

Fr. Paul J. Cuddy



On the Right Side

'Cultic' Priesthood Paramount

In a Feb. 10 article on the essence of the priesthood, I expressed my delight at the response of Matthew Hill, who served my Mass at Good Counsel. This 10-year-old nephew of Father James Schwartz replied to my inquiry, "What does your uncle do?" with a succinct: "He doesn't do nothing (sic). He's just a priest."

I think that is uproariously funny and at the same time illustrative of an implied theological fact: the priesthood is concerned essentially with celebrating the Sacrifice of the Mass, and that all the accidentals which devolve from the priesthood, viz. visitation of the sick, counseling, etc., do not supercede the cultic charge of the priest. Ordination to the priesthood is ordination to celebrate the supreme cultic work of praise and adoration of our Creator, which we have called "The Mass" since the

time of St. Ambrose. This 1,500-year-old term was found offensive to the anti-traditionalists who replaced the term "Mass" with "Eucharistic Celebration," a term correct enough. But such clamor for change, so much of which has been abrupt, has disturbed many.

Probably I feel so strongly about this because of a heroic letter to the editor of the Courier-Journal, written four or five years ago, and signed by 17 students at St. Bernard's Seminary. The letter was one of those protesting things — I don't recall just what they were protesting — but I do remember vividly a slur at the idea of a "cultic priesthood." The general import of the letter was that the priesthood was not cultic; i.e., pertaining to divine worship, but a kind of ecclesial Human Development Service. I doubt that 16 of the 17 seminarians adverted to the theological implications of the slur; i.e., that the priesthood is a non-cultic calling, which is both a weird bit of heresy and a remarkable violation of rhetoric. But it did betray a

naivete in signing a paper without studying what they were signing. Wise men read the fine print even in contracts.

A Rochester friend said to me: "That was a terrible thing you said about Father Schwartz!" "Oh. What was that?" "You said his job was kind of nebulous." I was astonished at her reading. Father Schwartz I have admired for many years. He is a perennial student and received a doctorate from the Colgate Divinity Schools after his dissertation on hospital care. He was an effective chaplain at Rochester General Hospital, succeeding Father Dan Tormey and preceding Father Don Schwab. I know his accomplishments better than most, since he often engaged me to supply for him when he was away.

To say he has a kind of nebulous job is not a pejorative criticism but a valid observation. He organizes groups of priests to give fraternal support to one another. He is concerned with priests who may have problems with health or even vocation.



Starting Early

Youngsters in the pre-kindergarten through the fifth grade at Nazareth Hall School display the wares they are making and selling as part of Kid Crafts Inc., the name of a school company made up of smaller corporations formed in each grade. The program is designed to teach children about economics and costs, production set-ups, expenses, profit sharing and working together. Overall profits of all companies will go toward the purchase of equipment for the primary and intermediate departments.

KAKE KORNER 1688 CLIFFORD AVE. near Goodman. 3 tier serves up to 100, \$40. 4 tier serves 175 to 200, \$60. 3 tier whipped cream, custard filling serves up to 100, \$60. We Deliver. Decorator cakes, whipped cream & strawberry, lemon, pineapple, custard filling: 1/2 sheet, \$7.00; 1/4 sheet, \$10.00; full sheet, \$18.00. Decorator cakes butter cream frostings, half sheet, \$9.00, full sheet \$16.00.

Fr. Albert Shamon



Word for Sunday

Covenant: A Special Contract

Sunday's Readings: (R3) Mk. 1:12-15. (R1) Gn. 9:8-15. (R2) 1 Pt. 3:18-22.

The first readings for the Sundays of Lent revolve around one theme: covenant! The covenant with Noah (First Sunday); the covenant with Abraham (Second Sunday); the covenant with Moses (Third Sunday); breaking the covenant (Fourth Sunday); and the new covenant (Fifth Sunday).

Because covenant theology plays so large a part in salvation history, it is well that we understand what covenant is.

Paradise was lost by a lack of faith.

It can be regained only by acts of faith.

Faith means believing in somebody (the Hebrew verb "to believe" is aman — our Amen).

To be able to believe in somebody presupposes that somebody is making promises to us.

That is why covenant has to be part of the warp and woof of salvation history: to give man the opportunity to make acts of faith. For covenant is simply somebody making promises to us to do something for us. And faith, the correlative of covenant, is simply saying, "I believe in you; that is, I trust you will keep your promises to do what you say." Faith consequently expresses itself in obedience. Obedience is the child of faith; and faith is the response demanded by covenant.

