

A Pastor's Sad Farewell to Sisters Going on New Missions

A pastor of our diocese, informed recently that the Sisters of the parish school should turn over their care of the church altars and sacristy to laywomen of the parish, wrote the following letter to the Superior of the convent.

His response to the Sisters' withdrawal from work-in-the-sanctuary to "get into the streets" and his lament that the lally seem unable and unwilling to fill the Sisters' role, may strike a sympathetic note in the minds of many readers, both religious and lay.

We reprint it with his permission, but have withheld his name by our own judgment.—The Editor.

Dear Sister,

I am writing this letter to you because I feel sure that in the light of your generous and devoted performance in taking on the care of our sacristy and altar, in addition to all the other things you have to do, I shall find a sympathetic ear in you.

I do not want to make a production of it, but along with others, I have been crying a little bit, down inside, and just want to ventilate, to register my little cry to someone. Do with it what you will: I do not expect you to answer. Possibly pin it on a bulletin-board or pass it along to some "Sister Apostle"?

A few weeks ago I received a form-letter from your Superior, advising me the time has come for the Sisters to get out of the churches and into the streets and the woods, etc. And that, therefore, we should invite our laywomen to do the work in the church making it easier for the Sisters to get into the outside.

us at home, but no one to work in the church.

Therefore, in the meantime, we must face another fuzzy fact of the age of newness; the priests shall now be charged, de facto, with the care of the church so the Sisters can care for the parish!

Much of it we may be able to do, having done it from boyhood, off and on—and we shall be willing to try our best—but heaven help the flowers, and the neckpieces and the snap-fasteners!

Expanding the work of your apostolate — providing

it does not neglect our children—is probably a good thing; visiting the sick, and some of the homes, etc. will be fine; I am less sure about getting into the streets, and the woods!

But, dear Sister, it seems to me there's something else here—and it is nearer the cause of my tears.

Laywomen or not, what has happened to bring it about that you consecrated "Brides of Christ" with—dare I say it?—an almost adulterous spirit, want to leave the Chamber of the King and run into the streets and gossip-circles of our parish or

organizations in search of more interesting company?

Is it possible that you dedicated ladies have arrived at the point where you no longer consider it a privilege, or even a wholesome duty, to be housekeepers, handmaids, ladies-in-waiting for Our King—and Our Queen—to keep His Throne-Room in order and His garments mended and His Table set? Would not, as in your own case, even one of your number, however large or small, be willing to stay with the King while the rest go abroad?

And, now, it seems that even you are to be ordered to leave us. I beg you to be sure

to leave us your sewing box with its needle and thimble and thread!

Last, but not least by any means, was it not for you as a girl, as it was for me as a boy, a part of your vocation, a real part of the picture, to know and love the fine priests and Sisters, not only in the school, but also the church?

Did it not do something special for you, as a girl, on a Saturday afternoon, or the Vigil of Christmas or Easter, to see those "Black-robed Angels" silently, whisperingly moving around the living-dining room of the King, seeing that everything was in order? Didn't you, even then,

begin to feel that you would like to be like them and do the things they did?

Not only as a boy, but through all my 30 years as a priest, watching you and them made it a little surer for me that Our King was really at home and that His home was a very nice place to be.

And from now on, as I continue to help and watch our boys and girls — from the other side of the confessional—they are going to be inspired perhaps, "with a little bit of luck", by some dear lady who may remind them only of the lady who cleans their daddy's office or does the wash for the family next door!

Structure? Unstructure? Vocations? ? ?

Thanking all of you for all you have given me, and us, and begging a prayer to Our Lady to help us manage that thimble, I promise to try to be more attentive, if a little more lonely, in the Throne-Room of Our King.

Goodbye, dear Sisters, and may The King not miss you nearly as much as we shall!

FOR PERFECT DIAPER SERVICE Stork BABY WASH 328-0710

Leprosy's No Deterrent to Vocations

A community of Poor Clares in Africa has opened up the possibility of a whole new life for young girls afflicted with leprosy.

Msgr. John F. Duffy, diocesan director for The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, used this fact as part of a public appeal on behalf of the more than 10 million leprosy sufferers throughout the world. The Sisters, said Msgr. Duffy, have established a monastery in the midst of a leper colony in order to allow girls with arrested cases of leprosy to dedicate their lives to God as African contemplatives.

