

Teacher, Community Link Explored by Brother

Brother John M. Egan, a member of the Congregation of Christian Brothers, addressed diocesan teachers during their annual Teachers' Conference Days.

An internationally known lecturer in the fields of Psychology and Counseling, he shared with the educators his vision on the role of the teachers as an influence informing the child in a Christian milieu and developing Christian community through education.

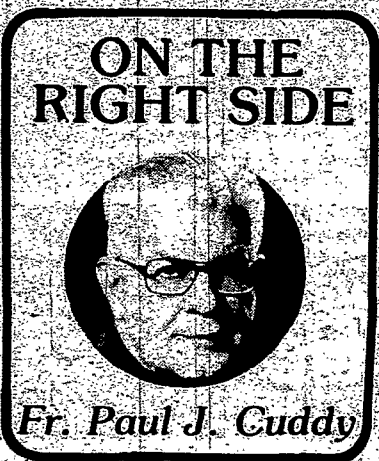
Serving on a panel of teacher reactors to Brother Egan's address were Margaret Ricketts of St. Monica's; Sister Patricia Schoelles, Holy Trinity; Eugene Oberst, St. Mary's, Canandaigua; Coleen Spellecky, St. Francis deSales, Geneva; Sister Margaret Mary Flynn, Our Lady of Lourdes, Elmira; John McGuire, St. Patrick's Junior High, Elmira.

Teachers of the greater Rochester



BROTHER JOHN EGAN

area met at Mercy High School on Sept. 29, and those outside Monroe County convened at St. Patrick's School in Seneca Falls on Oct. 6.



The intrepid Father Vincent Collins is pastor of St. John of Rochester in Fairport. He phoned, "I am scheduled to speak at a conference in Boston, Sept. 25-26. Could you say Mass for our people Sunday, and give the homily? It is good for people to hear a different voice."

"Why, yes, I'd be glad to." So at 1 p.m. Saturday, associate pastor and fireman Father William Michalek welcomed me, gave me a room with the kindly caution: "There are some bees in the room, but they seem sluggish. Just don't step on one with your bare feet."

I have a fervid sermon from the theme of Archbishop Fulton Sheen: "We have the Truth. We do not have the Passion." This sermon gives courage to many disheartened Catholics who are puzzled by what they have read in the papers: priests, nuns, theologians, religious defying the Pope, twisting words in Orwellian perverseness, contradicting the teachings of the Church, and seemingly no one in authority able or willing to control the anarchy. Frank Sheen in his book "Is it the Same Church?" (1968) wrote: "There is hardly a doctrine in the Catholic Church which has not been contradicted by some priest or religious."

Catholics have had a long tradition of fidelity and discipline within the Church, the Church which honors logic as well as grace. Then came that dreadful period of anarchy after Vatican II. Instead of using the theological laboratories, speculative theologians aired their half-hatched speculations in Time and Newsweek. In 1966 I gave one a marked copy of Our Sunday Visitor which had the request of the pope to keep discussions about contraception where they would be understood, i.e. in the theological laboratories.

"Father Charlie, how do you reconcile the reasonable request of the pope with your broadcasting to every Tom, Dick and Nellie who are mystified and shaken by your theories?"

With a smile he replied: "We have to follow the inspirations of the Holy Spirit."

I retorted: "Do you think Pope Paul is devoid of the Holy Spirit?" Evidently he did, because he continued to organize groups to bait the Pope and contest the Church. If our people are muddled, it is often because they are sheep without shepherds, and the wolves and hyenas within the Church have worked havoc within the flock.

A good homily or instruction is like giving out a peach to each listener. But if we can get a good book or cassette tape (e.g. the Sheen and Bassett tapes) into their possession, that is like planting a peach tree. It continues year after year to provide information and inspiration.

