

Two Basilian Careers Show Close Parallels

Windsor, Ont. — The lives of two Basilian priests who are celebrating their 40th anniversaries of ordination this year are "singularly parallel," one of them has observed.

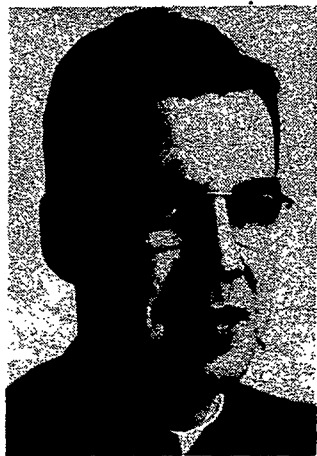
The priests, both natives of the Diocese of Rochester, are Father Edward C. Pappert and Father John P. O'Meara.

Writing from the Basilian Fathers O'Connor House, Father Pappert opined that the case might arouse "considerable interest," in the Rochester area.

"Both graduated from Aquinas in 1932," he wrote, "and went to the Basilian Novitiate in the fall of that year. They were then assigned to St. Michael's College in Toronto for studies and graduated from the University of Toronto in 1938. After graduating they went to Detroit for graduate work and teacher-training. Father O'Meara in Education, and Father Pappert in English. They were ordained on Aug. 15, 1942 by Cardinal McGuigan.

"The following year, they arrived in Rochester to teach at Aquinas Institute.

"Subsequently, both priests obtained PhD degrees, Father

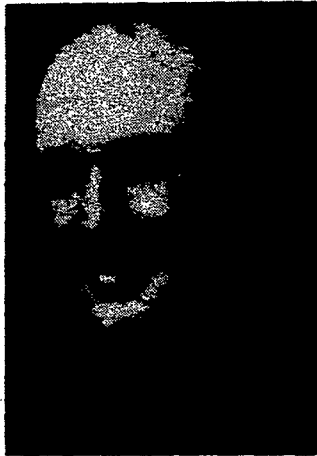


FATHER O'MEARA

O'Meara in History, Father Pappert in English.

"In 1950, Father O'Meara was assigned to St. John Fisher College where he served as dean of studies and as vice president until 1959. During that time he was responsible for the direction and development of educational studies and allied projects. In 1959, he went to the University of Windsor in Ontario, where he was made a professor of History and served on numerous faculty and departmental committees.

"In 1950, Father Pappert was assigned to Windsor, where he taught and later became dean of extension and continuing education and was



FATHER PAPPERT

a member of the university senate.

"While in Rochester, Father O'Meara was involved in educational and civic organizations both on the local scene and nationally.

"Father Pappert's field of activity was primarily in the adult education on the local, national and international level, as well as teaching at the University of Windsor.

"Both priests were retired in 1979, but have continued to be active: Father O'Meara in parochial ministry and as a retirement consultant, Father Pappert with the marriage tribunal in the Diocese of London, Ont."

Marcos Denies Amnesty International Charges

Washington (NC) — Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos denied that his government is guilty of human rights violations and told a National Press Club audience Sept. 17 that "everybody is sincere and earnest about making our democracy work."

Marcos, whose government has been strongly criticized by opponents who say it has perpetrated or condoned extensive human rights violations, said that "it is not fair to accuse the Philippines of violations of human rights when there has been no violation."



Promoted

Norbert J. Rappl, lector and senior server at the Church of Christ the King, was promoted to the two-star rank of Major General in the U.S. Army Reserve in a recent ceremony at the Goodman Street reserve center. Active in several civic and industrial organizations, Rappl is president and chief operating officer of Comac Builders Supply Corp. and Rappl and Hoernig, Inc.

The Philippines president was on a state visit to Washington and the United States. He met with President Reagan Sept. 16 and discussed what he termed security arrangements and other matters of bilateral interest and was feted at a White House dinner that evening.

His visit has sparked protests by dissident Filipinos and a counter-forum by critics who included an American Maryknoll nun.

During his visit, Amnesty International, an independent human rights monitoring organization, also released a report critical of the human rights situation in the Philippines.

"Amnesty International is gravely concerned at persistent and increasingly frequent reports of other extralegal practices committed by security forces. Of particular concern are reports of 'disappearances and extrajudicial executions, known in the Philippines as 'salvaging,' which are commonly accompanied by torture of the victim," the report said.

"We must continue to enhance human rights in general," Marcos said at the Press Club. He said that "Amnesty International has never come to the Philippines," although an Amnesty representative in Washington and the report both stated that the organization did visit the Pacific islands nation before preparing the report.

Marcos cited one case in which he said the government was unfairly blamed. A priest was thought to have

disappeared, but, "we discovered he had run away with someone who claimed to be a nun," Marcos said.

"That remark was a 'cheap shot,'" said Jesuit Father Donald Campion, communication secretary for the U.S. Jesuit Conference, who attended the speech because of his personal interest in the Philippines. "There's much more to be said," and other reports of harassment and persecution of the clergy and others have continued to come from the Philippines, he said.

Marcos, who declared martial law in 1972, removing it in 1981, justified it because of conditions in the country.

"I sincerely relate that it was necessary to proclaim martial law to restore order and stability because there was anarchy throughout the country at the time," he said.

Bonifacio Gillego, director for Philippine affairs of the Movement for a Free Philippines, a group opposed to Marcos, said at an opposition forum after Marcos' speech that even though martial law has been lifted, other decrees giving the president undue power remain in effect. "With or without martial law, therefore, Marcos remains a dictator, a dictator for life," he said.

