

ON THE RIGHT SIDE
Fr. Paul J. Cuddy

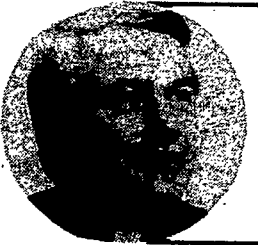
Letters in reaction to OTRSide articles frequently remind me of two lines from Longfellow's "The Arrow and the Song." It begins: "I shot an arrow into the air. It fell to earth, I knew not where." For example, on June 5 a letter came from Margaret E. of Manchester, Conn. Who she is I do not know. But her letter is both an encouragement and an instruction.

The OTRS column had commented: "Father William Byrne had an expression, DO IT NOW. THERE IS DANGER IN DELAY. Here are a few Do It Nows..." Among them were: "Write a letter to the Editor, e.g. of the Courier or to your local paper; or even to me; or to the TV or radio broadcasters. Give thanks where thanks are due, e.g. for The Walton Family; and blame, e.g. for Maude. Express your thanks to one who has been kind or helpful. About a dozen years ago I remembered a little, red-headed Miss Louise Elder, who was a perennial librarian in Auburn. I decided to write a note of thanks, recalling her kindness to so many of us children who had haunted the library. At the writing, she was an invalid, so I followed up the letter with a personal visit to her in a nursing home. Her happiness was so great I was a little ashamed I had delayed expressing my thanks for so many years."

The letter from Margaret E. of Conn. came June 5, four months after the article. It reads:

"Dear Reverend Father, "After reading your enclosed column (Feb. 14) I expected to write to you but you can see that I did not DO IT NOW. However I have kept the thought in the back of my mind until now. The underlined words ("a personal visit to her in the nursing home...") prompts me to write you and tell you, how very much a confined and ill person enjoys a visit from a priest or religious. Most important, of course, is the priest's visit bringing Holy Communion.

"Then, also, a friendly visit



THE OPEN WINDOW
Fr. Louis Hohman

Q. My nephew is being confirmed and I would like to know why it's necessary to have a sponsor at Confirmation. Maybe others are wondering about this too.

A. It is our belief that God works through other people to give us the Christian faith and support us in it. This supportive role of the Christian community is symbolized by the sponsor, a man or woman who presents the candidate to the bishop and stands at his side while the sacrament is being conferred. It is considered desirable that the godparent at Baptism also, if possible, be the sponsor at Confirmation, or the parents themselves may present their children to be confirmed. In any case, the person chosen as sponsor should be someone who has helped and will continue to help the candidate to live a good Christian life.

The sponsor should be seen as the link between the community and the child to be confirmed.

ANNIVERSARY

A Mass commemorating the 50th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph DiPrima of Bennett Avenue was celebrated July 1 at Annunciation Church. A reception was given by their children at the Heritage House

brings so much happiness. So please call as often as you can on those in nursing homes and institutions and those confined in their homes. And please encourage priests and religious in your acquaintance to do so. Remember those with long-term illnesses whose infirmities, after a time, are taken for granted. The joy of a visit will be greatly increased in joy to the patient if the caller will sit down, settle back and give the impression that he is going to stay awhile and have a friendly chat. I do hope this suggestion will be welcomed for it is given from my heart..."

COMMENT: Years ago I said to Msgr. William Bergan, who was chancellor at the time: "I'm glad my first assignment was to Father Curtin. I learned more just from observing him than from a dozen courses in Pastoral Care." He replied: "Yes. It is important to place newly ordained priests with the wisest and best pastors. One's first pastor strongly shapes a young priest's attitudes for the rest of his life."

Father Curtin constantly made visits anywhere there were people: at homes, hospitals, business places, factories. He visited the poor and the comfortable, the sick and the well; the devout and the tepid. He visited parishioners; and non-Catholics with whom he had sincere ecumenicity long before people began to stumble over both the name and the concept. His visitations were brief, usually from five to ten minutes, but sufficient to leave the message: "You are important to God and to the Church, and we are here to tell you so."

The letter from Connecticut Margaret E. reminds us beautifully: the sick and the infirm have a special claim in the Servant Church. Not only priests and religious, but Legionnaires of Mary, Teen Seminarists, Curialists, and just plain Catholics with practical Faith but no particular organization affiliation have a clear instruction from her letter.

You realize, I am sure, that many clubs and organizations demand a sponsor for anyone becoming a new member. The sponsor becomes the link between the outside and the inside of the organization and in a certain way vouches for the fitness of the candidate to belong both before and after his introduction to the group. In the same way a sponsor should be in a position to vouch for the right of a candidate to be confirmed, his ability to meet the qualifications for Confirmation, and be a support for the candidate in the fullness of the Christian life after he has been confirmed.

Hopefully the role of sponsor will be seen as an important one in this way and not just a relative or friend one is trying to please or who might give a substantial gift on the occasion. That is why the designation of a non-Christian or a poor Christian as sponsor is irrelevant and contradictory. If people understood the real role of godparents and sponsors, they would not even ask to have such people cast in these roles.

We can understand easily why someone who is not a member of a country club or a member not in good standing cannot sponsor a new member to the club. We should also be able to understand how this is true of godparents and sponsors for Baptism and Confirmation.

Bishop Calls Racism a Heresy

Salisbury [RNS] — Irish-born Roman Catholic Bishop Donal R. Lamont of Umtali, Rhodesia, charged here that "racism" as practiced in Rhodesia is "a pernicious heresy."

Bishop Lamont, secretary of the Catholic Bishops Conference, was commenting on the reaction of a small group of Catholic dissidents in Salisbury who expressed opposition to the bishops' stand against "racist" legislation in Rhodesia.

