

FR. HENRY ATWELL
**Toward
Tomorrow**



Our Bishop deserves applause from more than the 200 people who greeted him when he returned from his peace pilgrimage to Washington.

Liberals have prodded for years to have bishops take strong stands for peace and justice.

Conservatives have equally emphatically said for years that Catholics should stand loyally with church authorities.

The liberals now have a bishop who has done what no other American Catholic bishop has done — he's taken his peace plea directly to the nation's capital. They should overwhelm him with their response of encouragement. If they don't, then I'll not listen to anything else they ever say for I'll know they are loud talk and no action.

I am not aware of any single issue that has been more the subject of the prayers, speeches and documents of the past three popes than the subject of peace. Pope Pius XII, Pope John and now Pope Paul have returned over and over again to this theme.

American Catholics, clergy and laity, have posed, however, as if the popes were always talking about those other nations, he just couldn't mean us — like the joke about the character in the pew who knew exactly who the pastor was talking about when he preached about sinners who should reform.

We who are the Catholics of America have just simply ignored the popes on the question of peace.

It's a wonder our priests haven't changed the dismissal prayer at Mass from, "The Mass is ended, go in peace" to the much more honest statement,

"The Mass is ended, go keep up the war."

Exactly the way Jesus would say it!

Instead we have fritted away our moral sense on trivial items such as the length of a young priest's hair or the hemline of a nun. We have haggled over whether God likes guitar music or pipe organs, Latin or English prayers, gothic or cement pillars.

I think this trivialization of our faith is one of the root reasons why so many of our younger priests and nuns have quit their vocations and why so pitifully few are entering these vocations. Who in his or her right mind can be willing to give up a life and the consolation of love for the sake of holy boondoggling?

I myself think there is still plenty of room in the American Catholic church for nuns, lay people — and that these are precisely the kind of people we most need for the church of the future.

Recently I had the book "Future Shock" in my hand as I chanced to meet Avon Supervisor Mr. Albert C. Burke. I asked him if he had read the book. He said he hadn't and added, "I'm still trying to cope with present shock".

All of us are daily buffeted in many ways. As Catholics and as Christians we must be ready to assist one another in absorbing these shocks, well aware that we cannot hope ever to prevent them from ever happening.

That is why I think we must "lift our eyes to the mountains" and strive for those "unreachable goals" of peace, justice and compassion.



FR. PAUL J. CUDDY
**On The
Right Side**

When happenstances happen several times in one week, it may be a sign from God. Signs this past week indicate: "Providence wants a plug for retreats."

On Monday, Sister M. Scholastica, one of the three Caufield girls in the Mercy Order, returned from retreat

at St. Elizabeth's Convent, Allegheny. "How was the retreat, Sister?"

"Good. Not exciting, but restful and a good atmosphere for prayer."

"How were the beds?"

Sister S. smiled, "Hard and thin. But that didn't prevent my sleeping."

Younger readers may wonder at my concern regarding mattresses. The answer is that for older people a good night's rest makes the difference between functioning reasonably well the next day, or not. A few years ago I picked up a paperback entitled, "Health in Aging Years", and read, "If you are accustomed to a particular pillow, take it with you when you travel." Since reading this, I have brought my own pillow to Auriesville Retreat House; and the Jesuits have improved the mattress situation. They used to be like leather.

Tuesday I had an appointment in Canandaigua, so I telephoned Notre dame Retreat House, for the superior, Father James Foley. The secretary, Mrs. Hall, who is also an enthusiastic CCD teacher said, "He's out but will be back for dinner."

At noon Father Foley blessed me with his virile devotion to Christ, Our Lady and the Church. A liturgy professor from Dunwoodie was conduct-

ing a retreat for Redemptorist seminarians about to receive the diaconate. The seminarians included men from Thailand and Viet Nam: a quite catholic group. Understandably the Asians did not share the same views about abandoning the Viet Nam people as our St. Bernard's seminarians, recently pictured in the Courier. One Viet Nam seminarian is from Hue.

With the business done in Canandaigua City, I left for Piffard Retreat House and arrived at 5:20. Behold, not only Father Robert MacNamara of Hornell, but also Fathers Callan, Hayes, Sundholm and the irrepressible Father McFarland were there; plus Father V. Caruso, a Father of Mercy from Leroy. A good friend of mine is Jim Alan who takes care of the Priests Retreat House, including the meals. He had supper ready, and was thoroughly flustered at my unexpected arrival, since he had prepared exactly six pork chops for the six retreatants. He fixed me up with a fine ham, lettuce and tomato sandwich, which I really preferred, although he didn't believe considerate. After supper we went to the Abbey for Compline.

Wednesday a card came from Father Fossler, SJ, at Auriesville that he blessed Bishop Kearney for initiating and me, come May 22. I have my pillow ready.

Thursday I was pleased to see the Courier centerpiece was devoted to women's retreats and the Cenacle which CJ photographer Laurence Keefe had skillfully put together; and I blesses Bishop Kearney for initiating the Retreat House and the Cenacle Sisters for providing this place of prayer and edification for women.

Do you think that possibly God is inviting many CJ readers to a retreat?

COURIER-JOURNAL

Tour Spain & Portugal

with **Father Paul J. Cuddy**

Including visits to:

- Shrine of Fatima
- Lisbon
- Seville
- Madrid
- Grenada
- Toledo
- Cordoba
- Costa del Sol



Father Paul J. Cuddy

Father Cuddy is Chaplain of St. James Mercy Hospital and author of the Weekly Courier-Journal Column ON THE RIGHT SIDE.

See Fatima, the ornate Cathedral at Seville, the Cathedral at Toledo, the great monastery at Seville.

See Lisbon, the water color city on the banks of the Tagus — the resorts of Estoril and Cascais—Spain, a world in itself with Andalusia's fascinating Seville, Moorish Cordoba and Grenada —the bright and sunny Costa del Sol, Madrid with its famous Prado Museum.



15 DAYS

September 25th thru October 8th

\$725.00

for everything, both to and from Rochester including scheduled Jet Air Fare

FOR BROCHURE WRITE

TOUR DEPARTMENT
COURIER-JOURNAL
RICHFORD BUILDING
67 CHESTNUT ST.
ROCHESTER, N.Y. 14604

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

ZIP CODE

PHONE