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### Legion Busy on 4th

Legion of Mary members from St. Thomas the Apostle parish in Irondequoit distributed copies of the Courier-Journal at the town's 4th of July celebration in front of Town Hall. At the Legion booth are, from left, Gerald Coursey, Donald Murphy, Mary Murphy and Donald Foley.

### On the Right Side

By Father Paul J. Cuddy

### Christ Requires That Each of Us Evangelize

Is the Catholic Church losing members in the United States?

Yes. We know some of the statistics. Even more disheartening, we know some in our own parishes and among our own relatives and friends. Father John Guy used to say, "All we can do is deplore."

But deploring is not shepherding. The Church is at war with the world, the flesh and the devil. We have no business to be on the defensive. We should be out on the offensive. Jesus said to us, "Go, and make disciples of all nations." This command is for every individual Catholic.

You sound harsh.

No. Convinced. When the citadel is attacked both from within by false shepherds and from without by humanism, atheism, communism, Muslimism, abortionists and Planned Parenthood, it's no time for patty cakes. If I were a bishop, I would work to reorganize the present mind and spirit and inaction of my people, and form a Church of evangelists.

About 2 p.m. Monday, July 2, I was in Rochester's Midtown Mall. The Mall donates a space for one week to various organizations — civic and religious. Passing through, I noticed a long table with Mormon literature on it. A nice young Mormon was seated behind the table; another, looking like a tall, young St. Aloysius, hovered about, while an older one was nearby. I took a seat with the young man, saying, "If I were a bishop I would hire your men to train our

Catholics in the art of evangelizing." Despite the fact that I might seem formidable in the uniform of the priesthood, carrying a mighty 200 pounds, and of venerable age and obvious enthusiasm for the Catholic Faith, my friend was quite at ease. He even carried a mild hope that I was a prospect for Mormonism. We conversed for half an hour. I wondered if the passerby thought I was part of the Mormon team. The lad was 21 years old. He had finished a year of college and was doing his two-year stint as a missionary. He had good manners, was neatly dressed and coiffured, and dedicated to a religion which boggles the intelligence of most educated people for its naive assumptions.

What was his approach?

Very well done. He sized up some aspect of Mormon activity which would be appealing — strong family life, the Monday family night together, the community sharing with one another in need, in misplaced recreation, in togetherness. I asked him how much word training he had had before going on the mission. Five days. That's not quite so fantastic as it sounds, because these youngsters, from childhood, are formed into missionaries. They usually are sent out, at about 18, with an experienced Mormon, and get on-the-job training. The training now is about one month. It consists less of doctrine, more of method of approach is here. My friend is a fine young man, and it breaks my heart that he is not evangelizing for the Catholic Faith. It also raises my hackles that our young Catholics have no notion of evangelization. This is our fault.

Why our fault?

As the Faith is now presented, our people are too little Gospel-inspired and too much Madison Avenue touched. We get directives, posters, meetings, follow-up

meetings, blue prints. Some of this can be good. The Mormons use the radio and TV advantageously. They have a monthly eight-page ad in the Readers Digest — circulation 18 million — with an attractive explanation of the advantages of Mormonism. But each Mormon is expected to tithe scrupulously and to work personally for the religion. Knock on doors.

What do we priests and bishops do? We are like foolish fathers who think they do a good job when they establish the discipline of the 6 p.m. supper hour, count noses at the table, congratulate themselves if all the children are there and get upset if some haven't shown up. These foolish fathers do not demand or expect anything of their children. They feed them, clothe them, worry about them. But they give them neither responsibility nor expectation of contribution to the family or community. In like manner, we priests congratulate ourselves when our youth come to Mass, even if languidly. We are indignant if they don't come. We think to establish recreation departments to keep them amused and entertained, to avoid vandalism, pot, alcohol and sex. But what parish or diocese do you know that expects, and receives, the mission activity to bring converts into the Church, and to the straying? A docile Mass attendance is far from evangelization, and evangelization by the Catholic individual is Christ's demand.

### 50th Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Oswald J. Muench of Greece celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 19. Long-time parishioners of Holy Cross Church, they received a special blessing from Father John P. O'Malley, pastor, at a special Mass.

Their sons, John and Donald, honored them with a lawn party and reception at Donald's home in Bushnells Basin. The jubilarians were given a specially inscribed apostolic blessing imparted by Pope John Paul II. Many friends and relatives attended.

### Kollar to Head Department At Fisher

Nathan R. Kollar, associate professor of religious studies, has been named chairman of the religious studies department at St. John Fisher College.

A member of the faculty since 1974, Kollar is director of Fisher's Resource Center for Death Education and he formerly served as chairman of the college's gerontology program.

### Knights Elect Officers

The Bishop James E. Kearney Assembly, Fourth Degree, Knights of Columbus, elected officers recently.

James J. Philippone was elected to lead the organization as Faithful Navigator for the Columbian year 1979-80.

Others elected: admiral, Ernest J. Rivers; captain, James F. McCormick; pilot, William J. Pioch; inside sentinel, Paul W. Costello; outside sentinel, Trevor Durant; faithful comptroller, Robert J. Farrell; scribe, F. Ross Attinasi.

Father John Gagnier was reappointed chaplain. Guest speaker was Father John O'Connor of Holy Trinity in Webster.

He also is active in the American Academy of Religion, which he served as president last year; the College Theology Society, which recently commissioned him to edit an Introduction to Roman Catholicism; and the Forum for Death Education and Counseling.

### THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER "Confronting Death"



EDWIN SULEWSKI FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Some people believe that the viewing of the dead human body as a part of the funeral is only morbid entertainment for curiosity seekers. Most people who feel this way are unaware of the healing value involved in the viewing — or perhaps they are unusually uncomfortable in this situation.

However, for the bereaved — who are often attempting to deny the death of their loved one — confronting the fact of death by viewing the body is most important. Denial is a natural reaction to the death of someone close to us — but if this denial is continued, it can be mentally damaging. The viewing of the body is an important step toward accepting the fact of death.

There are no simple ways to work through the days and weeks after the death of a loved one. But there are steps that can be taken to help release grief and emotion — and, through our years of experience, we are familiar with many of them. If we can answer questions for you, at any time, please call any member of our staff.

Use our lending library of books concerning death, dying, bereavement, and related subjects.

### SCHAUMAN FUNERAL

2100 St. Paul St. HOME 342-3400

### Our costs have gone bananas right along with yours.

You're paying higher prices for just about everything. And so is RG&E.

Like you, we're tightening our belt where we can.

But we can't stop buying our "basic necessities" any more than you can. Not unless we're willing to let our system, and

our service to you, deteriorate. We must pay the higher prices of our necessities, like it or not. And that's the reason your rates have been going up.

The fact is, inflation's done the same to our basic costs as it has to yours. Take a look:

Your basics 1970 vs. 1977		Some of ours	
Food	up 67%	Utility Poles	up 118%
Clothing	up 33%	4" Black Steel Pipe	up 267%
Housing	up 58%	1/0 Aluminum Cable	up 100%
Transportation	up 57%	4" Suspension Insulators	up 30%
Auto Insurance	up 66%	Gas Regulators	up 39%
Medicare	up 68%	5" Galvanized Conduit	up 193%
Home Heating Oil	up 155%	Tractor with Loader Backhoe	up 77%
Residential Electric	up 74%	Gas Meters	up 57%
Gasoline	up 78%	4/0 Copper Wire	up 118%
Residential Gas	up 91%	6 Pin Dist. Crossarm	up 180%
		State and Local Taxes	up 115%

As you can see, everybody pays the high price of inflation.

February 1978



Shedding light on some subjects that need it.

