

DIOCESAN NEWS

Trappist abbey installs new abbot

Abbot John Denburger, OCSO, was installed as the fifth abbot, or head, of the Abbey of the Genesee monastery in Piffard Oct. 2. He was elected earlier that day by his fellow monks in the Order of Cistercians of the Strict Observance.

Abbot Denburger, 64, has resided at the Trappist monastery in Livingston County since 1987. He had served as prior, or second in charge, since 1999 and was temporary superior for two months last year.

"It's a very humbling experience to be elected by your peers to this office, and it's also a call to service," Abbot Denburger told the *Catholic Courier*. "I always had the dream of joining the monastery, but never had the thought of becoming abbot."

Abbot Denburger was elected to a six-year term by the required majority vote of

32 of the approximate 40 Trappist priests and brothers. He formally accepted the office and was then installed by Abbot Damien Thompson, head of the Genesee abbey's motherhouse in Gethsemani, Ky.

He will also receive an abbatial blessing on Nov. 5 at Abbey of the Genesee. Bishop Matthew H. Clark will preside.

Abbot Denburger, a native of Allentown, Pa., was ordained a priest in the Diocese of Allentown in 1963. After two years of parish duty he began a long stint teaching at his alma mater, Allentown Central Catholic High School. He was later a diocesan schools administrator.

After his father's death in 1987, Abbot Denburger entered the Abbey of the Genesee and made his solemn profession of vows on the feast of the Assumption 1992. He has served the Trappist community in a variety of roles: teacher; fi-

nancial-committee member; junior director of monks in temporary vows, master of liturgical ceremonies; and cook.

Abbot Denburger succeeds Abbot John Eudes Bamberger, who submitted his resignation upon turning 75 years old Aug. 24, as required by his order. Abbot Bamberger, who served as abbot for 30 years, has opted to remain at the Abbey of the Genesee in retirement.

"I feel I belong here. A Trappist puts down roots wherever he is called an abbot, and I've done that right from the beginning," Abbot Bamberger said in a recent interview.

Meanwhile, his successor said he's rather stunned by the fact that leadership of the 50-year-old abbey now rests on his shoulders.

"It's awesome," Abbot Denburger said. — *Mike Latona*

TGA

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ognize the needs of our local church, and the important role individuals play in keeping it healthy, vibrant and able to respond to those in need. The concept of stewardship — the sharing of God's gifts of time, talent and treasure — is important for Catholics to remember. The TGA represents one of the ways they can respond to the call to be good stewards and to love one another."

Currently, Healy said, slightly less than 40 percent of all registered households in the diocese donate to the TGA. Healy said he'd like to increase that figure by convincing people that their donations today are just as crucial as they've been at any other time in the campaign's 20-year history.

This year's TGA brochure lists projected allotments for diocesan offices based on the 2001-02 appeal's goal: Catholic Charities, \$773,000; Parish Support Ministries, \$656,000; Evangelization and Catechesis, \$405,000; Information Technology, \$392,000; Financial Services, \$382,000; TGA campaign costs, \$357,500; Human Resources, \$338,000; Bishop's Office, \$288,000; Legal Services, \$286,000; Catholic Schools Office, \$230,000; Pastoral Planning, \$209,000; Stewardship and Development, \$204,500; Communications, \$166,000; unallocated expenses/contingencies, \$144,000; and St. Bernard's Institute, \$100,000.

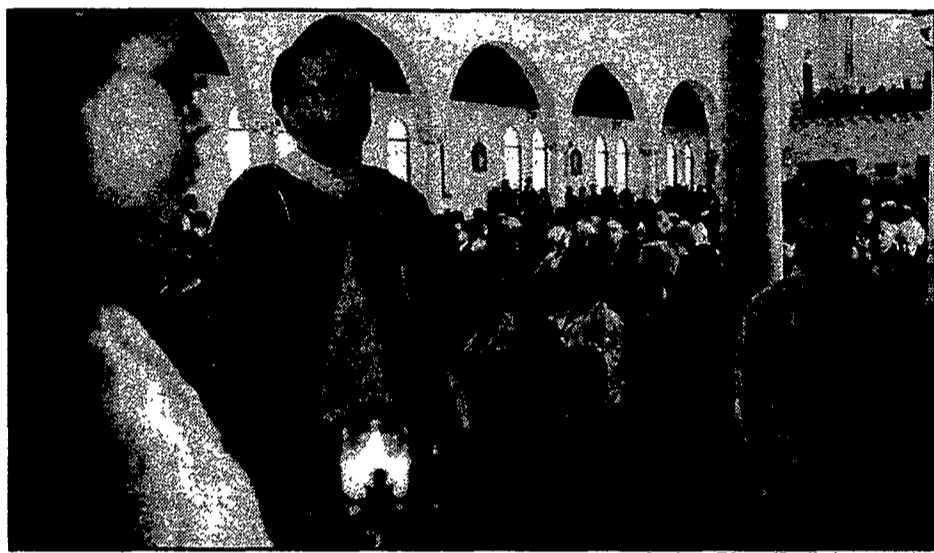
Healy said he feels it's important to make these figures public because "we should be as accountable as people would like us to be."

Announcements about the TGA kickoff were to be made during Masses at diocesan parishes the weekends of Oct. 6-7, 13-14 and 20-21.

Healy said that the speakers during these liturgies will come from within the parish, whereas in the past diocesan officials served as guest speakers at numerous parishes.

