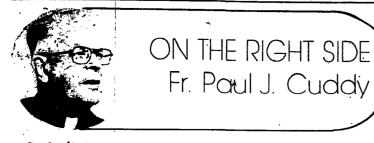
COURIER-JOURNAL

Wednesday, July 18, 1973

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Q. Is it true young people aren't going to Mass?

A. All I know is what I am told and read. I gather that quite a few high schoolers and collegians have quit going to Mass; but the majority are still faithful.

Q. Can you put your finger on why they don't go?

A. We need more fingers than one. 1) There is a common op-position to law. While law is really to protect rights, many youngsters have had it drilled into them that law is an infringement of their liberty. 2) There has been a great loss of reverence toward the sacred, including the Holy Eucharist. 3) There have been evil teachers who have told students: "Going to Mass should be an act of love. You should go only if you want to go. If you feel you won't get anything out of it, you can worship God some other way, like admiring the trees and brooks; or visiting the sick." These evil teachers do not recognize doing one's duty is an act of love.

Q. But aren't these teachers young?

A. I've heard some of the soundest presentations on Sunday Mass obligation given by young priests and Sisters. For example, there is in the Rochester Area the Woman's Eucharistic League which has a Holy Hour on the first and second Mondays, and on the fourth Thursday of each month. They meet at the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse, The Sisters of St. Joseph In-firmary; and Holy Trinity, Webster, which is the parish of the President, Miss Dorothy Miller. The day after my arrival at Webster to become assistant to Fathers Hart and Michatek, the Hour was at Blessed Trinity. So I slipped in and listened to an inspiring sermon on the Eucharist by a very young priest, Fr. Frank Lioi of Annunciation.

Q. Did he touch on Mass obligation?

A. Indeed he did! He was speaking of Christian Community through the Eucharist, and explained unmistakably that to skip Sunday Mass deliberately is

Crossword

undermining the Community of the Faithful and hurting the Body of Christ. He said clearly: "This is sinful." Most young priests I know are equally firm and correct.

Q. Then how come these "evil Teachers", as you call them?

A. They are evil. They defy the divine authority of the Church which explicitly commands: "Every Catholic shall go to Mass on Sundays and Holy Days." They resent authority, fantasizing it as an infringement on freedom. They have sucked at anti-Catholic "Catholic" publications so long they glory in defying the Holy Father and the Magisterium of the Church. They have developed a superciliousness toward nice Sisters who are faithful to the traditions of their congregations. They are taken in by the antiheroine type of nun like the former Sister Liz. When disillusionment comes, the damage has already been done.

Q. What do you foresee?

A. I am optimistic. See the strength of Mother Teresa's Community, which retains genuine community .: Community prayer, community Mass, community rosary, community recreation, community living together. Recently I picked up a hitch-hiker. I asked: "Are you a Catholic?" "Yes." "Do you go to Mass on Sunday?" "Oh, some of the time." "Why don't you go every Sunday?" "Because I don't believe in going if I feel I'm not going to get anything out of it." "Don't you think you should go because you **ought** to go; not just for kicks? How about you folks? Do they go regularly or just when they feel like it?" His face broke into a broad grin as he saw the humor. "Oh, they go every Sunday. They go because they think they **ought** to go." He was visualizing his folks doing what they ought, and himself what he felt like; and it didn't add up in his logical mind. I believe many of the young have good ideals. In fact the developing TEEN SEMINAR programs are among the most effective activities to bring an appreciation of the Church, the Mass, the love of neighbor and a sense of personal responsibility in many a moon. So, let us bless the Lord.



E consumer news

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We're featuring insulation at our Consumer Information Center now, and for the rest of July we'll tell you how proper insulation keeps your home cooler and your air conditioning bills down. The Consumer Information Center is located on the main floor at 89 East Avenue and it's open during all our regular office hours.

There are more than a dozen types of insulating materials you can use in your home. At the Consumer Center you will see samples of a few of these, together with examples of their proper installation. (Correct installation is essential to insure the effectiveness of the insulation material.) you, too; you can pick it up when you visit the Center.

After you've been to the Consumer Center, you can take your questions to RG&E's Residential Department, located on the fifth floor at 89 East Avenue, Residential representatives are there to help you with cooling, heating, insulation, humidity control, lighting, and wiring problems in your home.

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