## Two examples of God's blessings

Seneca Falls is on my mind today. In part that is because I just returned from St. Patrick's Church there and the Mass of Christian Burial for my friend and the friend of many others, Robert Tarnow.

Bob was wise counselor and generous benefactor to St. Patrick's and to our diocese. Although I had met Bob earlier, I became well-acquainted with him when he became a charter member of the Bishop's Stewardship Council. His commitment to the work of that body was quite strong; his advice, always thoughtful and sound.

To the work of the council he brought a sound business sense developed in large measure during his career at Goulds Pumps, of which he eventually became president and chief executive officer. Bob had a strong gift of analysis and, when he had ideas he wished to convey, he spoke in clear, direct fashion. I enjoyed that quality a great deal. His directness was not the kind that caused embarrassment to anyone. It was clear his interest was that we realize, as best we could, all that was possible for us.

I also knew Bob and his wife, Pat, from another perspective. On several occasions in recent years they invited my vacation buddies, Bishop Howard Hubbard and Father Tom Powers, and me to their Cape Cod home for dinner when we were staying in that area. It was always a pleasure to be with them.

Pat is a totally gracious person. With Bob, she always made us feel very much at



home. And I enjoyed the opportunity to spend time with Bob while he was at leisure. While he was always pleasant in our meetings, he conveyed a genuine warmth in that informal setting. He laughed a lot and obviously enjoyed the laughter of others.

Through all the years I knew him, Bob had serious health concerns. He bore those with great patience. When I asked how he was doing or how he felt, he would respond honestly but briefly. And, even if he had to report that he was not feeling well, he did so without complaint about what he had to endure.

I always ascribed that serenity and patience to a rich inner life of prayer. He never discussed that with me. I just thought it was there. Even as I mention my intuition about Bob's spiritual life, I pray for Pat and their seven children, their spouses and families. His friends will miss Bob a great deal. I can only imagine the sense of loss that they feel.

The other reason Seneca Falls was on my

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mind today? Easy. Father Joe Hart. Joe was born and raised in Seneca Falls. Yesterday he celebrated the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood with a Eucharistic Liturgy at his parish, Our Lady Queen of Peace, Rochester.

This morning, prior to my departure for Bob's funeral liturgy, we had a meeting at the Pastoral Center at which Joe was present and to which he made his usual wise and thoughtful contribution. Being with Joe on Sunday at the liturgical celebration and this morning at the meeting made me very happy that Joe will very soon be serving our diocese as vicar general and moderator of our Pastoral Center. Joe will join Bishop Dennis Hickey and Father John Mulligan as vicar general. He will be succeeding John as moderator. You can be sure that Joe will be a blessing to all of us in both positions.

Bob Tarnow and Joe Hart. Both gifted individuals. Both generous in their service to others. Both with strong connections to Seneca Falls. Both make me mindful of the many and varied ways in which God has blessed our diocese. Bob reminds me of the generosity of so many women and men who give their time, talent and treasure to strengthen our community of faith. Joe reminds me of how gifted and committed are the priests of our diocese to the support of one another and to the service of God's holy people.

Peace to all.



Share a Great Compassion



Sr. M. Brigid Native of: Chicago, Illinois

Prior Experience: Medical Technologist My discovery of my vocation was gradual. It began with a growing desire to spend my whole life loving and serving God and assisting in the salvation of men. While my work was bonest and good, I felt I was called to more direct service to others, and a much deeper prayer life. After praying to the Holy Spirit for guid-

ance and the grace of trust, and investigating several communities, I knew God was leading me to the Hawthorne Dominicans.

**The Dominican Sisters** 

of Hawthorne

In God's will is our peace; I wish no other life than the one God has offered me in the precious gift of my vocation.

12:30 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament



Choral music of Weelkes: O Holy Banquet; Vaughan-Williams:
O How Amiable and Magnificat; Elgar; Ave Verum;
Gregorian Chant: Pange Lingua.
Hymn tunes of Picardy: Let all Mortal Flesh Keep Silence;
Union Seminary: Draw Us In the Spirit's Tether; Grosser Gott: Holy God.
Organ music of Alain: Choral Dorian and Litanies.

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Interested women are invited to visit throughout the year. For more information: write or call, Sr. M. Joseph, O.P., Dominican Sisters of Hawthorne, 600 Linds Avenue, Hawthorne, NY 19532 • Tel: (\$14) 769-4794 Visit our WEB site - http://www.hawthorne-dominicans.org/dsh/dshmain.html

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