Covenant is a special kind of contract or compact with God. In law there are two kinds of contracts: the simple contract and the contract of adherence.

The simple contract is bilateral: both parties make the terms, if either one defaults, the contract is null and void. For instance: I go to Joe Doaks and ask him to

build me a swimming pool. I give him the specs: kidney-shaped, 18' by 40'. He gives me the price — \$15,000. I determine the kind of pool I want; he determines the kind of price he wants. If either fails to deliver, the contract is cancelled. Covenant is not that kind of contract.

The contract of adherence is unilateral: one party makes the terms, the other party is free to accept or reject them — but once accepted, the other party must adhere to the terms or suffer the consequences. For instance, an alien comes to the United States. After a while the alien decides to become a citizen. Uncle Sam says, "O.K., but you must do this and this, and live up to the laws of the land." The alien studies the stipulations and accepts them. As long as he adheres to them, he can enjoy the blessings of American citizenship. Should he renege, he's deported.

Covenant is a contract of adherence. It is a one-sided contract: God makes all the terms and promises. The Pentateuch describes three covenants: with Noah, with Abraham, with Israel through Moses.

The Covenant with Noah was man's second, chance after the era of creation; a new beginning. The sign of this covenant was a rainbow. After the Flood, there had to be a rainbow in the sky. The Hebrew word we translate "rainbow" usually meant "bow of war." The beauty of the ancient conception is clear! God shows the world He has put aside his bow; is no longer at war with the world. When a Choctaw Indian made peace, he handed over his bow with the arrow pointing to himself. God's bow in the clouds, is pointed toward heaven, not earth — a sign, therefore, of peace.

The waters of the Flood are a type of baptism: our covenant with God. He promises life eternal, but on the condition we renounce Satan and his works. What are the works of Satan? Anything that is divisive, that smacks of hate, discord, dissension: anything, in a word, that is the opposite of loving.

CLASSIFIED

\$5.00 for 15 words, 25c a word after the first 15 words. Deadline — Friday at noon for next Wednesday's paper. CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY CHECK OR MONEY ORDER. Send to: Courier-Journal Want Ad Dept. 114 South Union Street, Rochester, New York 14607

ANTIQUES

12th ANNUAL ANTIQUE show and sale. March 6 and 7, 1982, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Holy Cross School Auditorium, Lake Ave. and Latta Road, Rochester. (Village of Charlotte). 33 dealers, hot lunches and dinners available. Donation \$1.50.

AUTOMOTIVE

1981 TOYOTA COROLLA, 5-speed, AM-FM, rustproof, 7000 miles. \$5600 or best offer. 223-3386, evenings and weekends.

JEEPS, CARS, PICKUPS from \$35. Available at local Gov't Auctions: For Directory call Surplus Data Center 415-330-7800

CARPENTRY WORK

ADDITIONS, GARAGES, patio decks. Change a basement into a family room. 654-9031.

Carpenter work: additions, porch enclosures, paneling, doors and windows, electrical work. 28 years experience. Prompt, free estimates. Check our reputation. DINAPOLI BROTHERS. Call anytime. 225-7681.

CARPENTRY, DECKS, doors, windows, inside trim, porch enclosures, attics, locks and deadbolts. Roman Wallace, 872-1205.

ADDITIONS: 14'x16' exterior \$3895. Garages 24'x14' detached \$3695. Dormers 24' room, exterior \$2495. Complete Home Remodeling. 27 years. Vern Rizzo, 225-1848 after 5 p.m.

CHILD CARE

BABYSITTER NEEDED for 9-month-old girl. Monday through Friday, 8:15 to 5:15. My home. 461-2671 after 6 p.m.

CHIMNEY WORK

CHIMNEYS Repaired — Painted, plastered, rebuilt, new. Best prices in town. 28 years experience. Free estimates. Check our reputation. DINAPOLI Bros. CALL ANYTIME. 225-7681, 227-4635.

ELECTRICAL

ELECTRICAL WIRING. Retired after 40 years. Will still do residential jobs. Free estimates. Licensed. 666-1019.

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM ROCK to Bach — Miller to Manilow — for everyone. George Manning Orchestra. 467-6749.

THE SOPHISTICATES — Music for All Occasions, under the direction of Sammy Profeta. 288-3030 or 288-6372.

BOBBY LANE ORCHESTRA, top music for all occasions. Top musicians. 467-7347.

FREDDY BECK Orchestra. Rochester's finest music. Weddings, parties. Music for all occasions. 247-6328.

