

On the Right Side

By Father Paul J. Caddy

Weekend At Cato, Red Creek

A letter to Father Gordinier

"Thank you for inviting me to fill in for you at Cato and Red Creek last Saturday and Sunday while you did your Cursillo team work in Rome. En route, I stopped at Notre Dame Retreat House in Canandaigua, where our Holy Trinity men, and men from St. Rita's and St. Anne's were on retreat. Next week Holy Spirit is sending 40 men, and St. Joseph's Penfield, a great 90. It would seem to me that the strength of the Retreat Movement, as well as other spiritual movements, belies the idea that the Church is in disintegration, which some of the media suggest.



"Did you see 'The Catholic Church in Turmoil' series, four parts, put on by TV ABC recently? It was quite old-hat stuff. The variety in the manner of worship was hardly to be

termed turmoil. In fact, there was a Mexican Mariachi Mass with great color and flair which I greatly admired. Then there was another part on women hustling to be priestesses which was disgusting. It began with a Sister, a strange pastoral assistant, piously giving Communion to two old women in their home. Afterward, she declared her intention to become a priestess. She said 'woman priest,' but that bastardizes the English language. It's like saying 'male Sisters.' (Did you ever see the cartoon in Critic — the vocations issue — with a mild young man talking to his attentive father? The caption read, 'Dad, I think I have a vocation to be a nun.') And winding up her pitch, she declared that sometimes she anointed the sick, saying "Why should they be deprived of this help?"

"Then there were a half dozen women in front of St. Louis University who are taking theology with the intention of being ordained. One did not sense either the docility to the Church or the holiness of Mother Teresa of Calcutta and her Missionaries of Charity, but rather, a small, well-organized, public relations conscious pressure group,

quite unrepresentative of our own good Catholic women who love the Church.

"In the same series was a group of Sisters, perhaps a couple hundred, many of them wearing religious habits which I suspect they dug up for the publicity of the occasion, concelebrating Mass with some benighted priest, declaiming the Consecration with great determination, seemingly well pleased with their defiance.

"How different were your people. I celebrated the 5:30 Mass in Red Creek and the 7:30 in Cato, on Saturday. And Sunday, the 9 and 11 at Red Creek. My initiation in Red Creek was a joy. Your two altar boy brothers, Daniel and David Jaeger, began with a heart-warming innocence, 'Father, how do you operate?' What a graphic way to express the options permitted in the celebration. I replied, 'I was to do whatever Father Gordinier does.' They clutched me in on where to proceed, where to sit, how the music was incorporated into the liturgy. I did make one change. The organists were proficient and the congregational participation well done. But the hymn board had no hymn in honor of Our Blessed Mother! So I said to the organist, 'Let's drop Martin Luther and Mighty Fortress, and sing O Most Holy One in honor of Our Lady. So it was done.

"You will be glad to know I sold 300 copies of the Treasury of Prayers at both parishes. And your untitled pastoral assistant, Julia O'Neil, bought a set of Abp. Sheen's Seven Burdens of Life. Later she wrote, 'The Sheen tapes are marvelous. Just the shot in the arm I need as the CCD classes begin.' Your good housekeeper, Helen Dalton took good care of me at Cato, and your Red Creek council president, Mr. Ed Ferletti, gave me a fine breakfast. His bouncy sons were around the house on best behavior while he did the cooking. Since there was no Mrs. F. in evidence, I wondered, 'Is he a widower or separated?' The mystery resolved itself when I met Mrs. F. at the church, where she was teaching the First Communion class between the two Masses.

From talking with parishioners, I gather you could be elected Mayor of either village. Well, keep out of politics and continue to do the fine priestly work you are doing. My greetings to your people. And many thanks for inviting me to substitute."

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Two Sisters At Reception

Sister Marie Michele Peartree and Sister Marion Gundell were invited by President Carter to attend the reception on the South Lawn of the White House for Pope John Paul II Saturday.

Sister Marie Michelle was to represent the American Association of Homes for the Aging and Sister Marion the National Conference of Catholic Charities Commission on Aging.

DANSVILLE... HINDLE FUNERAL HOME
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335-5670 Men's Cursillo No. 33

SAINT MONICA'S SCHOOL... A STORY OF LOVE
SAINT MONICA'S SCHOOL TEN YEARS AGO. We were just about out of money. Many believed that Saint Monica's would have to close its doors forever. All we had left was hope.
SAINT MONICA'S SCHOOL FIVE YEARS AGO. More dark days. Seven more Catholic school in Rochester's central city closed. Hundreds and hundreds of children would never see the inside of a Catholic school again. Would Saint Monica's be the next to close?
SAINT MONICA'S SCHOOL 1975-1979. We were desperately short of funds. What happened? Parents and friends contributed over 10,000 hours of fund raising efforts. Alumni rallied to the support of their alma mater. We needed massive repairs on the school's roof, but we had no way to pay for them. So, friends and supporters made \$12,000 worth of repairs — at no charge. We still couldn't balance our budget. So, parents (even the poorest of the poor) agreed to make even more financial sacrifices for their school. And, people throughout Upstate New York, people we've never met, have helped up through their financial support and their prayers. All of our hopes were met by a beautiful outpouring of love.
SAINT MONICA'S SCHOOL FEBRUARY 26, 1979. Parish and school leaders decided that Saint Monica's School would remain open. Not just for a year or two, but indefinitely. Truly, the outpouring of love we had seen was the work of the Holy Spirit. It could not be ignored.
TODAY. We are trying to serve more poor, but deserving, students. Students whose families find themselves in real poverty through no fault of their own.
Will you join us in our efforts?
Your contribution to our CATHOLIC EDUCATION FUND, large or small, will help make it possible for Saint Monica's to bring Catholic education — and God's love — to more deserving children next year.
Sister Mary Ellen Cragan
Saint Monica's School 841 Genesee Street Rochester, N.Y. 14611
Dear Sister:
I'd like to help. Enclosed is my contribution of \$_____ to Saint Monica's CATHOLIC EDUCATION FUND.
(Your Name) _____
(Address) _____
(City and Zip) _____
Clip and mail to the address above. All gifts are tax deductible.

Greece Breadwalk Scheduled

The route for the Greece Breadwalk, a walk sponsored by 15 church communities for CROP, the community hunger appeal of Church

World Service, has been announced.

The Breadwalk, scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. from Greece Arcadia High, Sunday, Oct. 14, will proceed west to Long Pond, south to Maiden Lane, east to Dewey Avenue, north to Britton Road, west to Mt. Read Boulevard and north to Mother of Sorrows parking lot where refreshments will be available.

A special route, The Golden Mile for senior citizens, has been initiated this year. It will start at Greece Arcadia at 2:30 p.m., go south on Latta Road to Mother of

Sorrows. Further information on this phase of the walk is available from the Greece Senior Citizen Club or from James Lissow at 621-3346.

The purpose of the walk is to call attention to the political, social and economic reasons for hunger and to raise funds to give a hand in the name of God's love. Seventy-five percent of funds raised will go to CROP and 25 to local hunger programs.

Further information is available from Mrs. Bob Willett at 865-4965.

Business in Diocese

Tracy M. Ladd has joined Hutchins/Y&R as a media buyer. A native Rochesterian, she attended Our Lady of Mercy High School and received a BA in psychology from Nazareth College.

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