



ON THE RIGHT SIDE  
Fr. Paul J. Cuddy

On leaving Hornell June 24 my last stop was at radio station WLEA to negotiate for future taping of our Legion of Mary program, Magnify the Lord. By arrangement I returned July 20 to make five tapes. The session finished at 5 p.m., so I decided to have supper with the sisters and my successor, Father William Cosgrove at St. James Mercy Hospital.

By tradition new pastors have a compulsion to change something of their predecessors. It is symbolic of a difference from the previous regime. Usually pastors tear out a wall in the rectory, or else put one up. Since Father Cosgrove had no walls with which to satisfy this psychological compulsion, he seized upon a curious substitute, namely a violent reaction against anything colored black. He identified black with bad cops, dubious undertakers, oppression, officiousness, traditional asceticism, all this in spite of the spirit of the times which proclaims: "Black is beautiful."

Supper was pleasant. The sisters were welcoming. Father

'Amici Curiae'  
Brief Filed  
By Church Units

New York [RNS] — Seven national religious organizations including the National Catholic Conference for Interracial Justice, were friends-of-the court on the side of outlawing U.S. bombing in Cambodia in a case that resulted here in a federal judge finding the raids "unauthorized and unlawful."

However, the decision — if allowed to stand — had little potential impact since the bombing was due to stop on August 15 in keeping with a deal worked out between Congress and President Nixon.

The anti-bombing ruling was handed down by Judge Orrin G. Judd of Brooklyn. He stayed an injunction against the bombing so the government could appeal. A three-man Court of Appeals set a hearing for Aug. 13.

Supporting the decision reached by Judge Judd, who is an American Baptist layman, were the National Council of Churches, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the National Catholic Conference for Interracial Justice, the National Coalition of American Nuns, the National Ministries section of the American Baptist Churches, the Council for Christian Social Action of the United Church of Christ and the United Presbyterian Leadership Conference of Women.

The suit was filed by Rep. Elizabeth Holtzman (D-N.Y.) and four Air Force officers opposed to the bombing in Cambodia.

Judge Judd, a Republican appointed to the federal bench in 1968, said there was "no Congressional authorization to fight in Cambodia" after the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Vietnam on March 28 and the release of all known U.S. prisoners-of-war.

The religious groups maintained in their amici curiae brief that the President did not have authority to order bombing in Cambodia.

Speaking for the groups, the Rev. Harold K. Schulz, director of the United Church Council for Christian Social Action said, the decision "justifies our belief that the Cambodian adventure was contrary to the laws of the land as well as the laws of God."

Leo Mans of St. Ignatius joined us in fraternity. At 6:30 I slipped over to St. Ann's, my second home. Father Robert Mac-Namara, pastor, was away for the night, condescending from a mid-term exam in Chaucer which he is taking at Alfred University. The cook, Clara Sherman, greeted me with a delighted "I'm going on your tour to Ireland!" She brewed a pot of green tea for me, not because of Ireland but because I like green tea.

At the table Father Brown introduced me to Father Cornelius Davin, who had come to conduct the annual St. Ann's triduum. Father Brown went off in four directions, while Father Davin and I shared the green tea. I remarked, "I hope you will talk about Saint Ann during the triduum. We had a priest here a few years ago who hardly mentioned her name. He gave three days of sociology and liberal theological opinions. The people felt awfully let down." Father Davin laughed, "Don't worry. We Passionists have a great devotion to St. Ann."

If sophisticates enjoy theological tight-rope walking, they should practice it in their own special tents, not on the people.

The Church gives a clear road of life to the faithful. It is well marked, pointing out the dangerous curves as well as the straightaways. The maps are the creeds, the catechisms and the councils. The guides are the popes and the bishops.

Time was too limited to visit friends, so I phoned Father Herbert Sturmer in Cohocton. Have you a bed for me? "Of course," he said.

An amazing man, William Maichle of East Orange, N.J., came for the 8 a.m. Mass. He is a brother of the beloved Dr. Robert Maichle of Dansville. An alert, devout nonagenarian, he flew to Rochester and rented a flaming red car for his vacation in Cohocton. Father Sturmer did not exaggerate when he said, "You will never find a better Catholic."

After Mass, Father Sturmer wanted to make our breakfast. Mr. Maichle said, "Mrs. DiSpenza is expecting us at the motel."

Since Mrs. DiSpenza, who runs the motel, is an enthusiastic reader of the OTSide column, and since the prospects were that we would get a better breakfast as the motel, I suggested, "If she is expecting us, I think we should go there."

We did go; and did do better: prune juice, coffee, toast, marmalade, eggs, crisp bacon and buckwheat cakes.

At mid-morning I headed for Webster by way of Geneva. Had lunch at St. Stephen's with Father Richard Tormey, pastor, who is too active for a man just out of the hospital with a back affliction. His brother, Father Daniel Tormey, called from South America, where he works in the Rochester mission of San Jose Obrero, La Paz, Bolivia. He called to inquire after his father, who is gravely ill.

Father Richard Hart, in town for a wedding, and Father James Lane, who plans to join us for the Ireland tour, joined us for lunch.

On the way out I said to the summer cook, a beautiful high school girl, "The man who marries you will be lucky." She was the soul of youthful graciousness.

At 4 p.m. I rolled into Webster where Fathers William Hart and William Michatek were hearing confessions. Divine Providence was smiling.

Pope Urges Adherence to Dogma

Castelgandolfo [RNS] — Speaking at the Hall of Audiences in the papal summer palace, Pope Paul urged Catholic pilgrims to adhere to the dogmas taught by Church authorities.

The pontiff lamented the fact that faith was being "devalued" by many people imbued with a modern, scientific mentality.

"Faith, the first source of salvation, has become today the

first obstacle toward achieving it (salvation)," the Pope said.

The pontiff deplored what he described as "new, subversive interpretations of the Holy Scripture."

Pope Paul made no open reference to the Swiss theologian, Father Hans Kueng, who has so far refused to bow to a Vatican order to recant the opinions he has expressed in books

questioning the dogma of papal infallibility and episcopal authority.

TEACHERS NEEDED

Dundee — St. Andrew's parish is in need of two teachers to help with the religious instructions, Friday afternoons, for the coming school year. Teacher training will be provided. If you can help, call St. Michael's rectory, Penn Yan, (315) 536-3785.

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