

Mary Steele Named To REACH Post

Perkinsville — Health Educator is Miss Mary Steele's new job title at Project REACH.

As announced by REACH executive director Stuart Mitchell, Miss Steele's job is to broaden the health program and clinical services to a wider population of rural poor.

She is a former Health Educator for NYS Office of Public Health Education, working in Columbia County. She left the State Health Department in search of a job which would

offer more latitude for the use of new and innovative health programs.

"For me," said Miss Steele, "REACH's health program and my new role in it is wide-open to developing community based health services. I was amazed at the scope of the REACH health program . . . it's bigger than I thought."

A 1970 graduate of Brockport State with a BS in health education and biological sciences, Miss Steele is currently assist-

ing the director of the Perkinsville Health Clinic during the migrant season. Her assistance includes supervising health assistants in migrant camp visitation, coordinating transportation of migrants to health services of the clinic and elsewhere, and statistically recording clinic admissions.

Following the migrant season, Miss Steele will begin to develop innovative health education programs in the REACH target area.

"Primarily, my role will be to cooperate with existing health planning agencies and delivery systems in order to establish a comprehensive health system for the rural poor in southern Livingston and northern Steuben counties," said Miss Steele. "The REACH goal and mine, is to develop a rural health delivery system which can reach all the rural, indigenous peoples, and not limiting ourselves to specific populations as Migrants and seasonal agricultural workers."



FR. PAUL J. CUDDY

On The Right Side

A few months ago I was talking to a young matron. She is trim, tranquil, cheerful and fortyish. She is a better than average Catholic mother. "Better than average?" Yes. For these reasons. She is a very Christian wife and mother; not saccharine but possessing that nice balance which is ready to give a fussy youngster a healing hug as she stirs the gravy on the stove, or an edifying whack on the backside to her attention-demanding four year old whom she dries and affectionately dubs "Sarah Bernhardt." She is better than average because she accepts the love and guidance of the Church with authentic faith and confidence; better than average because she has a practical concern for people who have no claim on her by kinship or even friendship and from whom she expects no return; better than average because she regards wifehood and motherhood a blessed vocation, and she enjoys both of them. She and self-pity are strangers to one another.

We were discussing religious trends within the Church I remarked: "You know, in less than a decade many religious practices have been dropped. Even the ROSARY! I wonder how many young people say it any more." She looked thoughtful. "Come to think of it, I'm not sure that my own do — or even know how!" And she is the mother of nine; from collegiate age to pre-kindergarten!

With a bluntness which I would use only with women I admire, I said: "Well, if that's so, then it's your fault. After all, you're their mother! They aren't likely to get the Rosary in many Catholic Schools today; and less so in CCD. Why don't you gather your family together and say the Rosary at night, especially during October and May?" She smiled: "It's a job to get my family all together. They are hardly ever all home at once." "Well, with one husband and nine children I'm sure you can always dig up a quorum." So we left it like that.

Father Peyton of Rosary Crusade fame, uses a neat slogan: "The family that prays together,

stays together." Why is this so? Because family prayer is community prayer. And community prayer binds people together in a good union. I do think that had seminaries, convents, religious houses preserved the community rosary, they would have preserved stronger communities.

When I was a little boy it was the custom of our family to say the Rosary right after supper. My father lead the Rosary prayers. My mother followed with the Litany of Our Lady. One night the family had plopped on their knees around the living room: father, mother, grandmother and my three oldest brothers. My mere five years had excused me from the community recitation; and I sat lounging and listening to the rapid, rhythmic Hail Marys. Catching the eye of one brother I grinned as if to say: "See, I'm excused!" My father caught the impious grin, stopped the prayerful proceedings, curtly said: "You're old enough for the Rosary! Get down on your knees!" He resumed the praises of Mary without further comment. And little Paul from that moment onward became part of the family Rosary Community, which also added the Litany of Our Lady.

Many have told me: "That little book, 'The Scriptural Rosary,' has given me a new zest for the Rosary." (Mercy Sister M. Roberta has distributed hundreds.) If you want a copy, try your Catholic book shop. Some parish pamphlet racks have it. If you can't get one, send a dollar to me at: St. James Mercy Hospital, Hornell, N.Y. 14843. You'll get a book back by return mail. Or if you want merely a folder on how to say the Rosary, I'll be happy to send you one free.

The Rosary is a devotion highly blessed by the Church. The Community that prays the Rosary together stays together.

Fr. Cuddy Speaks To Women's Club

Hornell — Father Paul J. Cuddy, chaplain of St. James Mercy Hospital, was the guest speaker at the first dinner meeting of the Hornell Business and Professional Women's Club, held Monday, Sept. 20, at the New Sherwood Hotel.

Father Cuddy pointed out ways in which the world is changing. He said that communication and travel have undergone the biggest change but human nature is still the same.

He stressed the importance of "using the Grace of God" to keep the bad under control as there is good and bad in all of us. He said that it was important to "establish the proper priorities" and urged all to begin with themselves and do three things: pray every day; be good to the members of your family and reach out to your

associates. "If you do these three things, you will add strength to yourself, your family and your community."

Mrs. Patricia Collins was chairman of the dinner, and was assisted by Mrs. Gladys Bathrick, Mrs. Alice Miles, Mrs. Alice Ferris, Mrs. Dorothy McConnell and Mrs. Kay Austin.

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Hornell Area Notes

Dansville—Bishop Joseph L. Hogan will celebrate the 10 a.m. Mass and preach at the 10 and 11:30 a.m. Masses Oct. 10 at St. Mary's.

Perkinsville — Pre-Cana Conferences will be held on the first four Sundays in October in the rectory of Sacred Heart.

Bath — New officers of St. Mary's Home-School Association are Mrs. Lee Cornaire, secretary; Mrs. George Machuga, second vice president; Julian Kuczma, first vice president and Larry Ryan, president.

Wayland — The Most Valuable Player of the 1971 Dan-Way-Coa Babe Ruth Baseball league season is Robert "Bob" Kuhn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kuhn of Wayland. The Kuhns are parishioners of St. Joseph's parish. Bob, 15, is a junior at Wayland Central School.

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