Another member of a panel at the "counter-forum," Maryknoll Sister Barbara Lupo, chairwoman of the Church Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines and an official of Clergy and Laity Concerned, said both Marcos and Reagan have demonstrated "inhumanity and immorality" regarding the Philippines.



Calendar

LECTURE — "Recent Explorations in the Greek Islands" by Timothy E. Gregory, professor of history at the State University of Ohio, Columbus, 8 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 5, in Memorial Art Gallery auditorium. Free.

EXHIBITION — Arts of Thailand, more than 60 contemporary and traditional works, Tuesday, Sept. 28, through Sunday, Nov. 14, in the Lending and Sales Gallery of the Memorial Art Gallery.

DANCE — The Bucket, 8:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 1, and 7 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 2-3, main auditorium, Nazareth College Arts Center. Tickets available through box office, 586-2420.

CHILDREN'S FILMS — "Adventures of Tom Sawyer," 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 2, A-14, Nazareth College Arts Center. Tickets are \$.50 and will be on sale one hour before performance.

FOLK ENTERTAINMENT — The Alliance College group, Kujawiaki, will perform Polish folklore in dance and song, 8 p.m., Friday, Oct. 15, in the John Fisher College varsity gym. Program free and open to the public. Call Judith Reynolds, 586-4140, ext. 234.

Plattens Set Seminar At Cenacle

Ron and Judy Plattens, the diocesan couple responsible for the development of Seminar for Parents of Teens, will bring the program to the Cenacle Renewal Center, Oct. 29-31.

The widely acclaimed weekend event assists parents in either preventing problems or in solving problems which arise in connection with teenage children.

A Cenacle spokesperson also noted, "Opportunities to improve relationships and communications, with a spiritual focus, along with time for reflection and relaxation will be available."

Further information on the seminar is available by contacting the Cenacle Ministry Office, 693 East Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14607; (716) 271-8755.

Pilgrimage Said Possible

Mrs. Mary Kelly, local leader in the Blue Army of Our Lady of Fatima, said last week that should there be enough response in the diocese, she will charter a bus for pilgrims to the Blue Army headquarters in Washington, N.J., for the observance of the International Rosary March, Oct. 12-14.

Transportation and housing for the three days would cost \$100, she said, and meals and other costs would be extra. Persons interested in such a pilgrimage are asked to call Mrs. Kelly, 586-1664.

Fr. Paul J. Cuddy



On the Right Side

Retreats: Not Just For Priests

Were you at Auriesville recently?

Yes. Father Kress and I made our annual retreat at the Retreat House under Father Vincent McCorry. My first retreat there was in 1941 when the Church was in its heyday: vocations were booming. Jesuit tertians filled the House excepting for a small wing which was opened for priests' retreats in 1939. We were served by edifying, nervous novices.

Retreat was eight days in complete silence. At that time I had a religious experience which today would be called being "Born Again." I shall always be grateful for this. Now the House schedules retreats also for Sisters and laity. Some Sisters from our diocese do avail themselves of these retreats. For Sisters the fee is \$100 for six days. Reminds me of a story. A man complained to the pastor: "You said that religion is free as water, but you keep asking for money." "Ah, yes. Religion is as free as water, but it takes money to pipe it in." So with retreats.

I thought you don't like Jesuits?

I have long admired the work they have done for 400 years: in spiritual direction, education, scholarship, evangelization, support of the pope, holiness. My first enthusiasm for their work came in 1930 at St. Bernard's Seminary from reading the biography of St. Ignatius Loyola by Francis Thompson, the author of "The Hound of Heaven." I greatly admired the Jesuit training, both in discipline and scholarship. However, like most religious orders, the Jesuits have suffered inroads from that phony concept of freedom and liberty which has infiltrated the Church. "Self-fulfillment" is a shibboleth which has subtly substituted self for Christ, the emptying Lord. Professor James Hitchcock treats this ab-

beration well in an article entitled "The Imperial Self."

Has this affected religious vocations?

God calls many men to serve Him in the priesthood, but they do not hear the battle cry over the secular din. Father Tom Valenti is on the road as diocesan Vocation Director. His address is: Pastoral Office, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624. I am appalled that there is only one man to enter First Theology for our diocese this September. Might it not be that the updated training of seminarians deters rather than attracts generous souls?

It seems to me that Opus Dei and Legionnaires of Christ are taking the honored place of the Jesuits. Both have a plenitude of vocations. The Legionnaires have outgrown their seminary in Orange, Conn., and have moved to a larger place, formerly run by the LaSalette Fathers. These seminarians wear the cassock, the uniform of religious witness recognized by Catholics and non-Catholics. They pray together, recreate together, eat together, study together. Music and singing are important in their spiritual and community development. All this is attractive to idealistic young men. If any young men feel called to training for the priesthood with a special loyalty to the pope, the Church, and demands for self-emptying, write to: Legionnaires of Christ, 475 Oak Avenue, Cheshire, Conn. 06410; phone (203) 271-0805.

Aren't retreats for laity important?

They certainly are. In our diocese we have Notre Dame in Canandaigua; Trappists at Piffard; Mt. Saviour in Elmira; Cenacle in Rochester; Stella Maris in Skaneateles. And there are several small prayer houses. A retreat is not for the spiritual dilettante, but for one who is concerned about his soul, conscious of his weaknesses and sins, ambitious to think and to do and to be better. That's why we went to Auriesville.

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