Within the monastery there are five Sisters who have leprosy, but all are negative cases. One postulant is being treated at a nearby hospital. Once prognosis is encouraging she will return at once to the monastery. The Sisters also accept all girls who have leper parents.

But most important to the Sisters is their own prayerful

dedication to lepers throughout the world. One Sister has written: "At Holy Mass the chapel exterior is filled with these good folk—and Good Friday we adore and kiss the same beautiful crucifix. Actually, during the first four months of our foundation here, it was these lepers who supplied us daily with food."

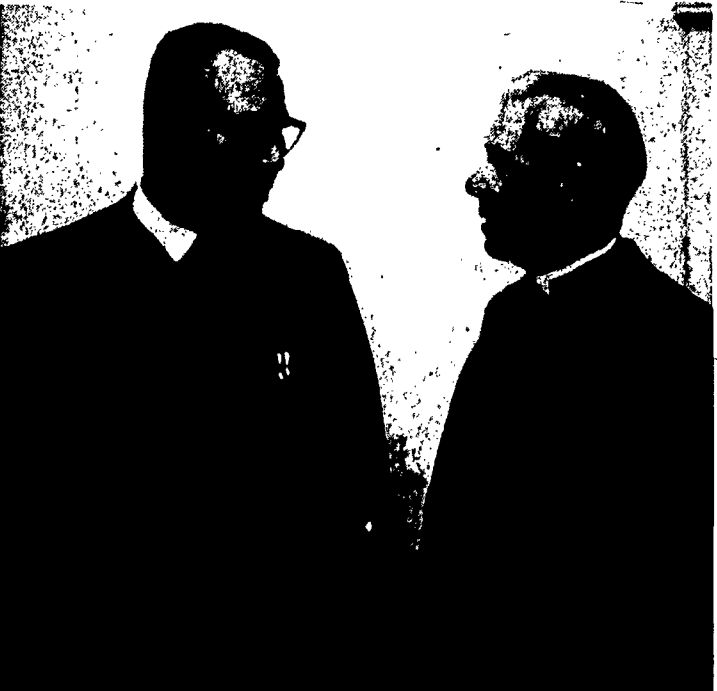
The tragedy of leprosy today, insisted Msgr. Duffy, is not the disease itself. Rather, it is the fact of how little it takes to cure leprosy (about \$3 worth of sulfone), and how many are not receiving this cure.

During this time before Christmas when we become most aware of the needs of our fellow man, the Society is seeking public support for the

400 leprosanaria and clinics which it helps maintain.

Contributions needed to supply food, clothing, and medicine to leper patients and their families. Checks or any size donation can be sent directly to Msgr. John F. Duffy, The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, 50 Chestnut St., Rochester, N.Y. 14604.

Structure? Unstructure? Vocations? ? ?



Bishop Fulton J. Sheen greets Brother Ralph J. Carpenter, Missionary of the Sacred Heart, retreat coordinator of Sacred Heart Retreat House, Youngstown, O. Brother Carpenter, only Negro from the Rochester area now in religious life, was the first Negro to enter the American province of the MSC congregation. He vacations in Rochester annually, and while here attended a retreat workshop at Notre Dame Retreat House in Canandaigua.

Deaths

C. D. McCrane

Ovid — A Requiem Mass was celebrated Nov. 19 in Holy Cross Church for Charles D. McCrane, former postmaster at Romulus. Mr. McCrane died Nov. 15 at the age of 81.

He retired 10 years ago, after 17 years as postmaster, and moved to Ovid. Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Ernest Rivers of Rochester and Mrs. John Malone of March Air Force Base, California; a son, Charles, of Pittsburgh; a sister, Miss Agnes McCrane of Romulus, and 20 grandchildren.

Isabelle Kelley

The funeral of Miss Isabelle J. Kelly of Garfield St. was held last Friday at St. Augustine's Church.

Miss Kelly, who died Nov. 28, is survived by her mother, Mrs. Mary Kelly, three brothers, Raymond, Edward and Lawrence, and several nieces and nephews.

