

# A Tribute to Our Lady of the Rosary

By Msgr. Joseph A. Cirrincione

This was supposed to be a four-part series. But Our Lady had a better idea. Like Our Lord who is more eager to forgive than we are to be forgiven, she is readier to dispense blessings than we are to look for them.

When I mailed the four parts of the series to the Courier-Journal, I thought the job was done. But I hadn't reckoned on Our Lady's way of getting around obstacles when things look hopeless.

On Tuesday, Sept. 22, I received two letters from Buffalo. The first one was from a lawyer and contained a check for \$500. It was payment of a bequest made to The Family Rosary for Peace by a Buffalo lady who had died eight months previously.

As I looked at the check, I felt a twinge of conscience, almost as if I were taking money under false pretenses. This check represented the largest single contribution ever made to The Family Rosary from the Buffalo area. And we were not on the air there anymore.

For a moment I was tempted to throw caution to the winds and disregard my own rule by going back on the air in Buffalo without a group to promote the program. But only for a moment. Down deep I realized this would be a concession to my impetuosity. It would be my will but not necessarily Our Lady's. For I had resolved not to go back to Buffalo until she gave me a sign — the sign of a volunteer group to promote the program there.

The other letter was from a nun who wanted to know when the The Family Rosary Hour would be returning to Buffalo. She wrote that she and many of her friends missed the nightly Rosary, the news, the weekly Mass. And though she had taped the program for just such an emergency, it wasn't the same.

I replied by saying that Our Lady knew when we were coming back to Buffalo but that she had not let me know yet. And then I went on to explain about the sign, the need for a volunteer group in Buffalo to promote the program and stimulate contributions. I said the time on the station was now available but I was still waiting for the sign. I explained that I had made several attempts to get a group started by writing to friends there but their lack of response indicated how dismal the prospects were. I concluded by asking her to join me in praying and waiting for a sign.

I mailed the letter on Wednesday of that week. The next afternoon I received a phone call from a businessman in Buffalo asking if the job were still open, meaning: Had anyone volunteered to form a Buffalo Committee of The Family Rosary for Peace? He said that a long-time friend of his, a nun (the one I had just written to) with whom he had been associated in the Third Order of St. Francis and the Legion of Mary, had called him and urged him to volunteer for the task. His type of business left him some free time, he had contacts with people throughout the city and would be willing to take a crack at the job if no one else had yet volunteered.

I had my sign!

The next morning I called the owner of WXRL to inquire if the 6:30 p.m. slot was still open for The Family Rosary Hour. It was!

Already I had a date in mind for the resumption of our broadcasts, Oct. 12, eve of the anniversary of Our Lady's last apparition at Fatima when she revealed herself as Our Lady of the Rosary. I knew from my many visits to Fatima that the ceremonies for the feast really begin on the 12th at 10

## Phelps Student Named to Unit

**Wheeling, W.Va.** — Maureen Faul, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Faul of Phelps has been named a resident assistant for the academic year at Wheeling College here.

She is a junior nursing

major. Resident assistants provide aide to the Student Affairs office and maintain order in the dormitories.

Wheeling College, Jesuit-directed, is the only Catholic college in West Virginia.



## The Family Rosary for Peace

401 ORANGE STREET

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14611

p.m. with a procession all around the spacious grounds, followed by a Holy Hour conducted from the Basilica steps until midnight. And then, all night vigil before the Blessed Sacrament exposed.

Oct. 12 was alright with the station, and after discussing some technical matters, we were about to end the conversation when the station manager said, "By the way, would you want to go on seven days a week instead of five?"

"But you always said you couldn't give me Saturday nights, and without Saturday I wouldn't take Sunday. Remember?"

"Yes, but that has changed too," he replied.

What's the saying in England? "In for a penny, in for a pound?" Anyhow, like a gambler shooting the works, I told him: "Seven days it is!"

I suppose at the moment the exhilaration from the exciting developments had gone a little to my head. But I soon sobered up as the impact of what had transpired in such a short time hit me. And I remember thinking that Our Lady must certainly want the Rosary on the air to obtain these minor miracles of grace that went even beyond what I prayed for. I wondered what she saw in the future that made the nightly Rosary so important to her.

The final test came the following Monday. Had I been too hasty in making arrangements with the station without consulting the head of my Buffalo Committee that at this point numbered just two people? I had to find out. So I phoned him and explained what I had done. "Well," he

## Rosary on the Air

The Family Rosary Network may be heard at 6:30 nightly over the following stations:  
WWWG, Rochester (1500 AM); WXXY, Watkins Glen (104FM); WFSW, Seneca Falls (99FM and 1110AM); WOIV, Syracuse (105FM); WYRD, Syracuse (1540 AM), and WXRL, Buffalo (1300AM).

replied, "Sister and I met yesterday afternoon and we discussed etc., etc., etc. . . ."

I had my answer!

Since then the committee has added members, sent out letters to all on our Buffalo area mailing list and, in general, effectively laid the groundwork for the return of Christ to the marketplace in the Buffalo-Niagara Falls area on Monday, Oct. 12.

I typed the first draft of this fifth and concluding article in this series on stationery several years old. I noticed something interesting. Across the top of the stationery, on the letterhead, is printed the list of stations then in The Family Rosary Network. There were four stations listed and every one of them has since canceled our program.

Yet we are still on the air and on more stations than ever before. One might be tempted to observe that we seem to thrive on failure. But then, come to think of it, so did Our Lord!

## Business in Diocese



MS. CALCAGNO

Katherine E. McCarney Calcagno, a native of Rochester and graduate of St. Agnes High School, has been named new products manager in the business development department of Norwich-Eaton Pharmaceuticals' Professional Products Group. She and her husband, Mark Calcagno, Ph.D., make their home in Oxford, N.Y.



"Two roads diverged in a yellow wood... and I, I took the one less traveled by... and that has made all the difference."

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