"We felt it works best when local parishioners talk about it to their own parishioners," Healy said.

Father Edward Palumbos, pastor at Fairport's Church of the Assumption, will serve as the diocese's TGA parish coordinator. He was a co-coordinator last year.



Andrea Dixon/Staff photographer

A farewell to St. Patrick's

The final Mass at St. Patrick's Church in Corning was held Sept. 30. (Above) Deacon Jim Hankey, blesses the confessionals as servers Mary Kate Monahan (right), 11, and Courtney Clark, 12, look on. (Right) Altar server Debbie Golden, 11, led the procession with servers Courtney Clark (left), 12, and Mary Kate Monahan, 11, close behind. The church was one of four worship sites of All Saints Parish of Corning/Painted Post.



Popular speaker to appear at Marian Conference

By Mike Latona
Staff writer

As violence escalates in our culture, you can never be safe walking down the street until life in the womb is safe. If we devalue life in the womb, we devalue life, period.

The ways of truth and love have always triumphed. At times it may seem impossible — tyrants, murderers and dictators, they may seem more powerful. Those who are on the side of love and truth, time is our best friend. This is our heritage — the Mother Teresas, the Francis of Assis, the Teresa of Avilas.

The above comments by Matthew Kelly could well have been made in response to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the United States. He actually spoke those words six days earlier, in a telephone interview with the *Catholic Courier*.

Deepening one's spirituality, in a world filled with obstacles, is a main thrust of Kelly's speeches and writings. The 28-year-old will bring his wisdom to the eighth annual Rochester Marian Conference Saturday, Oct. 13. This will mark Kelly's second straight appearance as one of the conference's principal speakers.

The conference will be held at Theater on the Ridge, 200 Ridge Road West, Rochester. Other scheduled speakers are Father Albert Shamon, *Courier* columnist and administrator of St. Isaac Jogues Chapel, Cayuga County; Ivan Dragicevic, one of six people from Medjugorje who has purportedly received daily apparitions from Mary since 1981; Ted Flynn, author and co-founder of the MaxCol Institute, an organization that spreads the word of God



and devotion to Mary; and Joan Ulicny, a survivor of a severe hit-and-run accident in 1986 who wrote a book, "A Greater Vision," describing her spiritual healing at Medjugorje in 1988.

Kelly, a native of Sydney, Australia, began speaking publicly in 1993. His talks have been heard by nearly 2 million people in 46 countries. Kelly has authored six books, selling more than 400,000 copies; and he also oversees the Matthew Kelly Foundation, which recently moved from Steubenville, Ohio, to Cincinnati.

Kelly's primary audiences are youth and young adults, whom he encourages to set high goals in their spiritual lives. He also pleads for adults — not popular culture — to guide younger generations toward these goals.

"Young people are hungry. They sense that the way they're walking isn't the way that's going to lead them to happiness, but nobody's showing them a better way," Kelly asserted. "Entertainment is powerful, very effective. But we have to follow up, because young people are out there in the wilderness. If we want people to live their faith through their college years, we have to show them how the Gospel is relevant to their lives in the middle of the modern world. If we can't, they will reject the Gospel."

Kelly feels that if the lives of saints were promoted, young people would find ways to relate to these historical figures the same way they do to athletes, rock stars and other celebrities. "We have heroes, champions — we call them the saints and we fail to tell their stories," he said. "Too often we turn them into plastic half-statues and make it sound as if they were born saints. Many were sinful people but they developed habits that led them closer to God, little by little."

Kelly said it was his growing closeness to God that led him to start his ministry. This intimacy level, he maintained, can only occur when a complete commitment is made to do God's will.

"A big turning point in my life was to just stop by my church for 10 minutes every day on the way to college," he said. "I found a peace through this prayer experience. I stopped telling God what I wanted and started asking him what he wanted. I had never really turned to him and said 'Tell me the way.'"

"When we start asking that question, our lives change. But that brings uncertainty to our lives; that's why we avoid the question. The whole modern culture tries to teach us we can control every aspect of our lives."

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EDITORS' NOTE: The Marian Conference program on Oct. 13 will begin at 9 a.m. and conclude with a 5:15 p.m. Mass. To purchase tickets, or for more information about the Rochester Marian Conference, call 716/244-7432, 716/461-3073 or 315/539-2025, or visit www.flare.net/mary.

OCTOBER SPECIALS

LUNCH

Beggars Purse

Filo dough filled with langostinos, scallops and crab in a red bell pepper sauce.

Scallopini of Pork

Sauteed in a barolo wine sauce with pecans and pearl onions.

Catch of the Day

Each day the Lamplighter features a new seafood selection.

DINNER

Rack of Lamb

Marinated in balsamic and crusted with Dijon, makes my mouth water just to talk about it.

Grilled Swordfish With Herbs

A simple dish enhanced with rosemary, sage, thyme, garlic and oregano.

Portofino

Lobster, shrimp, scallops and crabmeat sautéed in olive oil and white wine served with artichokes and black olives over a bed of pasta.

Grilled Veal Chop (14 oz.)

Fusion creation is marinated in Chinese herbs, served on the bone with a madeira wine sauce.

Lunch: Tuesday - Friday 11:30 to 2:00

Dinner: Monday - Thursday 4:30 to 10:00

Friday and Saturday till 11:00

LAMPLIGHTER

Located at Creekside Plaza
831 Fetzner Rd.

At the corner of Maiden Lane,
down the road from Greece Marriott
225-2500

