

Parishes' Help Asked On Voter Registration

The diocesan Department of Justice and Peace through its three regional offices last week asked every pastor and parish human development committee chairperson to help with a Voter Registration Weekend, Sept. 11 and 12.

A letter, signed by Mary Heidkamp, director of the department, said, "Those of us

Cancer Society Seeks Volunteers For New Study

The Monroe County unit of the American Cancer Society is seeking 400 volunteers to distribute questionnaires and do follow-up in this area as part of a cancer prevention study.

The project will attempt to monitor the life styles and health of more than one million people across the U.S.

Persons interested in the project are asked to call the Cancer Society, 288-1950.

who previously might have regarded voting and the electoral process as of little worth or significance have certainly learned a great lesson."

"It is a fact," she wrote, "that in 1980, only a little more than half of the nation's eligible voters actually pulled a lever. Perhaps we should have listened more closely to the bishops of the United States when they said in 1976: 'We would encourage all citizens to register to vote, to become informed on the relevant issues, to vote freely according to their conscience, to participate fully in this critical arena of politics where national decisions are made.'"

The letter asks that parish contact persons be named for coordinating voter registration.

The department asks for the names by Aug. 23 to facilitate distributing registration forms and other materials.

Fr. Paul J. Cuddy



On the Right Side

Tapes Ministry 'Inspirational'

Who is this Father Brian Cunningham?

Last October I escorted a group to Kenya, East Africa. Father Reinhart of the Propagation of the Faith arranged for us to visit several Kenyan parishes and missions. The first was at Nakuru, where Bishop Raphael Ndigni is the prelate. He was graduated from St. John Fisher College in 1967 and was ordained a bishop by Pope Paul VI. He assisted Father Wohlrab at Good Counsel. After we saw the cathedral in Nakuru where Mass for high school boys was being celebrated in Swahili and the elementary school where 400 youngsters sang zestily "We Shall Overcome," we invited Bishop Ndigni for dinner at Nakuru Lodge. By our tour contract all our meals were provided. So I said to the manager, "Bishop Ndigni will be here for dinner. Charge his dinner to me." "Oh, he is a good friend. He will be guest of the Lodge." The bishop brought Father Brian Cunningham, who is his Vicar General, and another Kiltegan missionary. The Lodge paid for three, which was three times better. I gave them some Sheen tapes as gifts. The bishop wrote later, "They are excellent and furnish material for my own families and talks." Didn't you meet Father Cunningham later in Ireland?

Not exactly. In 1975, I took a group to Ireland and met Ursuline Sister Vianney in Sligo Cathedral. We became pen pals. She works among the poor, and agonizes over the ravages which alcohol makes on many Irish men and women. I gave her an album of Sheen tapes which she used widely, then sent them to Ursuline Sisters in Africa. Last May, I arranged to

meet her at the Shrine of Knock, 50 miles from Sligo. Irish Sisters are impelled to bring gifts, and Sister Vianney brought me a pipe, handkerchiefs and a Mass intention card signed "Father Brian Cunningham." She said, "Father Cunningham is home on a visit to Sligo and says Mass at our convent of 50 Sisters. When I arranged for the Mass, he said, 'Would this be the Father Cuddy who took a group to Kenya last year?' As we parted I gave Sister Vianney a large package of Sheen and Basset tapes, saying, "For your apostolate, Sister." On July 31, I was supplying in Clyde for Father Cosgrove. The phone rang at 9 p.m. It was Legionary Mary Queenan of St. Boniface with Father Cunningham on the phone. He told me Bishop Ndigni had just been elected head of the Bishops Conference of Kenya. Then he said, "I must tell you how important your Sheen tapes apostolate is. It brings doctrine and inspiration to many priests and Sisters; and these are greatly needed in Africa in these days of confusion." He will be at St. John's Church, Elmira, on Aug. 29. Anything else?

Yes. In January I sent some Sheen tapes to John Checkar Irungu in Nairobi, Kenya. He is communications secretary of the Kenya Catholic Secretariate, which does radio broadcasting. I had met him through Maryknoll Sister Mary Bowles who was a Wayne County health nurse in the 1930s. Irungu wrote on July 26: "I am delighted with the Sheen tapes and I will make use of them in my radio programmes... Your media work has encouraged me to a similar program for our groups for retreats." So, cheers for the media apostolate, and especially for Archbishop Sheen and Father Basset and Ralph Martin's cassettes which are faithful to the spirit of the Gospels and to the teachings of the Church.

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SECRETARY: 30 hours per week for Dept. of Justice and Peace located on W. Main Street. Requires 2 years secretarial experience, typing 50 wpm, and knowledge of diocesan structure. Fluency in Spanish helpful. Resume to: Personnel Coordinator, Diocese of Rochester, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, NY 14624. EOE.

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