Bridget LaFleur

Miss Bridget L. LaFleur, of 46 Grover St., a native of Seneca Falls, died Nov. 27. The funeral was last Saturday at St. Augustine's Church.

Miss LaFleur was a member of the St. Augustine Rosary Society. She leaves one sister, Genevieve LaFleur.

Mrs. Reagan

A concelebrated Mass of requiem was offered Nov. 25 at St. Augustine's for Kathryn Reagan of 98 Warwick Ave. She died Nov. 22.

Mrs. Reagan was the widow of John J. Reagan. She was active in charity organizations and church work. She was a member of her parish Rosary Society, the Order of Martha, Third Order of St. Francis and the Daughters of Erin.

Sister Carlotta

Sister M. Carlotta Hoff, of Saint Joseph sister for 68 years, died Nov. 28 after a long illness. The funeral was last Friday at the Motherhouse.

Sister Carlotta, a music teacher, was in the group that opened Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in 1905. She spent 21 years there later in her career. She was in the Nazareth Academy music department from 1908 to 1913, then at St. Francis Xavier. She retired in 1962.

Surviving are a niece and nephew.

Mass Concelebrated For 'Bill' Flaherty

Mass for repose of the soul of Whelan J. (Bill) Flaherty, 60, an assistant treasurer of Christopher Press, Inc., was concelebrated Friday, Nov. 29, in St. Margaret M-r-y Church.

Mr. Flaherty, of 115 Cedarwood Road, Irondequoit, died Nov. 25, 1968, after a brief illness.

Celebrant of the Mass was a first cousin, Father John P. O'Malley, pastor of St. Mary's Church, Bath. Concelebrants were Monsignor Joseph L. Hogan, pastor of St. Margaret Mary Church, and Father James F. Baker, pastor of St. Pius V Church, Cohocton.

Mr. Flaherty was with Christopher Press for 22 years. He was in charge of estimating. His career in printing began with Louis Hendl and Son, Inc., and later with Leo Hart Co. and John P. Smith Co.

His interests ranged from boating to oil painting. At one time he played semi-professional baseball in the former Rochester City League.

Mr. Flaherty was a member of the St. Margaret Mary Men's Club, the Rochester Typographical Union and the Rochester Club of Printing House Craftsmen.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Eleanor (Schlueter) Flaherty; a daughter, Mrs. Donald (Barbara) Wall; two sons, Daniel E. and Robert L.; a brother, Stephen; two sisters, Mrs. Sylvester (Thelma) Kiehlhammer, and Mrs. John (Doris Ann) Chapman, Macedon; several nieces and nephews, and nine grandchildren.

ND Gets Jewish Theology Grant

A \$350,000 foundation grant has enabled the University of Notre Dame to create an endowed chair in Jewish theology.

Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C., Notre Dame president, said the grant from the Dorothy M. and Lewis Rosenthal Foundation of New York City came to the university's new Institute for Advanced Religious Studies.

The foundation is helping to pioneer a scholarly and ecumenical enterprise which is unique, Father Hesburgh said.

Vatican Releases Christmas Stamps

Vatican City — (NC) — The Vatican has released a series of three postage stamps for the Christmas season, depicting the infant Jesus of Prague resplendent in a robe, wearing a crown and holding an orb in his right hand.

The issuance of the stamp, in values of 20, 50 and 100 lire, marks the first time in several years that some form of Nativity scene has not been used.

Don't Neglect Slipping FALSE TEETH

Do false teeth drop, slip or wobble when you talk, eat, laugh or sneeze? Don't be annoyed and embarrassed by such conditions. FASTEETH, an alkaline (non-acid) powder to sprinkle on your plates, keeps false teeth more firmly set. Gives confident feeling of security and added comfort. No stummy, gooey taste or feeling. Dentures that fit are essential to health. See your dentist regularly. Get FASTEETH at all drug counters.

Advertisement for GEO. M. GLANCY CARTING CO., INC. featuring a portrait of Elmer A. Frank and the slogan "Isn't it nice to get something extra?"

Advertisement for ZING! Refreshing New Feeling, featuring a Coca-Cola bottle and the slogan "Enjoy that REFRESHING NEW FEELING".

Advertisement for THE COLLEGE OF ST. ROSE, listing various academic programs and contact information.

