

This Is My House, My Husband Says And Won't Let Our Children's Friends In

By FATHER JOHN L. THOMAS, S.J.
Assistant Professor of Sociology
At St. Louis University

What can you do with a man who won't tolerate his children's friends in the house? Our five children are growing up—two are already in high school. If their friends come to the house, even for a few minutes, Joe either puts on his coat and leaves or storms out to the kitchen and yells about it afterwards. He says this is his house and he wants privacy. How can I make him see that his children and I have rights also?

I think you must have married a hermit, Madge.

Maybe he ought to build a good sized dog house out in back so that he could really be alone. Of course, as the old English saying has it, a man's home is his castle. It should offer him privacy from the public, but as long as he remains human, it should not exclude family friends.

Frankly, Madge, I don't know what ails your husband, though I rather suspect it's a bad case of selfishness. When a man tells his wife and children, "This is my house," there is a good reason to believe he's missed the meaning of marriage.

Either marriage is regarded as a shared, mutual partnership, or it becomes a narrow, one-way contract for securing personal privileges and selfish benefits. It appears your husband isn't strong in the partnership idea.

Although it's never easy to teach an old dog new tricks, since Joe considers himself a good Catholic, you should be able to appeal to his conscience in this matter.

WHEN HE entered marriage and started raising a family, he assumed serious obligations and responsibilities which he is not free to set aside. In addition to offering you support and companionship throughout life, he also bound himself to provide the type of home conditions in which it would be possible for children to develop normally.

It seems he has given little thought to these conditions. He doesn't like to be disturbed, his children and their companions disturb him, so he will have none of it.

It would be interesting to find out how he defines the role of father in the family.

Does he recognize any obligations to help his children prepare for life? Has he done anything to instruct, guide, train, encourage, and motivate them? Has he even bothered to really know them, to understand their distinctive traits and qualities? Does he feel responsible for guiding their friendships? Is he interested in what they are doing and where they may be?

Judging from his attitude toward his children's friends, we may conclude that he pays little attention to any of these things. No doubt, Madge, he feels that this is your job—he just wants to be left alone.



They're your children, and you'd best look after them, he seems to think.

Now if he is at all sincere about serving God, he will have to recognize that he's not doing much of a job in fulfilling his vocation as a father. Whether he likes it or not, he is not free to make his own rules.

He cannot select the particular obligations he chooses to fulfill and simply ignore the others. When he chooses to become a father, he implicitly accepted all the responsibilities which go with fatherhood, and God will judge him accordingly.

What can you do, Madge? Well, I think you must be firm in pointing out his obligations to his children. Somehow, he has misconceived his role as

father and had best recheck his views in terms of basic Christian principles.

Further, you must be firm in standing up for what you believe to be right. Parents should know the friends of their children, and should welcome them into their homes so that they can prudently guide their friendships. This can be done without disrupting family life; indeed, it should make the family circle happier and more exciting.

Finally, if Joe stubbornly and selfishly refuses to face his responsibilities, let him put on his coat and leave until he cools off. Suggest he drop in and visit his pastor of the way. He probably won't, but it may remind him that his practice of religion is a sham as long as he ducks out on his obligations as a father.

Nurses Meet To Witness Hypnosis Demonstration

New Orleans — (NC) — Two persons will be hypnotized at a January 13 luncheon meeting here during a three-day nursing service administration institute sponsored by the Catholic Hospital Association.

Prayer Rated Top Sermon Topic

New York — (RNS) — "How Can I Make Prayer More Effective?" was cited here as the title of a sermon most people would like to hear.

This subject was selected when more than 7,000 This Week Magazine readers of different faiths responded to a recent article called "Bless the Sermon You'd Like to Hear." The magazine, which is published in New York, has a national circulation.

Thirteen titles were listed on the reply form, among them: "Death, Judgment, Heaven and Hell," "How Can Religion Cure Juvenile Delinquency?"

BOOK SHELF

Out of Priest Advises

Red China

By Sister Margaret Teresa, Nazareth College

I Met A Traveller: The Triumph of Father Phillips, by Keat Becker, S.J. Farrar, Straus '58. 208 pp.

"The fact that the Red Colossus, for all its apparent power, and all its frightful appearance, was unable to break this one small man, makes it quite apparent that the grim things behind their grim curtains are not unconquerable.

"His story is a miniature, but his triumph is a reflection: the statue of Ozymandias stood, how long no one knows, brooding and gigantic over the world. But in the end, there was an end."