The country's five Catholic bishops, all white, recently issued a declaration condemning legislation requiring government

permission for whites to visit territory designated for blacks, and vice versa.

Dissidents publicly decried what they called "clerical interference in politics," describing the bishops' move as "a scandal and a disgrace to the whole Catholic Church."

Bishop Lamont told newsmen that he and his colleagues would be "unworthy of their office" if they were to remain silent in the face of "racism in Rhodesia."

He said the Catholic Church recognized that the prosperity and well-being of society

demand a legally constituted civil authority, but, he emphasized, "this authority must be subject to limitations."

UNICEF CARDS

UNICEF greeting cards are available this summer from the Rochester Association for the United Nations at 55 St. Paul, 232-1080.

The association, which has sold Christmas cards for several years, hopes to raise \$3,000 through the sale of year-around cards, books and toys. The money is its share of a projected \$3 million fund for relief work with Vietnamese children.

COURIER WANT ADS

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WANTED

LADY to stay with elderly lady for 2 weeks, July 16-28. 421-4994.

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COUPLE wanted for Housekeeper and Caretaker at Catholic Church in Rochester suburban area. Private quarters. Good pay. References required. 20 East Avenue, Fairport, N.Y.

HOUSEWIVES—Demonstrate gifts and toys. 20 per cent commission from first dollar sold. Plus 5 per cent bonus. NO PAPERWORK. FREE KIT. Call 663-5749, 352-5121, 964-3618 or write to C&B Toy Club, Warminster, Pa. 18974.

OPERATING room registered nurse. Immediate opening. full time days. Experience necessary. Able to accept call time. Excellent fringe benefits. Salary commensurate with training and experience. Dial 607-324-3900. Personnel Director, St. James Mercy Hospital, Hornell, New York.

HOUSEKEEPER at Rectory in rural community near Rochester. Day hours, cooking-housekeeping, own transportation necessary. Write Box 23, Scottsville 14546.

BUSINESS SERVICES

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BROKEN Windows? We replace glass in regular, storm, picture, Thermopane, patio doors, & Anderson windows. For low cost "on the spot" glass replacement with our MOBILE GLASS SHOPS. Call the GLASSMAN. We also make tops for furniture and desks, 328-6130.

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ODD Jobs: Storm windows removed, washing walls, floor waxing, cleaning gutters etc. 636-4421.

ROOFING: New roofs, re-roofing, patchwork, chimneys. 27 years experience. Free estimates. DiNapoli Brothers, 458-3566.

MASON Work: Patios, chimneys, brick

steps, garage floors, side walks, planters. 27 years experience. Free estimates. DiNapoli Brothers, 458-3566.

END Painting Forever: We apply aluminum trim cornishes. Gables, windows, doors. Insured. Expert applicator. 288-4747.

ROOFING, Siding: New, repairs, insurance claims. Expert applicator, insured. Free estimates. 288-4747.

CHIMNEYS: New rebuilt, repaired, Expert Mason. Free estimates. Insured. 288-4747.

PAINTING, Exterior: Excellent workmanship. Reasonable. Free estimates. Ray Weber 342-9066.

ASPHALT sealing, residential, commercial, industrial. Free estimates. Arleno's Enterprises, 482-1495.

INTERIOR painting, professional results. Very reasonable rates, free estimates. Ask for Jack. 288-5732.

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PIANO tuner; college graduate. Also clarinet, violin, piano jazz player. Union man. Call 454-6387 between 9 p.m.-10:30 p.m. on Mon., Tues., Thurs., & Fri. Call 8:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. on Wed.

ENTERTAINMENT

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FOR RENT

45 RANDOLPH. Room busline, parking, home privileges, \$15 weekly, girl.

4 ROOMS. Front. Elderly couple, near busline. Holy Redeemer. 544-6374.

FOR SALE

REPOSSESSED: sewing machine, 1973 Zig-zag, Dial-a-sew, automatic buttonholes, blind hems, stretch, stitch, decorative, and more. Twenty year guarantee, 1 year free sewing lessons. Balance due \$34.00 or three payments of \$12.00 a month. Call credit manager, 288-2100.

TV Console, black & white, 25-inch, good condition, \$30.00. Kitchen set, white & gold, 4 chairs, like new, \$40.00. Call 544-3513.

CHURCH pews. Beautiful solid oak from

landmark church. Large quantity. Also stainless steel kitchen fixtures; stoves, ovens, sinks, etc. All like new, 442-0870.

ZIG-ZAG Sewing Machine. Case. Electric scissors. Used 6 months. Must sell. 482-7986.

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TRUMPET "Marta" with case, good condition, \$39.00, used one year. 472-9709.

1966 CHRYSLER: Newport, four door sedan, \$400, 546-7133.

1968 TORINO GT 390 automatic fastback, also parts for Ford, 406 CID, \$400, 546-7133.

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LEFT on layaway, brand new 1973 Zig-Zag sewing machine, makes buttonholes, blind hems, plus fancy stitches, all without attachments. Full price \$30 or 3 payments of \$10 monthly. Necchi-Elna Sewing Center, 244-0830.

GIRLS Schwinn bike, purple sting ray. Very good condition. Will sell for \$40. Call 482-7933 between 3-9 p.m.

GIRLS Schwinn bike, green. Will sell for \$35. Very good condition. Call 482-7933 between 3-9 p.m.

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TUTORING all subjects. Qualified teachers. PROFESSIONAL TUTORING SERVICE. 244-9155; 271-7707.

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