

Divine Mercy day is Aug. 9

Mike Latona/Catholic Courier

Several speakers will be featured at the Divine Mercy Conference scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 9, at Theater on the Ridge, 200 Ridge Road W., Rochester. Registration will begin at 8 a.m., with the program starting at 9 a.m. and a Mass ending the conference at 5:15 p.m.

Included on the speaker and guest list are Basilian Father Donald McCarthy, who serves in the Rochester Diocese and is spiritual advisor for the conference; Father Kazimierz Chwalek, a priest in the Congregation of Marians of the Immaculate Conception and director of the National Shrine of Divine Mercy in Boston; Deacon Bob McDonald, a family counseling expert from Ontario, Canada; Sister M. Caterina Esselen, vocations director for the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy; Lilian Bernas, a stigmatist from Ontario, Canada; John Leary, an author and visionary from Rochester; and Harold McAulliffe, a vocalist and longtime music instructor in the Pittsford Central School District.

Other planned highlights will be a



Chaplet of Divine Mercy; Benediction; confession; eucharistic adoration; and music provided by Simonetta, a nationally known Catholic

singer and songwriter.

The Divine Mercy Conference is similar in nature to the Marian Conference, which had been held annually in Rochester since 1994. Marie Vasile, conference publicist, said the Marian Conference is not being held this year and that several people who have been involved with that conference, including herself, are organizing the one-time-only Divine Mercy program.

"We just had the feeling a lot of people are not aware the Lord is so forgiving. We want people of all faiths; we just want people to come out of the woodwork. We also hope many young people will come," said Vasile, a member of St. Louis Parish in Pittsford.

The Aug. 9 conference will highlight devotion to St. Faustina Kowalksa of Poland, a sister in the Congregation of Our Lady of Mercy who is said to have received messages from Jesus about the Divine Mercy. St. Faustina died in 1938 at the age of 33, and was canonized in 2000 by Pope John Paul II.

Holy Spirit Parish in Webster/Pittsford is serving as sponsor for the Divine Mercy Conference. Cost is \$20 per adult and \$10 per youth. Registrations are requested at least one week in advance, but walk-ups will be accepted as well. For registration details, call 585/671-6534 or 585/671-0813.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES NAMES NEW DIRECTOR

Bridget Steed, an employee of Catholic Charities since 1995, was named executive director of the agency's Chemung and Schuyler County division effective June 1.

Steed will be the lead Catholic Charities contact for all executive management responsibilities in Chemung County. She will also oversee the directorship of Sarah Conley in Schuyler County. Steed has held several positions within Catholic Charities, most recently as director of the Gateways Community Living Program, an Elmira-based outreach that helps special-needs individuals to live successfully in the community.

Anthony Barbaro, associate diocesan director for Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rochester, said in a statement that "Catholic Charities is delighted to promote Bridget. She is a consummate professional and is committed to the Catholic Charities mission and the people we serve."

Steed earned her bachelor's degree from Old Dominion University and her master's degree from Union University College of Pharmacy in Albany. She and her family are longtime Elmira residents.

"A 10-minute test could save your life. It certainly saved mine."



"Why is it that men will make up any excuse to avoid getting tested for prostate cancer? What are they thinking? That what they don't know can't hurt them?"

The truth is, what they don't know can hurt them. It can even be fatal. If you're a man, you have a 1 in 6 chance of getting prostate cancer - 1 in 3 if your father or brother had it. But with prostate cancer, catching it early is everything. Catch it early and your chances of survival can be 90% or better. So you have to get screened.

While you're at it, you could start living a healthier lifestyle. You could probably improve your diet, too. But first things first. If you're over 40, or in a high risk group - African-Americans are particularly susceptible - please get screened.

It takes 10 minutes. And it could save your life."



National Prostate Cancer Coalition
America's Leading Organization in the Fight Against Prostate Cancer

1-888-245-9455 or www.pcacoalition.org

Sister Mary Colette Frank, RSM

Obituary

Sister of Mercy Mary Colette Frank, 99, died at the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse in Brighton on July 11, 2003.

A native of St. Andrew Parish, Rochester, Sister Frank graduated from Our Lady of Mercy High School in 1920 and joined the congregation in 1927. She received her bachelor's degree from St. Bonaventure University in 1948.

From 1927 to 1943, she taught elementary grades at St. Salome, Mount Carmel and St. Charles Schools in Rochester and Holy Family in Auburn. From 1943 to 1975, Sister Frank, a certified X-ray technician, served in the x-ray department of St. James Mercy Hospital, Hornell.

In 1950, she was a founder of the hospital's School of X-ray and

served as education director for more than 20 years.

For 20 years following her retirement in 1975, Sister Frank's ministry was in pastoral care at St. James Mercy. Since then she served as a spiritual apostolate.

Sister Frank is survived by several nieces and nephews and the Sisters of Mercy. Her nephew, Father Edward Frank, celebrated her funeral Mass at the motherhouse chapel on July 17.

Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery on July 18. Contributions may be made to the Sisters of Mercy, 1437 Blossom Road, Rochester, NY 14610.

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