While packing the thought came: "I have heard St. John's has a lot of young parents and families and they are intellectually alert. Why not toss in a few of that new catechism from OSV Press: 'The Teaching of Christ An Adult Catechism.' So I chunked all I had, 28 in number, into the trunk of the car. Imagine my horror to find at the end of the second Mass all the 'Fruit Trees' were snatched up and paid for. My pastor Father William Hart had bought 22 copies, so after the sermon I dashed back 15 miles and copped them on the principle: 'Omnia ad maiorem gloriam Dei.' These too were quickly snatched up.

Why did the book have such an appeal? One person said: "Father, we are thirsting for knowledge about our religion." Perhaps the appeal was from this quotation from p. 448 on 'Women in the Ministry.' Our people are apprehensive about the problem of priestesses. The service of women in the Church has enriched the Christian community from earliest times. But no women have ever been ordained priests or bishops in the Church. Some believing that in the past only social customs dictated the exclusion of women from Holy Orders, have urged that in an era in which women have found entry into many other fields formerly not open to them, they should be called to the priesthood as well. The question is not a simple one. Does the Church really have the power to change its practice here? If it does, would it be wise to do so? Only the Magisterium itself can give ultimate clarification.

This well-organized parish of beautiful families had greeters to welcome the people coming to Mass, and they had a welcoming get-together for newcomers after the last Mass. It is a mobile parish which has a change of 30 per cent of its people each year.

Monday morning I telephoned OSV Press, Huntington, Indiana, and said: "Please send at once four more cases (96 copies) of 'The Teaching of Christ.' Why pass out peaches when one can plant an orchard?"

Chemotherapy... Weapon In Anti-Cancer Arsenal

The history of chemotherapy, from its fortuitous discovery as a result of a Nazi attack on a ship during World War II to its current prominence as a weapon against cancer, was described by a nationally recognized cancer specialist at a meeting of Make Today Count in Macedon.

Dr. Edwin Savlov, head of surgical oncology at Highland Hospital and associate professor of surgery at Strong Memorial, told how doctors, treating survivors of a ship sunk by the Nazis off Italy during World War II, discovered that the cargo of mustard gas, released into the water, wrought a dramatic change in the victims' blood chemistry. Because of the discovery, the chemical agent was modified for experimentation with leukemia patients. Proved successful in the attainment of remissions, chemotherapy drugs were used initially for advanced cancers.

Only in recent years has chemotherapy been used in

conjunction with surgery as an early method of treatment, and at least part of the credit belongs to a national organization of 40 physicians called the 'National Surgical Adjuvant Breast Project.' Dr. Savlov, a member of the NSABP, described a Project study which concluded that chemotherapy treatment of mastectomy patients shortly after surgery effected a ten-fold increase in the cure rate.

Dr. Savlov, who is president of the Monroe County Cancer and Leukemia Association, concluded by saying that the brightest hope for the immediate future of cancer treatment appears to be in the development of drugs that will help the body's immune system to fight off the disease. He said surgery will

continue to be used on tumors, chemotherapy will be used to attack the bulk of remaining cancer cells, and immunotherapy will be perfected to eradicate the last invisible vestiges of the disease.

The next meeting of Make Today Count will feature a discussion of the new federally funded Cancer Control Program and progress toward the implementation of a Home Care program in Wayne County. Speakers will be Warner Strong, chairman of the Wayne County Cancer Control Program, and Anthony Amado, administrator of the Genesee Region Home Care Association.

The meeting will be 8 p.m. Oct. 5, at St. Patrick's Church in Macedon.



Consultant Named

William Brown has been named a consultant for Educational Planning for the Rochester Diocesan General Education Department. Brown who originally is from the Albany area has a BA in Mathematics from St. John Fisher College. He spent two years on the teaching staff of Our Lady of Mercy High School after which he attended the School of Advanced Technology at the State University at Binghamton where he received a Masters degree in Science. Before assuming his position with the diocese, Brown worked with the Broome County Catholic Schools in their planning for schools, population projections, and cost analysis. His particular area of interest is in education systems design and analysis. Brown and his wife Mary Lou are members of Sacred Heart parish.

ROSARY RECITATION

Big Flats — The Legion of Mary sponsors a rosary recitation at The Mall here Fridays during October at 12:15 p.m. The public is invited.

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