

On the Right Side

By Father Paul J. Cuddy

Do People Really Want The Chalice?

What do you think of the laity receiving from the chalice?

In the 40's and '50s I shared military chapel with Protestant ministers and their congregations. Most were Bible Protestants. Their doctrinal belief and liturgical practices were not ours.



Fr. Cuddy

What do you mean?

Well, if you are going to have the whole congregation receive the consecrated wine, you have three options: (1) for all to receive from one or a few chalices; (2) intinction; (3) to use the Protestant system of serving communion wine, as I observed in the service.

What was the Protestant method?

Considering their doctrinal non-belief in the Real Presence, it was

practical. They got a loaf of bread, cut it into convenient cubes and served it on a tray. They had little "shot" glasses that were fitted neatly into trays holding 25 to 60 glasses. During the communion service the bread and wine were served by deacons or similar assistants. After the service, the chaplain's assistant would dump the left-over wine into the sink, and the bread into the trash can. This gave me a jolt at first, but it should not have. These good Protestants did not believe in the Real Presence as Catholics and the Orthodox Christians do, so after the service what was left was just disposable bread and wine.

What of the proposed common cup method?

It has been voted as an option by the Bishops of the United States. Actually, the option has been with us for years, under specific conditions, e.g., for newly baptized adults, at a Catholic marriage, when an Abess is blessed at Mass, etc. The Flannery edition of Vatican II and post-conciliar documents lists 14 cases in which the chalice may be proffered.

Aren't you prejudiced?

Oh, come off it! There's a difference between a prejudice and a judgment. My judgment is this: given the consciousness of American people regarding germs and contagion, I dislike the common chalice. Recently I celebrated at a Mass and was the 30th person to sip from the cup. Do you remember that during the pressure for Communion in the hand one point was the example of some South American bishop who ordered Communion in the hand lest a careless distributor touch the tongue and spread hepatitis, which was prevalent in his area? Now a common chalice is suggested!

But the documents on liturgy stress that the symbolism of the Body and Blood is more evident through receiving both Signs.

It was an accident of history that Berengarius denied the Real Presence in the Host unless it was accompanied by the consecrated wine. Now, don't you think the Holy Spirit was at work when the Church declared that Christ is present "whole and entire, Body, Blood, Soul, Divinity" under either or both forms? We know that the Sacred Host contains the whole Christ.

This was satisfactory for 1,000 years. Why inflict more confusion on our people badgered by continual change.

Then you are against the reception of the wine?

Well expressed. I have listened to children who were given the chalice at some special children's Mass. Were they edified by this "extended symbolism?" No. Rather, they giggled and chortled about "drinking wine." Children have had no problem for 1,000 years in recognizing the Lord in the Sacred Host. Nor did they make sport of the Host.

In SCDW 3rd instruction on the Liturgy we read: "Pastors will listen to the needs of the present day in a way which is far from secularism and arbitrary attitudes which would seriously threaten the liturgical reform." The crux lies in the words "needs of the present day." Given our American consciousness of hygiene, we ask, "Does the common chalice or the shot glass system answer the needs of the people better than the thousand-year-old traditional reception of Christ, present in the Sacred Host?" Let the people decide. If they want the common cup, give it to them. But let's not force it on those who do not want it.

Two to Head Cancer Drive

Mrs. Nancy Mayne of Pittsford and Mrs. Linda Postler of Brighton have been named steering committee co-chairpersons for the American Cancer Society's 1979 Daffodil Festival.

Volunteers are needed to plan for advance orders, school and church contacts and other organizational activities. Anyone interested should contact the society office at 461-3800.

They will coordinate the distribution of 200,000 fresh daffodils, a flower which has become the symbol of the cancer campaign. The event from March 22 to 25 will be the ninth annual festival in Monroe County.

Thursday Deadline

In order to handle copy and photographs properly, all news releases must be received by the Courier-Journal by noon Thursday for the following week's edition.

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Adult Programs Listed

Ithaca—Immaculate Conception's Continuing Adult Religious Education Committee has announced three programs for the coming months.

Genesis II will be an eight-week course on Wednesdays beginning Feb. 7 and ending April 4. Three time schedules are offered, 9:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m. Genesis II is a program of religious education developed by Trappist Father Vincent Dwyer. It is intended to bridge the gap between the spiritual values which adults knew before Vatican II and their lives now. Babysitting will be available for the day-time sessions.

On Saturday, April 21, Father Robert Kennedy is scheduled to make a presentation during an evening of socializing and entertainment. The talk and discussion in an informal atmosphere has proved successful in past offerings by the committee.

On Wednesday, May 16, Brother James Leahy is scheduled to speak on "Jesus in the Fourth Gospel," at 7:30 p.m.

All courses have a minimum registration requirement before they will be given. All will be presented in Immaculate Conception School; course fees are based on expenses incurred. Further information can be obtained by contacting the Immaculate Conception Rectory, 273-6121.



Valentine Ball

The Parents Association of Our Lady of Mercy High School is getting up a Valentine party for Saturday, Feb. 10, at Locust Hill Country Club. Committee members shown here are, left to right, Marion Clement, Beverly Tomaino and Rosemary Pautz. Mrs. Clement and her husband, Thomas, have charge of the dinner-dance. The Don Jones Quartet will play. Reservations should be made at the school, 288-7120.

Disco Dance To Help Cancer Fight

The Youth against Cancer Committee has scheduled a '79 Disco Dance at the Monroe County Fairgrounds Building 1 in Henrietta from 8 to 11 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 10.

Disc jockey Ron Denver will be on hand with Top 40 chart songs and disco numbers. Tickets are \$2 advance or \$2.50 at the door, all proceeds to benefit the American Cancer Society, Monroe County. Advance tickets may be acquired through a telephone call to the society at 461-3800 or students should inquire at their respective schools.

THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER "Learning to Live Alone"

By Ed Sulewski

Your husband has died. Will you work? Go back to school? Buy a house or rent an apartment? Remarry? Suddenly, you are faced with dozens of decisions you may have never seriously considered before. Take careful stock of yourself. If you have a job and can continue working, you will not only be more financially secure, but your job will provide routine and stability at a time when you may be feeling a little off-balance. If you have children, you will have special considerations: adequate care while you are working, special housing requirements, future financial security and, perhaps a guardian for them, should you die prematurely. Many of these decisions don't have to be made immediately. You have a full and rewarding life to build for yourself. For a moment, accept the support and love of friends and family - and give yourself time to carefully consider the choices open to you. If we may be of help or answer questions for you, please call us.

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