

**ON THE RIGHT SIDE**



**Fr. Paul J. Cuddy**

Mrs. X is fiftyish; a college graduate who has a devout, intelligent and aesthetic appreciation of religion; and who has been greatly saddened by the vulgarity and the secularity which have been rushed into our churches and devotions this past decade. She wrote:

"I have been enjoying your latest travelog of Europe. Loved your comments on the Tyrolean villages. How I should love to see all these holy places. Your description of the chapel of the Blessed Sacrament I especially liked. Ours would be a challenge. They haven't looked the same since the Sisters gave up their 'charge.' Gaudy banners for this and that, and flowers unartistically arranged are a terrible distraction. Beauty must be truly in the heart of the beholder rather than in the eye.

"It was nice when churches looked like churches rather than recreation halls. Banners I like, but not in church, and especially not in the sanctuary. We have one over our tabernacle in place of the crucifix. It looks like a Master Charge card!

"I wish you or some one could do something about the dress of women in the sanctuary. The celebrant is robed, the altar boy or girl is neatly garbed in the new style cassock or robe. But the women are either in mini-skirts or pants, neither of which is conducive to prayer. I have heard that in some churches the Parish Councils voted to have lectors, women as well as men, wear a kind of alb, and that they look nice.

What can one say to such a distressed woman? Here is an attempt.

Dear Mrs. X, My sympathy goes to you in your reaction to the garb of women in the sanctuary of the Lord. I like your idea of having some kind of ecclesiastical garb for all members acting in the Divine Liturgy. I do wish that our people were familiar with the Liturgies of the Eastern Rites: both Catholic and Orthodox, where holiness, reverence, drama, beautiful music and congregational participation are all woven together in the praise and worship of God, and the edifying of their own

**50th ANNIVERSARY**

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond L. Nary of 360 Dorchester Road, Rochester, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Nov. 8 with a concelebrated noon Mass at St. John the Evangelist Church, Humboldt Street. Auxiliary Bishop Dennis W. Hickey celebrated the Mass. The concelebrants were Fathers William Devereaux, John Maxwell, John Steger, James Boyle, Edward Lintz, Joseph Hart, John Mulligan, Ralph Fratts, Paul Wohlrab and Paul Freemesser. Their bridal attendants, Gerald Sullivan of Rochester and Mrs. Katherine Capron of Dansville were in attendance.

Following the service, a reception was held at the Hospitality House, hosted by their children, Robert Nary of Newark, Mrs. Albert (Betty) Szembrot, Miss Anne Nary and Raymond Nary Jr., all of Rochester. Besides their children, they have 17 grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Nary were married Nov. 10, 1925, in St. Mary's Church, Dansville.

spiritual lives.

Regarding female garb I profess mystification at why women wear what they wear. About three years ago I had my first vision of a garment called "Hot Pants." I was going into a funeral home in Hornell as some young woman came along with H.P. — and in startled reaction I turned around to see if I was seeing what I thought I was seeing. I really thought that the woman had lost her skirt but did not realize it. Then a few Sundays later a man gave me a combing out because some woman went to Holy Communion in similar H.P. Just what the purpose of such a garb eludes me. And why a female lector would want to proclaim God's Word in a heisted skirt also eludes me. But I suppose you are more interested in a solution than in my ignorance.

It would seem that if lectors, men and women, wore some kind of garb, like an alb or a choir robe, that it would add to the decorum of the Eucharistic Banquet. And it would settle the question which I suppose is often upper in the minds of women lectors: What should I wear in the Presence of the Lord and of His People? Why not make the suggestion to your Parish Council?

**'Experience for Priests' Slated at St. Michael's**

By MARY ANN GINNERTY

**Conesus** — "An Experience for Priests" will be offered at St. Michael's Mission, beginning Tuesday evening, Dec. 9 through Thursday afternoon, Dec. 11. Father Edward Palumbos, coordinator for "Experience," announced that it will be open to all priests of the upstate New York area.

"This is an opportunity for growth in ministry and understanding of one another, with focus on our priesthood in relation to our Church and our personal growth as ministers of His Good News," Father Palumbos said.

He explained that Experience springs from the growing awareness of the need for greater sharing and a deeper means of mutual support among priests. It is based on the basic themes found in the document "Spiritual Renewal of the American Priesthood." Experience weaves these themes into the core

elements of the regular Marriage Encounter weekend.

Father Palumbos explained that it all started with a group of priests and couples with varied and lengthy experience in Marriage Encounter. They concluded that more has to be

done for the renewal of the Sacrament of Holy Orders.

Priests wishing to make reservations may contact Father Palumbos at 93 E. Genesee St., or Father Louis Sirianni, 90 Melrose Road, Auburn, 13021.

**Pope Relays Sorrow On Death of Franco**

**Vatican City [RNS]** — Pope Paul, in a message expressing his "deep sorrow" over the death of Generalissimo Francisco Franco, the Spanish Chief of State, said he prayed that Spain would be blessed with "Christian harmony and progress."

General Franco, who had ruled Spain for 36 years, died after a month's illness on Nov. 20. He was 82.

In a cable to Alejandro Rodriguez de Valcargel, the head of the three-member Council of

the Regency, the Pope said:

"At the moment when Chief of State Francisco Franco y Bahamonde is called to eternity, we wish to express to the Council of the Regency and the Spanish people our sentiments of deep sorrow, while we offer fervent prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

"And we invoke on the beloved nation of Spain abundant divine blessings as a pledge of Christian harmony and progress."

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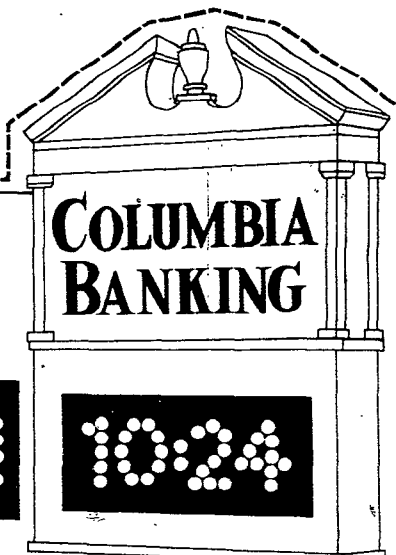
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