

# Hospital Ministry Grows in Auburn

By MARY ANN GINNERTY.

Auburn — Lay teams from St. Mary's Parish are getting more involved in hospital ministry through a new program of visiting and distributing Holy Communion to parishioners hospitalized at Auburn Memorial Hospital.

Team members, identifiable by badges reading Parish Visitor of St. Mary's are fulfilling Christ's admonition to visit the sick.

The program started up two months ago under the supervision of Sister Dorothy Quinn, pastoral assistant. The group is divided into five teams with two members each. Each team has the responsibility for one week to visit all hospitalized parishioners and ask if they wish to receive Communion. Those who do are given a book of prayers. The team then brings them Communion the following day.

The program has proved to be a blessing to parishioners and team members.

It is a reminder of the concern of the pastor, Msgr. James D. Cuffney, and his people through the extension of the meaning of the Eucharist as a community of faith to the parish family who can not be present at worship.

"Our reception as laymen by the patients has been wonderful,"

agreed Carl McDermott and Mrs. Charles Phillips, one of the visiting teams. "We at St. Mary's have been familiar with the Service, Family concept so this may have been an introduction for our parishioners. The service families are families from the various city parishes who bring communion to nursing homes each Sunday and our program is really an extension of this concept.

"Ten years ago I might have been hesitant about involvement in a program such as this. But we have all come to realize that as Christ came to be with us through the Eucharist, this hospital parish visiting program is one way we can bring Christ to others through the Eucharist. This is a way we can share the convictions of our own faith," McDermott said.

Sister Dorothy explained the teams were prepared by Father James Enright.

Sister Dorothy accompanied the teams on the first few visits, but they now function on their own.

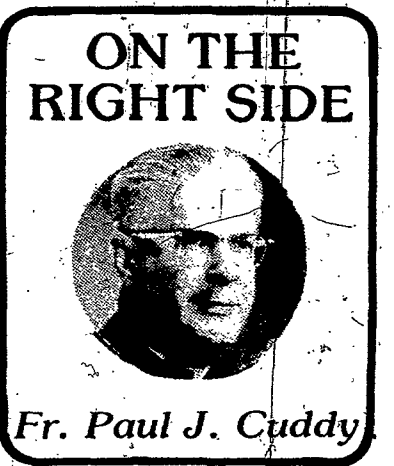
McDermott tied in the parish visitors program to the broadened participation by laymen in the work of the church and was very enthusiastic about the increasing opportunities. Both team members felt the more ways to increase active participation in the work of the church, the more meaningful faith can become.

Colleges, Immaculata, 68 high schools and grade schools in the states and in South America. They have retained traditional community life: praying together, having Mass together, recreation together, meals together, rosary and benediction together. They wear a uniform religious habit. They have a novitiate for the spiritual formation of their candidates. They have not closed a single one of their schools. They continue to have vocations. Hardly any of their Sisters have quit the Religious life. Any young women interested in the traditional Religious life can write to: Villa Maria House of Studies - Immaculata, Penna. - 19345

The Consortium has dozens of tapes made from lectures and talks at their annual meetings. Speakers include our own Abp. Sheen, Dr. James Hitchcock, author of *The Decline and Fall of Radical Catholicism* and Sister Rose Eileen Masterman, CSC. Jesuit Father Kenneth Baker, editor of the *Homiletic and Pastoral Review*, has a good tape entitled "The Catholic Church: Fat Boy on the Block." He unfolds: Blacks wisely have the NAACP; Jews have the Anti-Defamation League. The Catholics have been like Fat Boy on the Block: maligned, ridiculed, misrepresented. A group has been formed to act as an advocate for the Church. If interested, write to: Consortium, Inc., 1300 Auburn Road, Chardon, Ohio 44024, and ask for "Fat Boy on the Block" by Father Baker.

To Father Robert MacNamara-

"Your note came from Ireland today (July 31). If I had known you were going to Killarney I should have given you a commission, viz. to check the public facilities opposite the Franciscan Church. Last May the interior was covered with obscene graffiti. I wrote to the Town Council requesting that they be painted out; and also to the Bishop of the diocese; but have no way of knowing if they obliged. Have you any Killarney contacts? I suppose the Irish are hardly responsible for the obscene scribbles of English and American tourists, but it does seem that they could be vigilant enough to blot them out. I well remember the sole graffiti in a smallish rest room outside Killarney which proclaimed this: "Pray the rosary every day." Edifying. Regards to Father John Hayes, and come back with scholarship bubbling through your prudent wisdom."



