

ON THE RIGHT SIDE



Fr. Paul J. Cuddy

Have our mod priests done harm? I think so. Consider this letter.

Dear Father, Recently I have been to two weddings where the priests who celebrated the Eucharist invited the whole congregation to Holy Communion. He said that everybody was welcome as long as they believed in God, and believe the bread and wine is the body and blood of Christ. He stressed that they do not have to be Catholics. I am positive that I have read that intercommunion between Catholics and non-Catholics is forbidden, excepting in some rare cases. How do you explain this? Or has the Church taken another about-face?

Dear Helene, God help His Church with all those high and mighty priests who have taken over the papacy and the episcopate. They undermine the good order of the Church. They undermine the Faith of the people, especially regarding the Blessed Sacrament. Your tale reminds me of an old, old story. From your history you know the bishops of Ireland were reputed to be high and mighty, gloriously ruling each in his own diocese. Like Louis XIV they considered themselves above the law sufficient unto themselves. A pious Irish farmer was received in audience by Pius XI. The Pope asked: "How many bishops do you have in Ireland?" The farmer replied: "Your Holiness, we have no bishops in Ireland, each one is a bishop."

St. Philip Neri Schedules Fete To Aid School

St. Philip Neri School hall will be filled with the aroma of Italian cooking on Monday evening, Nov. 1, as the St. Philip Neri Parish Council sponsors the parish's Annual Spaghetti Supper from 5 to 8 p.m.

The event will utilize the talents of more than 50 volunteers from various parish organizations. They will prepare and serve the meal.

According to Father Charles Connell, St. Philip Neri pastor, proceeds from the dinner will help support St. Philip Neri School.

Tickets, which are \$2.50 for adults and \$1.50 for children, can be purchased at the rectory, or at the door. Joseph Marmo is chairman.

These high and mighty priests who hold the laws of the Church in contempt, do tremendous harm. Laws are made for the common good. The high-and-mighties are not interested in the common good. They disregard order for their own thing. Unfortunately, who is there to gain say them?

I remember an especially wretched case of a Newman chaplain who invited everyone to come to Communion. The occasion also was a wedding. A Jew who was not baptized and had no faith at all went up with the mob and took the Body of the Lord. In explanation afterward he said: "Well, I didn't know what it was all about, but I was invited and I wasn't going to insult my host by not going up with the rest. This is a far cry from the early Church when even catechumens were not allowed to be present for Mass. This constant disregard for the laws of the Church has brought a gradual whittling away at the Faith."

In 1972, the Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity published Instruction Concerning Cases When Other Christians May Be Admitted to Eucharistic Communion in the Catholic Church. (Printed by Sacred Heart Fathers, Hales Corners, Wisc. 53103. Price: 50 cents.) Page 6 records: "In exceptional cases, non-Catholic Christians may receive Communion: 1) when the non-Catholic believes what Catholics believe of the Sacrament; 2) when the non-Catholic experiences a serious spiritual need for Eucharistic sustenance; 3) when the non-Catholic is unable to go to Communion in his own church; 4) when the non-Catholic asks for the Sacrament of his own accord; 5) when the non-Catholic has dispositions:

Knowing the diverse doctrines among our separated brothers; 1) could you believe that everyone who mugged up to the Communion basket was a true believer? 2) knowing the mores of our American non-Catholic friends, do you believe they were fainting for the Body of the Lord? 3) knowing the accessibility of non-Catholic churches, do you think the non-Catholics were unable to go to their own churches? 4) In the particular case you cite, non-Catholics were not asking for the Sacrament. No. They were being pressured to join the mob and step forward and do what the rest are doing whatever that was.

Regarding the dispositions of the non-Catholics in the congregation, I am less concerned about their dispositions than I am about the scandal given by the high and mighty priests who foster disobedience and sacrilege and undermine the Faith. Then they go prouetting about at wedding receptions to receive the adulation of not very knowledgeable guests who applaud the Father's lawlessness with such awful stuff as: "Oh, Father, You were just wonderful. I wish the priests in our parish would learn from you."

Oh, the shame of it!"

Regional Group To Meet Sunday

The Southeast Region's group of divorced, separated, and widowed Catholics will meet at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 31, at St. John the Evangelist parish center, Humboldt Street. Sister Kathleen Kircher and Rita Lewis will report on the fifth national conference of divorced and separated Catholics.

Those who wish to know more about their status in the Church may attend a discussion led by Father John Mulligan.

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