

Fr. Paul J. Cuddy



On the Right Side

Knock

Around 7:30 p.m., Aug. 21, 1879, a curious apparition appeared on the south gable of the parish church of Knock, County Mayo, Ireland. At that time Knock was hardly a village but a hamlet of poor thatched huts in about the rainiest part of Ireland. On the gable, standing like statues was a vision: the Blessed Virgin in the center, St. Joseph at her right, St. John the Evangelist in the stance of a teacher, holding THE BOOK. To his left, the Lamb on a simple altar, with a cross on the back, a reminder of the reverence in which the Irish held the Sacrifice through centuries of religious persecution. Offering Mass was a criminal act. Priests who celebrated Mass were criminals. The apparition was bathed in a luminous glow. No words were spoken. The rain poured in the darkness yet the ground beneath remained dry. Eleven persons, women, men and children, witnessed the apparition. Word of the event seeped throughout the island. People came. Pilgrimages began and increased. Cures were reported. Pope John Paul celebrated Mass on the hundredth anniversary last year, also in the rain. Our Courier Tour of Ireland group was anxious to visit Knock. And we did.

It rains most of the time in Knock. And it was drizzling on Sept. 25 when we left Galway for Knock, about 40 miles away. We had the privilege of celebrating Mass at 11:05 a.m. in the glass chapel which encases the gable where the apparitions appeared. All were deeply moved. After Mass lunch was scheduled in a restaurant only a block away. We had a bit of excitement. A tinker woman, carrying a tiny baby, came in begging for money. Tinkers are a kind of gypsies who roam Ireland in caravans, selling anything from earrings to horses. They are nomads who choose not to settle down in decent housing despite the efforts of the government. Watch your pocketbook when they are around. George Flynn, our guide, commented: "They usually carry a baby to soften people's hearts. Sometimes they even borrow a baby from another tinker for begging purposes." To us this is a dreadful existence. For them it is the life which they prefer. Though we knew that begging by tinkers is a racket, we were duly embarrassed. The proprietress of the restaurant came fiercely forward and ejected the tinker, exclaiming: "They are forbidden to bother people. She uses all her money for drink, and her husband is even worse!"

After lunch George said: "There are stores just up the street. Take a while for shopping." I trudged up and noticed a sign on a hostel: "Sisters of Charity: Hostel for Pilgrims." So I entered to investigate. The sisters can accommodate 100 pilgrims who have made reservations. Since it was noon, I went to a dining room where some 25 priests in cassocks

were finishing dinner. They were an assortment: some home from the African Missions; some retired; some assisting while on vacation. All were supervised by the pastor. All take their meals at this hostel, but they room in different houses in the village.

When I mentioned Rochester, ears pricked up. Several said: "Ah, Archbishop Sheen was the bishop there." When I told them about the Sheen tape on The Rosary, the eyes of one lit up: "Could I get the tape?" So the next day from Galway, I mailed to Father James Allis a set of Sheen conferences, plus four Rosary cassettes plus a fine tape on Edel Quinn, the Legionnaire of Mary Envoy to Africa. Father Allis is at Knock on sick leave from the African missions. I wrote: "The Sheen cassettes are in the mail to you. All I ask is that you give them wide circulation."