Advertisement for Wish Fulfillment, offering a challenge and opportunity for learning, leisure, and experience.

Advertisement for Good Counsel, offering a college program in White Plains, N.Y.

Advertisement for FUNERAL DIRECTORS, pledging to quality standards and dignity in service.

Advertisement for Haubner & Stallknecht FUNERAL HOME, INC., located at 828 Jay St.

Advertisement for PAUL W. HARRIS FUNERAL HOME, located at 954 Clifford Ave.

Advertisement for GALLE MONUMENTS, offering quality concrete vaults and original designs.

Advertisement for SUNNYCREST, offering quality concrete vaults at 88.4% off.

Advertisement for FOR MY INVESTMENT, offering a Gift Annuity called MISSION CONTRACT.

Advertisement for HADLOCK'S HOUSE OF PAINT, featuring a fall special and contact information.

Advertisement for WANT ADS, listing various services and contact information.

Advertisement for ANNOUNCEMENTS, listing various notices and contact information.

Advertisement for BUSINESS SERVICES, listing various professional services.

Advertisement for ROOFING REPAIRS, listing various roofing services.

Advertisement for REASONABLE HEATING services, listing various heating services.

Advertisement for EMPLOYMENT, listing various job opportunities.

Advertisement for SITUATIONS WANTED, listing various job seekers.

Advertisement for HELP WANTED—FEMALE, listing various job openings.

Advertisement for HOUSEWIVES PART TIME, listing various part-time jobs.

Advertisement for A SINGER ZIG ZAG SEWING MACHINE, listing various sewing machine models.

Advertisement for A CAPITOL ZIG ZAG SEWING MACHINE, listing various sewing machine models.

Advertisement for \$1.00 WANT AD FEATURE, offering a special rate for subscribers.

Advertisement for FOR MY INVESTMENT, offering a Gift Annuity called MISSION CONTRACT.

CHURCH

Nuns' Work

By Father P. David

Saul Alinsky says that sisters are the most effective in the U.S. Catholic day. A recent all-day Urban Workshop for 200 aid nothing to weaken the assumption.

The workshop was the operative training effort by the Joint Office of Urban and the local congregations. Post-Vatican II, the interfaith bandwagon and laymen who were developing new ways to people in a rapidly changing urban environment.

The workshop seemed a today's TV news with audiovisual "experiences" swinging dialogue with Minister Franklin D. Roosevelt and a broad spectrum of discussion sessions.

The agenda was built to need for revised forms of the Church and included on the urban crisis, the view, suburban involvement, panicking communities and to youth.

Religious women who ca lightening on the needs of city" came away with a frame of reference. The

NOW H

Chicago: A

By Father Richard

This week America's frightening August week of batted crowds of young streets and parks of documented report on events of the Democratic week, submitted by the National Committee on "brought back the lurid-dreadful human spectacle vital rights conflicted."

In principle, democr Americans acknowledge the dissent. And in principle sesters on any subject right of a city to pro "But," said the report, pens when these under are brought—deliberate—into conflict?"

The initial response to violence, seen in million rooms by TV, was undenation of the Chicago their civic officials for unwarranted ferocity.

A quick-rising count however, was that the probably got what they de of 10,000 allegedly unwa throwing young people ssciences and bent on dis peace.

This week's report ca sickening testimony fr the victims—the meles Americans will now accep mission's judgment that "police riot," "not a gal against dangerous revo but "unrestrained and ind police violence."

But beyond the indel minority of the policeme much more disturbing i the report: challenges i America must ponder.

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Press Caut

By FR. R. A. GRAH Religious News Se

Vatican City — (RNS) addresses in successive Paul VI used the term "to describe current the Church.

This term, developed i ings of the German-Amosopher Herbert Marcuse into common use in Et the student riots of last

Pope Paul applied it to situation when addressi journalists and also in his Sunday homily to the fal Peter's Square.

The Pope said that whi must report the facts, t press has another particu addition. Because of the its subject, it must exhibi in its way of presenting the Church. And this, e cost of some loss of stan

"Your professional makes it a duty for you t regular initiatives which here and there in the ce munally.

"But your conscience a on you the duty to redu sedes to their right prop