

Fr. Paul J. Cuddy



On the Right Side

A Case Of Culture Shock

On May 22 our Ireland tour group returned to Kennedy from Shannon Airport via Aer Lingus.

On the plane I met Eion Lucey, a 19-year-old freshman of Cork University. He was blue-eyed, intelligent, well-mannered and handsome, not in a sexy way, but from a goodness which emanates from his whole being.

He explained that he is a native of Cork city, and is on a kind of work exchange to the States.

"What is a work exchange?" "Well, because unemployment is a problem in Ireland, a foreigner cannot get a job there unless an Irishman can get a job in the States. An arrangement is made whereby some college exchange students can get work in the other country. So I am coming to America for work for the summer and will return to the university in the fall. And an American student will do the same in Ireland."

"What is religion like among young men in Ireland of your age?" "It's hard to say. When you live where everyone is a Catholic you can take a lot for granted. About everyone goes to Mass regularly."

"Do they understand their religion?" "That's hard to say. When everyone is a Catholic there isn't much challenge."

"Have you thought of the priesthood as your possible vocation?" "No, not seriously." I retorted to him: "With the Church in turmoil from antagonisms against the Holy Father and the Church itself, it puzzles me that young men like you don't get into the fray, and campaign for Christ and his Church."

Tepeyac I Organized

More than 25 people gathered at Guardian Angels Church in Henrietta last week to organize the first diocesan chapter of the national Queen of the Americas Guild, a group which promotes devotion to our Lady of Guadalupe.

The chapter, named Tepeyac I, is making plans for a banquet Dec. 12 in celebration of the 450th anniversary of the apparitions near Mexico City.

In addition, the group is raising funds to purchase the film "Once on a Barren Hill," which recounts the story of Juan Diego and the extraordinary image of the Virgin on his cloak. The film will be made available to Church organizations on request.

Devotions to Our Lady of Guadalupe are held at 7:30 p.m. each Monday at Guardian Angels. The next meeting of the chapter will be held on Sept. 28. Persons interested in further information are asked to call Harriet Beiter, (716) 334-2912.

More Opinions

Must Work For Morality

Editor:

Few of us would deny that the moral climate of our society is in critical condition. Who of us has not been affected by the crime, violence, and abnormal sexual attitudes of today? Certainly, the time has come for the problems to be faced and solved! (We have already found that the taking of public opinion polls does not really provide any answers.)

An organization called the "Moral Majority" has been formed for the very purpose of restoring order and decency to our lives. The interesting effect of this has been that the very people who have perpetuated our moral decline for the past 20 years are running scared. (In fact, they are so panicked that they have referred to themselves, on occasion, as the "immoral minority" — which, of course, they really are!) People like Norman Lear and Hugh Hefner, whose livelihoods thrive on immorality, are crying "censorship" to the action which is planned by the American public — to stop buying products, the sale of which helps to pay for a pollution in our homes which is far more destructive than any of the pollution in today's physical environment.

Planned Parenthood, with the help of federal funds, sponsored two full-page ads in TV Guide recently, which warned that I was in danger of losing my right to continue to help pay for abortions and contraceptives, both of which I believe are morally wrong.

It is strange that so many of us can be talked into not imposing our beliefs on others when that is exactly what the "others" are doing to us — except that their values, based on monetary income, certainly don't seem to be working. Few of us would deny that we must get morality back into our lives but fewer have the guts to do it. Moral convictions require courage and, up until now, many of us have been looking like the apostles did before they received the Holy Spirit.

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Weaponry Unnecessary

Editor:

And now, on top of everything else, the Reagan Administration announces that we shall proceed with the development of the neutron bomb. But that is not all. The Pentagon, backed by President Reagan, has

recommended putting between 7 and 9.4 billion dollars into a five-year production program for nerve gas. These are frighteningly brutal weapons.

Who says our country is not leading the arms race?

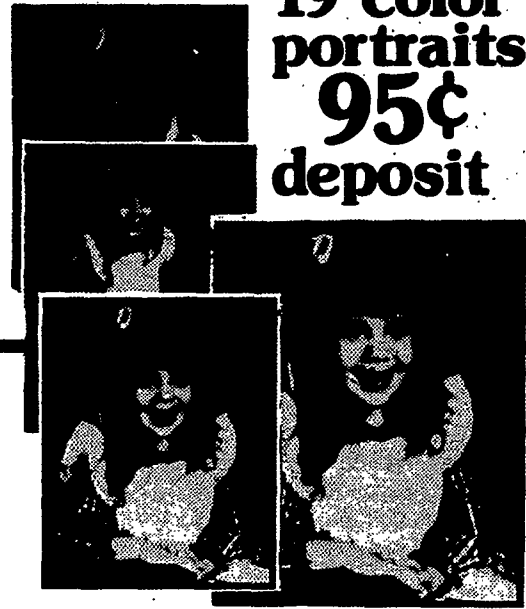
Please listen to what a few well informed and well intentioned people have said.

Albert Einstein: "Through the release of atomic energy, our generation has brought into the world the most revolutionary force since the prehistoric discovery of fire. This basic power of the universe cannot be fitted into the outmoded concept of narrow nationalisms. For there is no secret and there is no defense; there is no possibility of control through the aroused understanding and insistence of the peoples of the world."

A respected writer, Father Richard McSorley, SJ: "The taproot of violence in our society today is our intention to use nuclear weapons. Once we have agreed to that, all other evil is minor in comparison. Until we squarely face the question of our consent to use nuclear weapons, any hope of large scale improvement of public morality is doomed to failure."

Raymond Hunthausen, Archbishop of Seattle: "I challenge every Catholic to reflect prayerfully on the present nuclear arms buildup and its consequences in the light of the gospel message of peace and goodwill toward all humankind. . . . What no good Catholic may do is not a problem, as if huge buildup of nuclear weapons are justified without examination, as if there are not principles and assessments of facts which

challenge us all to rethink what we are doing as a nation in this matter." Adolphe and Loe D'Audiffret RR 2 Naples, N.Y. 14512



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