



ON THE RIGHT SIDE
Fr. Paul J. Cuddy

Q. Why do priests wear clericals?

A. The black suit and Roman collar? The reasoning is much the same as for any uniform: identification.

Q. Identification?

A. Yes. If you are flying on a commercial air plane, all the crew wear uniforms so they are identifiable. It is reassuring to board a plane and be met by a stewardess who is clearly identifiable: trim, trained, gracious. To see the Captain in uniform, with his pilot's wings, brings a sense of confidence to the passengers.

Q. But couldn't the captain and stewardesses serve just as well without uniforms?

A. Technically, yes; psychologically, no.

Q. O come! What does that mean?

A. Let's illustrate. The stewardess could check tickets, serve trays, give counsel, help mothers, etc. in dungarees or in a Christian Dior. But she loses identification with the Community of Stewardesses. The Captain can pilot a plane as competently in civies; but his passengers are morally helped by seeing him as an identifiable member of the Community of Pilots. The uniform is a sign of special service.

Q. And the clerical uniform?

A. The priesthood is a community of special men, who by vocation, vow and purpose are called to place priesthood above self; the needs of the Church and The People above personal desires. The clerical garb is a sign that we are a special kind of servants.

Q. Do priests really place priesthood above themselves?

A. I certainly expect so. When Our Lord said: "Greater love than this no man has than to give up his life for his friend" I think he was teaching utter, selfless service. Vatican II makes much of the Church and her priests as servants. This reminds me of a story.

In Ireland, where bishops have been traditionally autocratic, a bishop came to dedicate a new church. He was square-jawed and fearsome. At the dinner for the visiting clergy His Lordship sat glowering at the head of the table, with 39 of the expected 40 priests seated with him. The 40th seat was vacant, and next to the bishop. Twenty minutes into the dinner a brash young priest bustled in and seated himself next to the bishop. He enquired with an irritating breeziness: "And how did the dedication go, Your Lordship?" "It went very well, young man, and it's a pity that you weren't there." "Ah, yes. And who preached?" The bishop growled: "I preached myself." "Faith, and is that so? And it's myself that's been thinking the Apostle Paul enjoined us to preach Christ and Him Crucified!" The clerical uniform is in a way a shadow to our ego, and it illuminates the Community of the Priesthood.

Q. But doesn't the imitation of Christ say: "the habit does not make the monk"?

A. Yes, and A' Kempis surely expected monks to wear the Holy Habit. Not because the habit made a monk of the man; but because it reminded the man to be a dedicated monk. One of the best books which treats of the theory of Self over Community is Keeping Your Balance in the Modern Church by Hugh O'Connell, CSSR. (Ligourian Press). It is difficult to read without some philosophical background. But if you want a copy, send me one dollar at Holy Trinity Church, Webster, N.Y. 14580 and I will mail you a copy. Warning though. It's tough.

Q. Do you always wear clericals?

A. No. I swim in swim trunks; garden in knock-arounds; do some vacationing in convenient sport clothes; and sleep in shorts and a T shirt, a custom from my Air Force days. But my ordinary garb is black clericals. That seems to be the garb identifying our three bishops; and I think the people are contented with this. It seems good for the rest of the clergy.

K of C Charities: \$13.5 Million Plus

New Haven, Conn. [RNS] — Knights of Columbus disbursements for charitable, benevolent and activity projects in 1972 amounted to \$13.5 million, according to results of a survey released by the organization's headquarters here.

The total included only amounts reported by 4,598 councils and assemblies, or 64 per cent of those polled by a professional survey firm.

Units returning questionnaires also reported a total of 274,507 visits to the sick, 843,986 hours devoted to community service and 218,381 hours devoted to serving the sick and disabled and their families.

Expenses for activities of the units reporting amounted to \$6,785,787. Almost \$1 million of that amount was spent on youth activities such as sponsorship of Scout units, Catholic Youth Organization groups, Little League teams, 4-H clubs and the Knights' own youth leadership training arm, the Columbian Squires.

Total charitable and benevolent disbursements amounted to \$6,712,405; an increase of some \$1.4 million over the previous year. Included were donations to homes, hospitals and institutions of \$878,455 and grants for educational projects of \$1,131,947.

Women Invited To MCC Campus

Rochester area women who have considered returning to college will have an opportunity next week to explore some of the opportunities available at Monroe Community College. On Wednesday, August 8, 7-10 p.m., they may meet faculty, staff and administration; talk with women who have returned to college, and familiarize themselves with programs and courses offered. Child care will be provided on campus during the orientation session.

The program is designed for homemakers, club women, working women, career women, and high school dropouts. More information can be obtained by calling MCC's Office for Continuing Education at 275-9330.

Cdl. Mindszenty To Visit Canada

Toronto, Ont. [RNS] — Cardinal Josef Mindszenty, 81, exiled Primate of Hungary who now lives in Vienna, will come to Canada in September to help Canadians of Hungarian descent celebrate Hungary's 1,000th year of Christianity.

Of an estimated 135,000 Hungarians in Canada, 30,000 live

here. Two-thirds of them are Roman Catholics.

On Sept. 22, a reception will be held at St. Elizabeth of Hungary church and the same afternoon, Archbishop Philip F. Pocock of Toronto, will take part in a concelebrated Mass at St. Michael's cathedral.

On Sept. 23, another reception will be held, followed by the Millennium Observance Ceremony at the Queen Elizabeth Building on the grounds of the Canadian National Exhibition. Later, the cardinal will visit Winnipeg, Calgary and Vancouver.

COURIER WANT ADS

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HELP WANTED

COMPANION, elderly lady, City home, near church, busline. Assist housekeeping, cooking, salary. Write 101 Attridge Road, Churchville, 14428.

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 PAPER WORK. FREE KIT.** Call 643-5749, 352-5121, 964-3618 or write to G.B. Toy Club, Warminster, Pa. 18974.

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

TELEPHONE job, at home—New and Renewal magazine subscriptions through leading department stores. Call evenings 482-0955.

SECRETARY Bookkeeper, Rochester City parish-rectory, Box 786, Courier-Journal, 67 Chestnut Street, Rochester, 14604.

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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. 328-4130.

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SLEEPING room with home, privileges. Some meals. 546-7133 or 544-5364.

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FOR SALE

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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. **Nocchi-Eina Sewing Center**, 244-0800.

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.

ANTIQUES, others, 365 Chili Ridge, TL Rd., Chili Avenue, left on Union, right on Morgan.

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