YOU REMEMBER Shelley's Ozymandias: "I met a traveller from an antique land/Who said: 'Two vast and trunkless legs of stone/Stand in the desert. . . ."

And on the pedestal these words appear: My name is Ozymandias, King of Kings. Look on my works, ye mighty, and despair! Nothing beside remains. . . . The lone and level sands stretch far away."

Ozymandias today is Red, and needs four hundred million Chinese: men, women, babes, into communes.

"How long, no one knows." That's the thing. Father Phillips is an American; Father Phillips weathered it, clinging Heaven by the hem, and he is now free.

Forty Jesuits who are Chinese remain in the Shanghai Communist prisons; they will weather it, and they will be freed only by death. Bishop Ford was freed by death.

Sunday on TV there appeared "The Red Face of China." Peking Prison was shown, and prisoners eating their daily bowl of watery rice with "its scattering of unpalatable dark fragments. . . ."

The prisoners were neat, their faces were neat, blank. But from Father Phillips' story I knew why they walked so oddly—they had been still, immovable for many hours; they had been endlessly, wheedlingly, victoriously questioned and brainwashed for many more. All China is now that kind of jail, and there are priests there with blank faces, who will help some souls to heaven before they go.

THIS BOOK, written in a clear, simple style, carrying the whole scene with it like soundless flood water, will sweep you right into the heart of the orderly, ongoing confusion.

You will learn how vivid and powerful Catholic life was before the war, how the coming of the Japanese affected things, how after they were gone the clouds gathered and the defenses, physical and spiritual, were prepared—and you will know that something, to some degree, that defense is being carried on. This book offers a fundamental of truth and hope to stand on as the news worsens in the weeks ahead of us—and it certainly will.

As for the gigantic miniature, the gentle Father Phillips' prison life of prayer and magnificent days of inspired sparring with

his evil questioners—it is a great story.

It has great little things like the visits of a tiny puppy unacquainted with prison rules—and great big things, like the comfort a priest could give a broken-hearted prisoner (informed that his wife had divorced him), by taking him into his arms to let him cry—or the comfort given the priest in his most desolate hour, when a daring parishioner who had located him came in the darkness to play a Christmas carol outside his prison wall.

Match this book to what is offered in the January Readers' Digest, in the Fall Worldmission (Bishop Sheen's), and in the November Mission Bulletin. A last act of Pius XII was to give all priests of three major dioceses in China "a pastor's powers, and extraordinary powers of dispensation. We can pray for them, at least.

Pupils Enroll In Advanced Study Courses

Cincinnati — (NC) — Gifted high school students can get an intensive academic training even in a big school organized for "mass education."

Elder High School here has been making special provisions for above average students this year in its Advanced Standing Course, and school officials say it works.

They're not surprised, however, because they began an advanced course in mathematics three years ago, and boys enrolled in it have been outstripping competitors from other schools in university tests.

Nearly 200 of Elder's 1,280 students accepted the faculty's invitation last fall to join the Advanced Standing Course, extended for the first time to all academic subjects. This means the boys agreed to:

Take six subjects each year instead of the usual five.

Read more than 100 carefully selected books.

Expect a minimum of three to four hours of homework each night.

Take four years of Latin.

Wade into mathematics courses ranging from algebra to college-level analytical geometry and calculus.

Union City, N. J. — (NC) — If your pastor asks the congregation to sing at Mass, you should try—even though you're tone-deaf and off-key, a prominent liturgical authority says.

"The tone deaf and the croakers who shy away from singing should realize that Christ the Lord didn't come to set up a convent bureau, but a happy, joyful family and so they should sing with the same abandon they use in the shower."

So advises Father Johannes Hofinger, S.J., head of the Institute for Mission Apologetics in Manila, in an interview with Gerard Sherry, managing editor of the Catholic Review, Baltimore archdiocesan newspaper, appearing in the January issue of Sign magazine published here.

THE JESUIT liturgist discussed possible means by which the laity can participate more fully in the Mass, including responses at Low Mass, hymns and use of the vernacular.

Asked the importance of singing, Father Hofinger responded that "it produces a community feeling." He added:

"At Mass, where a portion of redeemed humanity responds with love to the beautiful love of the Father, singing is especially suitable. When one sings well, the soul is disposed to pray well. Also, singing is a wonderful sign of unity. Nothing unites a community at prayer more effectively than hymn singing."