Blind Children Program Set

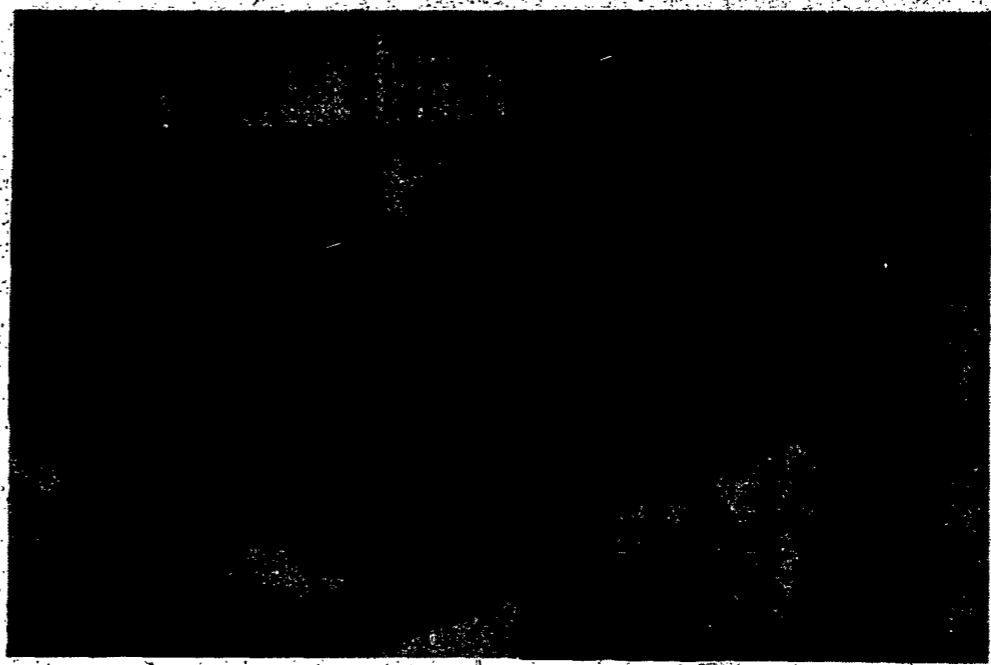
Batavia — The Parents of Visually Handicapped Children of Upstate New York, will meet Oct. 24 and 25 at the New York State School for the Blind here.

Parents, itinerant teachers, classroom teachers, and persons interested in the education and welfare of the visually handicapped children have been invited to attend. Rochester area officers of the organization include Nancy Kohlman of Churchville, vice president; and Barbara Hoffman of Rochester, secretary.

CYO Board Names Priest

The Catholic Youth Organization Board has elected Father Joseph Larrabee, associate pastor of St. Mary's in Dansville, to its ranks. The announcement was made by William Schmitz, president.

Father Larrabee has been associated with St. Michael's, Newark; Christ the King, Rochester; St. Joseph's Hospital, Elmira; New York State School at Industry, and Camp Stella Maris. He was ordained last March.



Becket Dedication

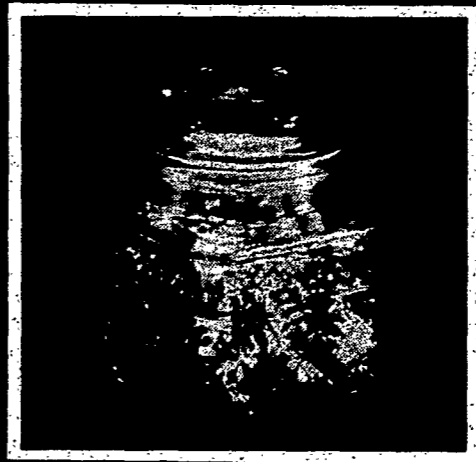
Bishop Matthew H. Clark blesses the new home of Becket Hall as members of the Board of Trustees and students look on during a short ceremony last Wednesday that preceded the annual meeting of the board. Becket Hall was formerly located at 75 Fairport Rd. but moved this past August across the street to the former Basilian House of Studies at St. John Fisher College. Father Thomas Statt, rector of Becket Hall, also announced the appointment of seven new board members. They are: Ronald Anderson, circulation manager of Gannett Newspapers; Thomas Clark, treasurer of Paychex; James P. Kane, controller at Nixon, Hargrave, Devans & Doyle; Sister Jean Marie Kearse, RSM, a member of the Executive Council of the Sisters of Mercy; Dr. Therese Lynch, an anesthesiologist at Monroe Community Hospital; Father Michael Mahler, chaplain at SUNY Geneseo; and Father James Moynihan, pastor of St. Joseph's Church in Penfield.

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AND RECEIVE A GIFT WITH OUR COMPLIMENTS!

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YOU CAN GET THE HOLIDAY CANDY JAR AND CANDY WHEN YOU OPEN A \$5.00 OR \$10.00 HOLIDAY CLUB ACCOUNT.



50 week coupon books for all Holiday Clubs are available in amounts of \$1, \$2, \$5 and \$10.

In addition to the gift received for \$5 and \$10 clubs, you get 5 1/4 % annual interest rate compounded daily.

Holiday clubs and a gift too! It's our way of being among the first to wish you a happy holiday season!

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1.00	\$50.00 + interest
2.00	100.00 + interest
5.00	250.00 + interest
10.00	500.00 + interest

All interest is paid upon completion of the holiday club.

There is a substantial interest penalty and \$3.00 service charge for early withdrawal.

Further information about our savings plans can be obtained at any office.

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