

# Bishop Garmendia To Lead Acies Rites

Auxiliary Bishop Francesco Garmendia of New York City will be the guest speaker for the annual Legion of Mary Rochester Acies ceremonies, slated for 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 2, at St. Cecelia's Church.

It is during the Acies ceremonies that Legion of Mary members proclaim their union with and dependence on the Blessed Mother, and renew their organization's declaration of fidelity.

Bishop Garmendia was born in Spain and ordained to the priesthood there. He is known for his work in promoting the Legion of Mary while serving in Argentina for 14 years. He came to the United States in 1964 and has served in parishes in Yonkers, Manhattan and the Bronx. He was installed as auxiliary bishop in 1977.



BP. GARMENDIA

During the ceremonies, the bishop will direct a portion of his message to the Spanish speaking members of the congregation. A reception for him will be held following the rites.

**ON THE RIGHT SIDE**

Fr. Paul J. Cuddy

**From a Boston mother:**  
I am horrified, depressed, in despair. Our 16-year-old son was arrested last week with a group of friends for vandalism. They had been drinking, and decided to have some fun — \$2,000 worth of damage! Drink has always been a problem in our family, and now our son seems to be following the pattern of his uncles — and even two of his aunts. I am heartsick

**To the Boston mother:**  
"More and more I am impressed by the problem of alcohol in our own territory. Recently a man said to me, 'Father, you have no idea the number of women who are nipping in their homes. They think no one knows about it. Their husbands try to protect them, but that's not the answer.' Yes. And their children become silent and withdrawn, or just the opposite: aggressive and anti-social, with consequent vandalism activities.

According to all reports, alcoholism is the number one social, hence moral, problem in the States. It is worse than drugs. It is a dangerous sport even among teenagers. Yet there seems some kind of false respectability about excessive drinking. When one knows of the broken homes, broken bodies, broken spirits as a result of the misuse of alcohol, I do not know why it is tolerantly, even laughingly, considered a kind of funny sportiness.

Experts tell us there is the temperate drinker who drinks for social reasons rather than need; the heavy drinker who leans on alcohol as a crutch; the alcoholic who is entrapped by his own chemistry, and usually also by his own self-deception, because he refuses to face his condition. Finally, there is that admirable person, the 'dry alcoholic'. He has experienced the grave problems from alcohol, has honestly acknowledged them, and has done something about it, frequently through the AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) tie

is the humble, good person who is honest.

Most Americans are familiar with AA. The AA groups are specifically for women and men who suffer from the disease of alcoholism. There is a chemistry in the body of alcoholics which makes the afflicted person a compulsive addict, just after one drink. Like the diabetic who is compelled to control his sugar, the alcoholic must control that first drink. The AA principle is: don't take the first drink. If you avoid the first, you don't have to worry about the sixth!

A doctor in Hornell said to me, 'There's nothing scientific about the AAs to explain their success. But it does work, if the person is honest and wants to live as a sober person.'

I doubt that your son is an alcoholic, though he could be. But I do think that many youngsters are gravely harmed by society's insidious acceptance of irresponsibility. I have always had a special admiration for paper boys and young boys and girls who get jobs as package carriers, clerks, stock persons in stores and stations. These learn to serve. They develop a sense of serving, and of being responsible for good service. They develop integrity.

I am sending you a 180-page paperback — Me, Myself and You, by Father Vincent Collins. It is a kind of expansion of his 32-page Acceptance, which has helped so many; indeed which has sold over one million copies. The paperback is simple, incisive, practical. The style is simple — short sentences, short chapters, graphic examples, with a verse or saying concluding most chapters, which gives the kernel. For example: 'Self Approval — the fundamental basis for comfortable living is merited self-approval. Criticism — pay no attention internally or externally to anything that anyone says or does to you or about you that is in your opinion untrue, unjust, unreasonable or exaggerated. Black Sheep — no one can disgrace anyone but himself.'

Please write again and let me know how things are developing. You and yours will be earnestly in my prayers.

(The paperback can be found in Catholic bookstores and in many church racks; \$1.95, plus postage.)

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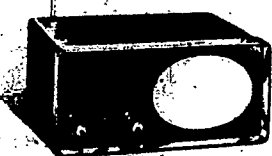
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