Fr. Paul J. Cuddy

From Father Richard Kraft, SVD: "It is seldom that a simple letter such as I sent about the Abp. Sheen tapes and published in your column, releases such a torrent of enthusiastic response. My sincerest gratitude. Sister Mary Carl, SND, of the Consortium Perfectae Caritatis has been most helpful. Already I have a good boxful of cassette tapes donated by the Consortium. I am also anxious to hear the tapes you promised: Magnify the Lord, and Father Brown's Sunday School tapes produced in Hornell. This was more kindness than I expected.

"Incidentally, Bishop Sheen recently finished preaching the annual retreat to the Bishops of the Philippines. He ended his stay here by preaching the sermon at the concelebrated Mass with the Bishops during the rally launching the Rosary Crusade in Manila. Unfortunately the TV coverage at the hour was on only one channel and it was blank on the TV set where I was. All the Bishops were speaking about his retreat in glowing terms."

**Explanation:** I. Father Richard Kraft is an SVD Father from St. Charles Borromeo parish, Rochester, working in the Philippines. He runs a radio station there, and has used the Sheen tapes to give a "Radio Retreat" to the priests and people of his area. It was a great success. Seven priests sent for sets to be repeated for themselves and their people.

II. Consortium Perfectae Caritatis is a Federation of Catholic Sisters who have retained a strong fidelity to their traditions. For example, one Congregation, the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHMs) with Motherhouse in Philadelphia, has over 2,000 Sisters. They have one



Planners

Pulling together the final plans for Auburn's Holy Family Athletic Association chicken barbecue to be held on Sunday, Aug. 24, from noon to 6 p.m. are, left to right, Mrs. Gordon McCormick, Gordon McCormick, Mrs. Mildred Kinari, Alaniri, Mrs. Joseph Morabito and Joseph Morabito.

## Humboldt St. John's Elects First Council

The election of the first Parish Council at St. John the Evangelist Parish on Humboldt Street in Rochester concluded a year's work by a steering committee.

"We realized that we were one of the last parishes in the diocese to establish a council," explained the Steering Committee Chairman, Dennis McGuire, "so we obtained constitutions from six or seven other parishes and tried to profit from their experience." He continued, "We distributed the proposed Constitution to the parishioners in April, they approved the Constitution by signing a petition in May, and we held elections in June."

More than 700 parishioners participated in electing 22 parishioners to the 25-member Council. Ex-officio members are: the co-pastors, Father James Boyle and Father John Mulligan; and Sister Marlene Vigna, the pastoral assistant representing the women religious of the parish.

St. John's Parish was divided into nine parish communities of approximately 100 families each in 1974. The Steering Committee membership included two representatives from each of the nine communities along with youth and senior citizen representatives. The Steering Committee was very pleased with this extensive representation and

## Elmira Knights Elect Officers

Elmira — The Knights of Columbus, Elmira Council 229, has elected the following officers to serve until June 30, 1976:

Chaplain, Father Henry Adamski; Grand Knight, Thomas Ritter; Deputy Grand Knight, James Howland; Chancellor, Charles Todd; Advocate, Tom Sullivan; Recorder, Clement Knuth; Treasurer, Joseph McCluskey; Warden, Eldred Pannell; Financial Secretary, Frank Beligotti; Inside Guard, Robert Reiniker; Outside Guard, Charles Richardson.

### CRAFT SHOW

The 6th Annual Craft Sale of works by American Craftsmen opens with an outdoor show, on Sun., Aug. 24, from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Muggleton Gallery in Auburn. The show will continue indoors at the Gallery until Sept. 6. The Gallery will be closed on Sunday Aug. 31 and Labor Day, Sept. 1.

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### WALK FOR WATER

The seventh Walk for Water — the major fund-raising event for Delta Laboratories, the nation's first non-profit environmental lab — will be held Sunday, Oct. 5. The event is usually slated in the spring.

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