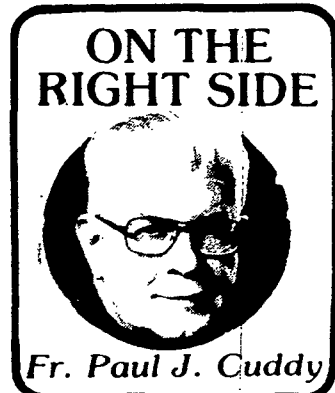




Didn't Get Away

Yes, that's Bishop Joseph L. Hogan behind that 4 3-4 pound largemouth bass which he caught during a recent two-day fishing trip at the Thousand Islands with some diocesan priests. According to Jan and Mae Hasselaar, owners of the Hitchcock House on Wolf Island where the bishop stayed it is the largest largemouth caught this season. The fishing guide was Richard Boulton.



**ON THE RIGHT SIDE**  
Fr. Paul J. Cuddy  
Ontario Parish: Just finished a month's TDY at St. Mary's of the Lake, Ontario. Beautiful family parish. Heart-warming to study the youngish families with beautiful children as they troop into Mass. Have never seen so many, so little and so well-behaved children in any parish church. Especially struck by the evident joy of the fathers who are so proud of their vocations as husband and father. Met many "old-timers," including the Casses, who are married 64 years, and at Mass every Sunday together. In 1950 I supplied at Ontario for five weeks, when Father Lochren broke his hip. At that time, trained young freckled Dan Cass as an altar boy, and hoped he would become a priest. Instead, he married Judy Riley, begat four children, became an accountant and is presently the president of our Webster Holy Trinity Parish Council. The apple really did not fall far from the tree.

The St. Mary's clergy vary in concerns. Msgr. Maney, just returned from Spain, is glowing with pastoral enthusiasm. Father Matuzewski (Fr. Matt) bubbles with parochial P.R. Deacon Gagnier is kneedeep in charismatics. Mrs. Mona Mattucci has a marvelously organized CCD program. The "daily Mass" group are a special church within a church.

**Jesuit Basset Apostolate:** Am promoting Father Basset's cassette retreat conferences, which were given at Twin Cities. They are very different, both in style and in substance, from the Sheen conferences. The talks on confession and charity are superb. His humor sparkles. Do you know what sin Father B. claims has done greatest damage with in the Church? Jealousy! History bears him out. (Available, not jealousy but the tapes: \$27.50.)

**Prayer Book:** Before Mass Sunday one of our CCD teachers stopped me. "I give a copy of that little book,



**The Church 1977**  
Fr. Andrew Greeley  
"Both those who had lived together and those who had not reported a slow and insidious decline in the meaningfulness and intimacy of their marriage." It was a throwaway line in an article in "Human Behavior" (showing that living together was not an effective way of preparing for marriage). After 13 months (on the average) of marriage, young couples were already finding their marriages on the decline. A poignant judgment on the age of liberation and sexual revolution.

But also a poignant judgment on the church. For the decline in the meaningfulness and intimacy of a human relationship is not (normally, at any rate) either a sexual or a psychological problem (though it has sexual and psychological implications). It is a religious problem. The terror and delight of human intimacy can be kept alive in the face of the twin enemies of shame and routine only if one believes that the existence which has been given us is one in which risk-taking is feasible and indeed mandatory. One can go through the repeated painful experience of death and rebirth, which is part of the rhythm of all deep human relationships, only if one believes that one exists within a relatively benign "protective envelope" (to mistranslate Karl Jaspers, perhaps) which validates and reinforces the anguish of resurrection.

And so to young people (and to not-so-young people) who are looking for the protective envelope of benignity and reassurance for risk-taking, we provide the negative restrictions of the Holy Office and the bland secular humanism of the CTSA's "Human Sexuality." Is there nothing in the wisdom of our heritage, nothing in the rich symbols of our tradition which can illumine the ambiguities of meaningfulness and intimacy, the terror and the delight, the shame and the routine, the dreadful death and the painful rebirth which are the warp and the woof, the fabric and the substance of human love?

They ask for bread and we have given them stones.

How come?

Why is there virtually no work being done anywhere in the world (as far as I know) by Catholic theologians and social scientists about the religious meaning of human intimacy which goes beyond moral theology and beyond faddish attempts to keep one step behind the current fashions about "liberated love"? Why are we echoing the dead prohibitions of the past and the dead fads of the present?

At the "Vatican III" meeting at Notre Dame, a number of us tried to open up the "new agenda" question about human intimacy. The theologians wanted no part of it — or so it seemed to me. We were told that human sexuality does not mean the same thing in Calcutta that it does in Chicago. Doubtless this is the case — though I doubt that it means something totally different. But so what? Why are theologians so hesitant to develop a spirituality of sex out of the Catholic tradition of love? Does not every parable of Jesus speak to us of love — the love of the Father for us, the demand for our love in return, the love we are free to have for our fellow humans in the environment of warmth with which God's love has embraced us? Could not one do a whole theology of intimacy just out of the parables?

The revolution of rising expectations about sexual fulfillment (made possible in great part by longer life and low infant mortality rates which eliminate the need for unlimited fertility) has offered us one of the great religious opportunities in human history.

Why are we blowing it?

**Mother Cabrini Circle Meets Sept. 18**

The Mother Cabrini Circle will hold a tea on Sunday, Sept. 18, from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Cutler Union. The event will gather Circle members and the students it has helped over the years. Further information is available through Mrs. Nola DeRouen at 671-1748.

**BLACK SEEDS**

The Black Seeds acting troupe and the choir of Mt. Vernon Baptist Church will be the Sunday Afternoon at Nazareth entertainers Sept. 18. The free program begins at 3 p.m. in the main auditorium of the Arts Center.

Featured at the tea will be musical entertainment by



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