

ON THE RIGHT SIDE



Fr. Paul J. Cuddy

My Auburn nephew, Michael, is on the faculty of Auburn High School. This year he received a grant to study educational procedures in India, during July and August. Shortly after his arrival, his wife, Doty Cormley, gave me his Madras address, and I mailed him *Something Beautiful for God*, by Malcolm Muggeridge. The book narrates the work of Mother Teresa of Calcutta and her 1,000 Sisters. They work among "the poorest of the poor." With the book went the request: "Please visit the Sisters and observe their work." Irish Christian Brother John O'Connor of Rochester Kearney High School, whose Congregation has Mission Schools in India for the poor, told me: "Mother Teresa told us: 'Your best work for the poor in India is to give them education.'" This is significant coming from one who lives with the most wretched of people. It should also give confidence and courage to Religious teachers who wonder if non-teaching services are not greener pastures. Michael took his uncle's request kindly, and this is his letter written July 29.

"Dear Uncle Paul:
It's 7:45 in the morning Calcutta time. I have just come from Mass at the Convent of the Missionaries of Charity — the Bhavon of Mother Teresa. Two nuns from our Fulbright group, our Hindu coordinator and I called last night to ask if we could attend Mass there this morning; and we were graciously told: 'Come along. Glad to have you.'

"When we arrived, a young novice greeted us at the door and led us through a courtyard where other Sisters were dumping their wash water from their sole possession — a pail — into a drain. We were led up a flight of stairs into a very simple chapel. Perhaps a hundred Sisters were kneeling there reciting their morning prayers. A spritely, elderly Sister started to drag a wooden bench over to us and I went to help her. That's when I met Mother Teresa.

"Mass was beautiful. The Mass was said in English by a Jesuit priest from nearby Xavier College. The hymns were sung in Bengali as well as in English. Apparently the Sisters write their own lyrics to the music.

"After Mass we had a long and enjoyable talk with Mother Teresa. She never used the word 'I.' Instead she spoke of 'our work, His work. And when she spoke of the work of the order, the sick, the dying, the love of God — it all seemed so natural, so good. She encouraged us to visit 'The Home for the Dying.' 'It will not be easy, she said, but even those who do not believe, feel God when they are near death.' Therefore we have arranged our schedule to visit that Home tomorrow.

Later Michael telephoned his wife from India and said: "I have met a saint." I think our people are given courage by the lives of saintly men and women who live the Gospel so simply and selflessly. And I am splitting to hear Michael's account of the visitation to "The Home for the Dying." In the meanwhile, why don't you get a copy of *Something Beautiful for God*, or even some of the articles which have appeared in *The Reader's Digest*, *People Magazine*, *Antonion*, and I think *Columbia* once had an article. Did you know that the *K of C* monthly, *Columbia*, has the highest circulation of any Catholic magazine in the United States, over a million copies a month.

Women's Board At St. Mary's Makes Grants

The Women's Board of St. Mary's Hospital has awarded one-year scholarships of \$500 each to Darlene Schibler and Michael A. Schiano.

Mrs. Schibler has worked as a nursing assistant at St. Mary's for the past nine years, and has been attending Monroe Community

College part time. She plans to study full time in the fall to complete her nursing education.

Schiano graduated from Gates-Chili High School in 1971 and from the University of Rochester in 1975. A volunteer with the Gates Volunteer Ambulance Service, he will begin studying

medicine at New York Medical College this fall.

Scholarships are awarded annually by the Women's Board to assist St. Mary's employes or children of employes or hospital volunteers, to further their education in the health care field.



Mrs. Schibler

Schiano



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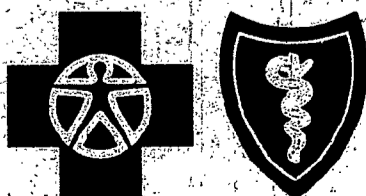
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