			
Paul G. Wohrab	Robert T. Werth	Matthew Temple, O.Carm.				

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