

Four days of joyful events treasured

I am happy to tell you that the baby whom his mother — my niece Kathleen — referred to as Tiberius Vladimir during her pregnancy was born between 2 and 3 a.m. on October 29. Now that he has left the comfort of his mother's womb and is visible to the world, he is known as Kevin James.

The little one is healthy as can be and has absolutely enchanted his mother and dad. He had a similar effect on me when I saw him at St. Peter's Hospital late on Thursday afternoon. Mark and Kathleen very generously let me hold Kevin for quite a while. It was a moment that I'll remember for a long time.

Kathleen and Kevin are home now, and Kathleen is recovering nicely. My sister is lending a hand while Kathleen gets fully back on her feet.

I should tell you that I came closest to guessing Kevin's day of birth and so won the family pool. Not only do I share in the joy of his arrival, but also I am \$16 richer for it.

Thanks very much for your prayers for Kathleen and her beautiful new baby, and for your interest in their well-being.



Bishop Matthew H. Clark

Along the Way

There was a second purpose to that trip to Albany: to participate in a Friday celebration in honor of Bishop Hubbard's 65th birthday. It was a joyful gathering of friends, many of whom I have known for years. If Howard minded turning 65, he certainly didn't show it. He went through the evening gracefully and in peaceful spirit.

The rest of the weekend was most enjoyable. On Saturday morning I went to the new motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Joseph for the solemn dedication of their new chapel. I have always loved the Rite of Dedication. I find it to be a rich source of meditation on our faith and, espe-

cially, on the relationships to Christ and one another we live out. And, I am always pleased to celebrate the rite with people who have never experienced it before. For many who participated on Saturday, it was a first-time experience.

The day was a special moment of celebration for our sisters and for all those who so generously supported them in making this dream become a reality.

A celebration of a different, but no less joyful kind, occupied the evening hours. I refer to a celebration of the 50th wedding anniversary celebration of Mary Ellen and Tom Maguire. Mary Ellen and Tom have been good friends for a long time, and I was deeply pleased when their children invited me to join the party.

I want to tell you that the Maguire kids are a spirited group who filled the evening with fun and good humor, and loving and deeply respectful tributes to their mother and dad. To be with them was to be with a group who clearly worked very hard together to be family, but who made it look so easy. I thank all of the Maguires even as I congratulate Mary Ellen and Tom and wish them

many more happy years together.

On Sunday, I visited the Catholic community at Cornell University. There were three parts to this delightful evening — Sunday liturgy with the community, a reception following the Mass and a supper with several faculty members and Father Bob Smith, chaplain to the community.

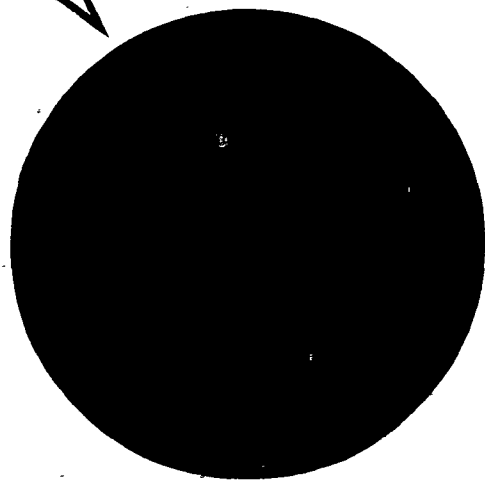
I loved every piece of it; it would be difficult not to enjoy the company of such gifted, faithful and searching young people. They brought a spirit of prayerful reverence to worship and a joyful spirit to the conversation that followed.

My one regret about the evening is that I could not stay longer at supper. At the table were — among other very interesting people — a theoretical physicist, a theologian, a medical doctor, a law school professor, a historian, a professor of evolutionary biology and a director of alumni relations.

You can believe, I am sure, that I had a good deal to think about and much for which to be grateful as I drove home at the end of the weekend.

Peace to all.

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If you or someone you know released such a work this year, send us in writing by noon on Nov. 17 the name(s) of the author(s)/performer(s), the name and brief description of the work and a contact number in case we have any questions.

Please keep in mind we need your submissions — in writing — by noon on Nov. 17.

Send to: E-mail: newsroom@catholiccourier.com or Catholic Courier, PO Box 24379, Rochester, NY 14624.

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