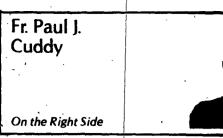
#### COURIER-JOURNAL



## Chaplains **And Prisoners**

At Father David Gramkee's invitation 1 celebrated Mass at Elmira Reception Center for young men to be assigned to prison, and the following morning Mass at the main prison. Sister Josepha Twomey met me at the front office; escorted me through a succession of iron bar gates; introduced me to guards and we continued through; and finally brought me to the Catholic chapel, built by Msgr. Lane, which seats 400 people. It has splendid stained glass windows, good traditional statues of Mary and Joseph. The Blessed Sacrament is reserved on the altar in an artistic tabernacle. The Mass procedure was the same as at the Reception Center. Young inmates did the readings and served. However, the congregation seemed startlingly different. The men were older; but the big difference was that of coiffure. There was hair in various styles from neat short cuts to shaggy dog, chins either clean shaven or with neatly trimmed beards, or with straggly and billygoat styles.

Following Father Gramkee's direction, I gave out the number of the page in the missalette as we proceeded. The men followed the text well and made the responses with vigor. A few guards were unobtrusively vigilant in the background. After Mass, Sister Josepha took me to the officers' mess for coffee, her treat. I enjoyed her ease both with the guards and the inmates, and said to her: "I think you are so well accepted for three reasons: first you are a Sister, second, you are a woman, and third, you are cheerful." Another Mass was scheduled for Monterey, near Watkins

Glen, which is a kind of trustee extension from



Elmira. It is like the CCC camps of the depression 30s which developed places like the Glen and Letchworth Park. Exactly at 2 p.m. I was back at St. Patrick's had personally prepared an impressive brunch for the two of us.

Meditation: Prison is a dreadful place. To be deprived of liberty, living often in a continuous din with men who dream of a freedom far away. Why are they there? St. Philip Neri, seeing a man led off to execution, said "There but for the grace of God goes Philip." God gives His grace to each one, and each of us must accept or reject it. Each one of us has the weaknesses, from original sin: pride, avarice, lust, anger, envy, gluttony and sloth. Each must control these tendencies or they will control us.



## **Ribbon** Cutting

Mayor Thomas P. Ryan holds one end of the ribbon as Bishop Matthew H. Clark snips through to officially open the eighth annual La Fiera Italiana last Sunday, July 19, at the festival site at Main and Water Streets. The festivities actually began with the annual Mass at Old St. Mary's Church, downtown, then the procession to the festival site.

# **Father Power** Reassigned

Father Bernard J. Power, CSSR, has taken a post as assistant pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Ilchester, Md.

Father Power was pastor of Our Lady of Victory/St. Joseph Church in downtown Rochester for the past six vears. Father Power's assignment was announced by the Redemptorist provincial superior, Father Joseph Hurley, CSSR.

After assignment in parish work at St. Joseph's Church on Franklin Street from 1959

to 1964, Father Power went to San Alfonso Retreat House in West End, N.J. A member of the retreat house staff for five years, he was appointed rector for a three-year term in 1969, and was reappointed for a second term in 1972.

Returning to Rochester in 1975 after the fire which destroyed St. Joseph's Church building, Father Power served two terms as rector of the Redemptorist community at Our Lady of Victory. In his community, superiors may serve no longer than 12 years in that capacity.

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# "My men and I will work all night, if we have to, to get the job done right."



## **Provincial** Councilor

Sister Claire Bonneau, SSND, of Rochester's **Bishop Kearney High** School, has been elected to the provincial council of the School Sisters of Notre Dame's Wilton Province. She holds a four-year term of office and was installed June

