

Center for Social Concerns: Spring Activities

1) SOCIAL CONCERNS FESTIVAL: Forty groups and organizations will be represented at this event. The festival is designed to allow interested students to learn more about service possibilities that are avialable to them. This event provides the best opportunity for anyone interested in service/social action work to learn about all the needs in the community. Also provides a second chance to sign up for volunteer service groups.

Thursday, January 26, 7-10pm

Center for Social Concerns, 239-5293

2) NORTHEAST NEIGHBORHOOD CTR: Looking for volunteers for their latchkey program. Volunteers are needed to tutor school age children on an individual basis or work with groups of children. It would be best if volunteers could commit to working one day per week from 2:30-5:30pm. Call Toni Henke-Wheeler 234-3301

3) OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE ELDERLY: There is a pressing need for volunteers to visit elderly people in our community. Some of those who need visitors live near the university and others live in communities and nursing homes taht are further away. Most volunteers commit two to three hours per week to visiting their elderly friend. Call Kathy Royer 239-7862

4) TUTORS: Tutors are needed for children who are from one-parent families or have special needs that cannot be met by the school system. In many cases the tutoring is general and requires approximately two hours per week. Most of the children who need tutoring can come to campus to be tutored.

Call Kathy Royer

239-7862

5) CENTER FOR THE HOMELESS: The Center welcomes donations to buy supplies such as blankets, towels, clothing, soap, and other necessary items. Call Fr. Steve Newton 287-5023

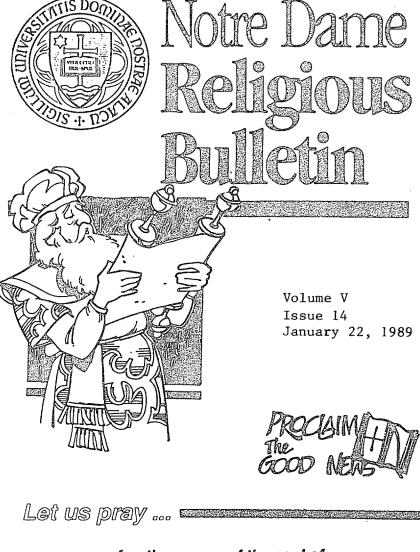
6) THE FAMILY & CHILDREN'S CTR: The Center would like to take some of their resident children to a Notre Dame basketball game. They would like tickets to the Temple game on January 29 or the USC game on February 11. If you have a ticket to donate:

Contact the Center for Social Concerns: 239-5293

Notices....

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Weekly Lenten Bible Study directed by SEXUALITY RETREAT FR. AL D'ALONZO, C.S.C. with Pat Livingston 239 6919/5242 February 24,25, & 26



... for the repose of the soul of RICK MACRINA OF GRACE HALL who died during the holidays. Fr. Edward Malloy, C.S.C., will celebrate a campus-wide Mass at Sacred Heart Church this Thursday at 5 P.M.

... for Carlos Jose Petrozzi, formerly of Stanford Hall, suffering from cancer, recovering from recent surgery.

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time January 22, 1989 Your words, Lord, are spirit and life!

The focal point for the gospel of Mark is found in 1:15. "The time is fulfilled, the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent. and believe in the gospel." Mark continues through his account to reveal that God's kingdom is here (present) in the signs, teaching and ministry of Jesus Christ.

Luke's gospel has a similar focal point in 4:21. Early in Jesus ministry, Luke reports that he returns to his hometown of Nazareth. As was his custom, Jesus goes into the village synagogue. He is given a scroll of the prophet Isaiah and the words he reads speak of the action of the gospel. It is to preach good news to the poor, proclaim release to the captives, recovery of sight to the blind and liberty to those who are oppressed. Then, he concludes. "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." That is to say, in the life and ministry of Jesus Christ the acceptable year of the Lord is complete.

The auestion for the church of today is: "Where in our witness is the kingdom of God nearby? In what ways do the people and the institution called the "church" fulfill the mission of Christ in the experience of those to whom the church is called to minister? How do we embody the Christ who calls us to faithfulness?

The challenge for today is to identify the poor, those who are held in captivity, the exiles, the blind and the lame, the leper and the oppressed. If we look beneath the surface meaning of these classifications, we might make some astounding discoveries.

"I'm so hot!"

"I know. It's the fever. Just lie

STORY SERMON

The Untouchable

back while I put this cool cloth on your forehead."

"Your hand feels so good on my cheek."

"You're crving."