FLORIST

WEDDING FLOWERS at reasonable prices. KEITH YOUNG, 254-5696.

WEDDING PACKAGE Special: \$99. Call Dave Michael, Penfield Florist, 586-8330.

FOR RENT

BOND STREET: 2 buslines, 3 rooms unfurnished, heat, hot water, reasonable rent. 442-2272.

FOR SALE

START VATICAN Stamps Collector! Six sets, \$2. Worldwide approvals included; buy what you want, return rest, discontinue service anytime. Let us know your interests, collection size. Dept. A, Barmann Company, 2621 Rhapsody Drive, Dayton, Ohio 45446.

HAIR REMOVAL

Summer '82? Get ready now! Teens to seniors. Men and women. Permanent, private, experienced. By appointment. ELECTROLYSIS MASTERS. 325-5886. Temple Bldg. 601.

LOCKSMITHS

CERTIFIED LOCKSMITH Keys Made Locks Repaired Emergency Openings HURYSZ LOCK & KEY SERVICE 586-0690

HELP WANTED

KITCHEN HELP for large convent. Part-time weekends and some evenings. Work includes some food preparation and general kitchen duties. Phone 284-2427 between 8 a.m. and noon for interview appointment.

JOBS OVERSEAS: Big money fast. \$20,000 to \$50,000 + per year. Call 1 (716) 842-6000 ext. 3780.

PROGRAM COORDINATOR. Monroe County parishes. Promotes and works with Parish Human Development Committee on issues of social concern. Two years working experience within urban church organization. Skills and knowledge of church social teaching. Send resume to Department of Justice and Peace, 750 W. Main St., Rochester, NY 14611 by March 8.

FULL TIME pastoral musician/coordinator of liturgical ministries for suburban, Vatican II parish. Vibrant, supportive church community. For further information, please contact Carol Leary, Chairperson, Search Committee, Church of the Holy Name, St. Martin's Way, Rochester NY 14616.

HOME REMODEL

ODD JOBS: Storm windows remove, washing walls, floor waxing, cleaning gutters, etc. 436-4421.

Locks, deadbolts, plumbing, painting, electrical, extension phones, masonry, minor carpentry, security and fire alarms, window ropes, glass replacing, reglazing. All general repairs. Free estimates. ALL WORK DONE PROFESSIONALLY! 586-0690.

INCOME TAX SERVICE

INCOME TAX: 15 years experience, reasonable, in-home service, call after 6 p.m. 286-0584.

COLLEGE STUDENT to prepare income tax returns. Reasonable. Steve, 254-2111.

MASON WORK

MASON WORK — Patios, brick steps, chimneys, sidewalks, garage floors, planters, additions. Compare our prices. 28 years experience. Free estimates. Check our reputation. DINAPOLI Bros. Call Anytime. 225-7681.

ADDITIONS—STEPS, Patios, Fireplace chimneys repaired. 40 years experience. Insured. 268-1481 or 225-4698.

MASON WORK. Plaster repairs, new and old work. Also stucco, chimney repairs. No job too small. Free estimates. Call 594-2451.

MOVING & HAULING

KRIS MOVERS, reasonable. Any time day or night. Free estimates. 544-0051.

K-D MOVING, STORAGE, and Hauling. Appliances and household. Hourly rates. Free estimates. 328-7730; 473-4357.

PAINTING and PAPERHANGING

PAINTING: INTERIOR and exterior. Over ten years of quality service to Courier subscribers. References available. For free estimates, please call 594-4724.

PAINTING & PAPERHANGING, 25 years experience. Retired union painter. 20% discount. 288-4945.

INTERIOR-EXTERIOR, experienced, dependable. Tom Mulhern, 244-5017.

PAINTING and PAPERHANGING. Textured-swirl ceilings. Free estimates. Quality work. Dan Burgmaster, 663-0827.

PERSONAL

IRONDEQUOIT, W. Responsible male to share 2-bedroom home with same. House privileges. Laundry facilities. 467-3474, evenings.

REAL ESTATE

CITY and COUNTYWIDE listings, sales, appraisals. Single family, investment properties, mortgage information, tax deferred exchanges, management. Personal, professional service for all your real estate needs. Mary McCarthy Realtor, 342-3842.

SPECIAL MISCELLANEOUS

THANKS TO St. Jude for favor received. JJ

WANTED TO BUY

DON'T THROW it away — sell it. I will buy your accumulations or manage your household sale. Nancy Fisherty, 533-1748.