



**ON THE RIGHT SIDE**  
Fr. Paul J. Cuddy

A survey of newspapers reports that **Letters to the Editor** have the highest readership: 85 per cent. Ann Landers claims that her column of letters from the distressed has a daily readership of 60,000,000! An apostolate I have practiced for over 35 years is letter writing. Here are excerpts from a few recent letters.

**To a 91 year old lady in Homell:**

"Your letter was just like a visit. You write as you talk, and the closest thing to a personal presence. So your hospital roommate is still in the hospital. God has His ways which are unknown to us. At least her family are good to her. And that is a blessing for them as well as for her."

**To a two-week old baby:**

"A few weeks ago your parents proudly announced that you have come into this world. I wish to send a little gift for you to hug when you get a bit bigger. It is also a remembrance of a good friendship with your father from years gone by. I have never met your mother, but am sure she is lovely and loving.

"Pretty soon you will be baptized. That brings a special joy to your folks; but I think an even greater joy to Our Blessed Mother and to your Guardian Angel. And it is a joy for me, too, because in baptism we become one in Our Lord.

"When I heard you had come into this mixed-up world I talked with Mrs. Helmer who is 83 years old and proud of her age. She is the housekeeper at the Montezuma rectory. I said: 'Nellie, a friend of mine just had a new baby girl, and I would like you to make a Raggedy Ann doll for her. Can you do it?' 'Of course. I've already got several orders but this is special, I will get right at it.' And she did get right at it, with her arthritis bothering and her bones aching and her face smiling as she imagined her Raggedy Ann nestling comfortably with little Sarah . . ."

**To Dan, a 22-year-old friend in Europe:**

"You wonder that I wrote two letters to you in one week? It's because I enjoyed writing to you, and consider it a vicarious visit to a young man I have admired these many years. Furthermore, I have never considered letter writing in an arithmetical sense: i.e., you write to me (1); I write back to you (1 returned). As Archie Bunker might say: 'Friendships are not measured like beer and potatoes.' I am delighted (What did the lightning bug say when he backed into the lawnmower? 'I'm de-lighted, no end.') that you are experiencing the broadening of foreign lands, foreign people, foreign foods and universal thought."

**To a lonely collegian:**

"I am sorry you feel so 'out of it.' You know, Ann Landers once wrote: 'Leo Rosten said: "Each of us is a little lonely inside and cries to be understood." I have learned how it is with the stumbling, turbulent people in the world who have no one to talk to.' Don't you think it might make more sense if, instead of sitting around-feeling sorry for yourself, you look around to find something you can do for some one else?

"Everyone has periods of loneliness. But St. Paul gives a remedy in his description of Christian living: 'Charity (love) is patient; is kind . . . (1 Cor. 13) Instead of mooning because no one seems concerned about you get off your buttocks and get concerned about others. And don't look for a reward. Let God take care of that . . ."

**SAFETY LEADERS AT CAMP**

Boys and girls who will be safety patrol leaders this Fall in public and parochial grade schools are attending training sessions at the Rotary Sunshine Camp in Durand Eastman Park. The course, which began Monday and ends tomorrow, affords each of the 110 youngsters a two-day stay at the camp.

The safety program in the schools of Rochester and Monroe County is sponsored by the Rotary Club and the Chamber of Commerce safety council. Instructors are from the sheriff's office and the city police and fire departments. Regular staff members at Rotary Sunshine are supervising camp life.

**To a beloved bishop:**

"The new assignment to Webster is a happy one. If you would like a copy of the Rosary Novena which I used praying for what became this assignment I will be glad to send a copy to you for 50 cents. You can get the same at Trant's or Julie's with the clerical discount. And if you come to Webster for the copy I will give you 20 per cent off.

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This ignorant present, and I feel now  
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