"It has been so long since I have felt the touch of someone's hand. Everybody is afraid of me. The closest I come to being touched are the nurses and interns here at the hospital, and they always wear rubber gloves."

"People don't understand, and they are always afraid of things they don't understand."

"But you're not wearing gloves."

"Well, let's just say that if there is a risk, there are some risks that need to be taken."

"You are very kind."

"It is nice of you to say so. I try to be. Sometimes, kindness is misinterpreted, though. Some people do not recognize when others are following the whisperings of their heart.'

"It's ironic, isn't it?"

"What is?"

"Well, you come to the hospital because you are sick and want to get well and you leave in worse condition than when you were admitted."

"Is that what happened to you?"

James L. Henderschedt is pastor of Cedar Lutheran Church in Allentown. Pennsylvania. He conducts workshops on preaching that focus on narrative and story sermons. His story sermons are a regular feature in Celebration, and Resource Publications has published a collection of them in book form, The Magic Stone (available for \$7.95 plus 50¢ postage from James L. Henderschedt, 1017 Elm Street. Allentown, PA 18103).

Celebration: January 1989

James L. Henderschedt

"Yes. I needed an operation. During the operation I needed a blood transfusion. That was before anyone knew anything about AIDS. Blood wasn't tested as thoroughly in those days. Just one pint, that's all it took: and now, here I am."

"Are you angry?"

"No. . . Yes! . . . I don't know. Whom should I be angry at? It's just that there's so much I wanted to do. But I won't be able to do it. I'm dving. At least the doctors have been honest with me. It is just a matter of time, and I don't think there is much of that left any more. I am so tired. My body is burning. and yet I shiver with chills."

"It's the fever from the infection. Do you want more covers? Here, let me freshen that towel on your forehead.

- "No, let it go. I'm okay. Just stay
- with me and talk to me." "I'm here. I won't go away."
- "I have a personal question, do
- you mind?"
- "No. not at all. What is it?"
- "Are you married?"
- "Yes. I am. I have a wonderful wife and two lovely children."
- "Do you love your wife?"
- "Verv much."
- "Does she love you?"
- "Verv much also."
- "I always wanted to get married and have a couple of children.'
- "You were never married?"

"No. . . almost though. I was going with this guy. We were talking about getting engaged. But then, this happened."

"Did you love him?"

"Yes I did. I wanted to be his wife, the mother of his children. But things didn't work out that way At first, he told me he would be hy my side all the way. But then, the visits became fewer and fewer. I understand he married someone else last week."

"Is there anyone else?"

"No. I'm all alone . . . an only child and both parents are dead. I only have you."

"I'm very happy I can be here with you.'

"Is it getting dark?"

"Is it getting dark for you?"

"Yes, it is, Tell me the truth. Has the sun gone behind some clouds . . . is it close to night?"

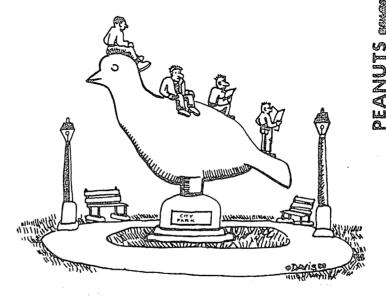
"No. it is not getting dark."

"I think I am going to be afraid."

"I don't even know vour name."

"Just call me Josh."

"Joshua? . . . I like that name. Josh, would you . . . do you think vour wife would mind . . . hold me?"



"I'm sure she would understand Here, let me sit on the edge of the bed there, how's that?"

"That's fine, thank you, Oh Josh can you hear that?"

"What do you hear?"

"It's music . . . beautiful music . . . the most beautiful music I have ever heard."

"It must be You are radiant." "You know, Josh, I don't think

I'm going to be alone."

"No. I don't think you will be."

"Oh. Josh. I want to go. Do you think it will be alright if I go? They are calling me. There is a light, and a path and the music. Do you mind, Josh, do you mind if I leave you?"

"No, I won't mind. I will stay here with you until you go."

"Will you keep holding me?"

"If you want me to."

"Please . . . Josh?"

"Yes?"

"I do."

"Do you know what the name Joshua means?"

"What does it mean?"

"It means . . . the Lord saves."

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Note: The Notre Dame Religious Bulletin Is published weeky to inform and inspire the members of the ND Christian Community about religious activities and growth in the spiritual life. You are welcome to contribute prayers, articles, information, etc. Contact: NDRB at Campus Ministry in Badin Hall. Let us hear from you.

"Is this it? Is this how it is?" "I don't know. What is it like?"

"It's okay to be afraid."