Father Hofinger stressed that a good parish choir "can be most valuable to a parish community in properly carrying out the liturgy." He warned, however, the choir should not "steal" the people's part of the Mass—the Ordinary.

As for use of the vernacular, English, in the Church's public prayer, Father Hofinger stressed that "Church law makes it quite clear that Latin is the language of the liturgy and that innovations may be made only by the Holy See."

He pointed out that the question of the vernacular is "pre-eminently a pastoral problem."

Slow Learners Needs Cited

Saint Mary's, Calif. — (NC) — Invention of a method and course content that will enable the slow learner to receive a real education is the greatest challenge facing American educators today, Dr. Mortimer J. Adler declared here.

"Today, no one is doing anything about the problem of providing education (not simple vocational training) for all men—and this means the slow learner as well as the brilliant student—as needed in a democracy, is not being met. Some one must invent a method and arrange the content so that the slow student receives a liberal education as well as the outstanding scholar."

and one of "deep concern" for liturgists throughout the world. On the one hand, he explained, it is felt it "will strengthen the bond between the priest and people," but on the other hand, "a

universal Latin liturgy strikingly manifests the unity of the Church."

COURIER-JOURNAL
Friday, January 9, 1959

Equitable Credit Corporation
(A NEW YORK CORPORATION)
\$500,000

TEN YEAR 6% SINKING FUND DEBENTURE BONDS

Dated: January 1, 1959 Due: February 1, 1969
Interest Payable Semi-annually
February 1st August 1st
THIS OFFER IS LIMITED SOLELY TO RESIDENTS OF NEW YORK STATE

WE OFFER THESE DEBENTURE BONDS SUBJECT TO PRIOR SALE, CHANGE IN PRICE, OR WITHDRAWAL OF THE OFFERING

PRICE: 99 and Accrued Interest

CRONIN & COMPANY

Established 1935—Patrick C. Cronin, Pres.
1210 Granite Building Telephone: Hamilton 6-3605-06
130 MAIN STREET EAST ROCHESTER 4, NEW YORK



men! you're WARM even when it's 20 below!
You SAVE \$3.00 at McCurdy's special price!

INSULATED UNDERWEAR

warmth without weight. regularly 15.95 . . . now **12.95**

Any man who works or plays outdoors needs this quilted insulated underwear. Especially recommended for policemen, firemen, mailmen, construction workers, mechanics winter sports enthusiasts.

Quilted air cell insulation of five-ounce pure duPont dacron provides warmth without weight . . . is odorless, mildew-proof, non-allergenic. Completely washable . . . and quick drying. Small, medium large, extra large.

Mail and phone orders. Call BAKER 5-3000
McCurdy's Men's Shop, Street Floor, Northgate,
McCurdy's of Geneva

Schoeman's
Open Nites Until 9
E-X-P-A-N-S-I-O-N SALE!
THE CARPENTERS, PAINTERS, ELECTRICIANS
NEED ROOM TO WORK, SO OUT MUST GO
OUR NICEST BOYS' & GIRLS' WEAR

| | |
|--|---|
| BOYS' JACKETS Fleece lined Reg. to \$5.98 | GIRLS' DRESSES Reg. to \$7.98 |
| SUBTEEN SKIRTS Reg. to \$7.98 | LADIES' SWEATERS Reg. to \$7.98 |
| CHILDREN'S SLEEPERS Famous Brands | CHUBBY JUMPERS 20% OFF |

CHARGE NOW • PAY IN MARCH
SCHOEMAN'S
458 MONROE AVENUE, CORNER MEIGS
FREE PARKING

INTEREST INCREASED!
DIVIDENDS
Get the Highest Rate
SHIFT TO THRIFT . . .
Open your account now!
SAVINGS INSURED TO \$30,000

ESTABLISHED 1884
Columbia BANKING, SAVING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION

Two Principal Offices:
31 E. MAIN ST. . . ROCHESTER
109 W. MILLER ST. . . NEWARK

Wherever you live, save by mail and get Columbia's Big 3 1/4% Rate! We pay postage and supply envelopes.

MAIL THIS COUPON TODAY
Columbia Banking Saving & Loan Assn.
31 E. Main St., Rochester, N.Y.
109 W. Miller St., Newark

USE EITHER OFFICE

I enclose deposit of \$_____ Please open a Columbia Saving Account as checked below.

In my name alone
 In my name in trust for _____
 In my name jointly with _____

Print Name in Full _____
 Mr. Mrs. Miss _____
Address _____
City, Zone No., State _____
Cash should be set registered mail.