

Fr. Paul J. Cuddy



On the Right Side

A Letter To a Seminararian

Thank you for your letter and the good news that you are standing firm in your vocation. After 47 years in the priesthood I do not know of one day or even one moment that I did not regard my priesthood as my greatest gift from God, and am humbly grateful.

You ask for suggestions about spiritual reading for Lent. What profits one need not profit another, but some books commonly used by holy men for years evidently are worth our own using. Since your purpose is growth in piety — prayer, the virtues, especially magnanimity, rather than intellectual — let me suggest these.

The New Testament. I am aghast at the way the Bible is used by many well-meaning people. No book has so divided Christians as the Bible. And the most bizarre, like the Witnesses, Adventists and ultra-Fundamentalists, seem to have a hang-up on the mysterious Book of Revelations. Since your Lenten purpose is devotion, take the Gospels, the Acts of the Apostles, Ephesians and Corinthians. And since you aspire to the priesthood, surely Timothy whom St. Paul ordained.

The Imitation of Christ, the 15th-century classic of a Kempis. It was used by that spiritual master, St. Ignatius of Loyola, who read it every day in addition to his breviary. It was read devoutly by John Wesley, founder of Methodism and a very holy man. And curiously enough it was read by August Comte, the French positivist philosopher, who read it not for its spiritual insights but for its insights into human nature. I first met the book in 1928 when a student at St. Andrew's Seminary. A friend had gone to St. Andrew-On-the-Hudson for his novitiate with the Jesuits. Each day for 60 days I spent an hour before the Blessed Sacrament at St. Peter and Paul Church that he would persevere. He did and

became a holy and effective Jesuit priest. But that daily hour during which I often used the Imitation had much to do with my own spiritual formation.

Lives of the Saints. No book excepting the Imitation has affected my life as the life of St. Ignatius which I read in 1932 while at St. Bernard's Seminary. And it was a book on the saints which, under God's grace, changes Ignatius from a worldly military man to the saint whose spiritual guidance continues to direct souls throughout the world today.

Get some life which interests you: Ignatius, Mother Seton, Vincent de Paul, Catherine of Siena, John Bosco; or Chesterton's Francis of Assisi and Thomas Aquinas; or Evelyn Waugh's life of the Jesuit Martyr, St. Edmund Campion. There are many books on Mother Teresa of Calcutta and Cardinal Newman. And I think you would find the autobiography of Pope John XXIII, Journey of a Soul, inspiring. Pope John was also a devotee of a 'Kempis' Imitation of Christ.

Let me add a P.S. to these notes. If you can, do your spiritual reading in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. What a privilege you have to have the Divine Presence so intimately with you in the seminary chapel. Begin and end your reading with a simple prayer. Nail down a definite time: an hour if possible. However, Lent without ascetical self-denial will be spiritually anemic. Archbishop Hickey taught us: "The basic rule of the spiritual life is 'agere contra,'" i.e., to act against panderings for self-satisfaction. The Eastern Church, Orthodox and Catholic, by law and practice, still insists strongly on self-denial during Lent. I regret that much contemporary spiritual direction in the Western Church has become tainted through disregard for self-denial in favor of self-gratification. If you cut off much of the TV, that's a start. It gives time for prayer. It is a mighty form of self-denial for many. Try it and you will see.

Notre Dame Launches Annual Fund Drive

Plans to initiate an annual Support Program were announced at Notre Dame High School on Tuesday, Jan. 25. According to a school news release, the first year's goal has been established at \$65,000 and solicitation will begin April 19 and continue through May 13. The release further reported that since its beginning, Notre Dame has met operational expenses through tuition income, donations from parents and friends, subsidies from the Sisters of Mercy, who are responsible for the operation of the school, and other fund-raising activities.

Notre Dame has served the Elmira, Corning, Athens, Sayre and Waverly areas for 28 years and at present serves 515 students. The school currently draws students from seven surrounding school districts and is open to students of all faiths.



YARGER

Becket Man Aids Program In Appalachia

Michael Yarger of Canandaigua, a junior in the Becket Hall program at St. John Fisher College, was one of a number of college students who contributed their mid-winter vacations working as Glenmary volunteers in Appalachia.

The volunteers represented 21 states and the District of Columbia, 37 dioceses and 49 colleges, universities or seminaries.

Glenmary Home Missions, founded in 1939, work in 12 states of Appalachia and the South. The mid-winter volunteer program is in its eighth year.

"To maintain a high quality education for those who choose Notre Dame," said Ralph Meyer, president of the school's Board of Governors, "it is essential that we look for other sources of funds to offset the continued increase in costs and to provide for future students." He further explained that "Notre Dame operates on a financially sound footing and this effort is designed to reinforce that position."

General co-chairpersons for the initial appeal are the Honorable Daniel Donahoe, recently retired family court judge, and Mrs. John Frawley. Other co-chairpersons are: John Battersby, Judge Peter Buckley, Mrs. Julius Carozza, Robert Carroll, Joseph Danaher, Stanley Douglas, Margaret Drake, John Gough, Martin Harrigan, Kathleen Kozdemba, Dr. A.J. Leahy, Joseph Lynch, Mrs. John McInerney, Harry O'Donnell, Joel Ramich, James Rogers, Dr. John Surak, David Seely, Ralph Simon, Mrs. David Swindells, Francis Tokar and G. Thomas Tranter Sr.

Women's Clubs Plan Twin Celebration

The Rochester Federation of Women's Clubs has a double celebration scheduled for noon, Tuesday, Feb. 15 — its 85th birthday and the 163rd birthday of its founder, Susan B. Anthony. The luncheon will take place in the Windsor/Tiffany Room at the Genesee Plaza/Holiday Inn.

Rosalie C. Hanson, executive director of Rochester Sesquicentennial, will be guest speaker. Hostess clubs are Beta Sigma Phi Council, Women's Club of Rochester, Susan B. Anthony Republican Club, Catholic Women's Club of Rochester, Monroe County Legion Auxiliary and the Roosevelt Women's Democratic Club of Irondequoit.

LONDON STUDIES

Diana Georger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Georger of Gates, is studying at the Ithaca College London Center, England, where she will complete the Spring semester of her junior year. She is a 1980 graduate of Cardinal Mooney High School and majors in drama at Ithaca College.



Anniversary Celebration

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kuba celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last Friday, Feb. 4, renewing the vows of their union in a service at St. Josaphat's Ukrainian Church. Among those attending were the couple's sons, Ed and Dennis, with their wives, Lois and Carol, respectively; and daughters Charlotte Marsh and Arlene Bell. Special guests were Kuba's sister and her husband, Lillian and Bud Sorenson from Orange, Calif. On Sunday, Feb. 6, relatives and friends were entertained at an open house for the Kubas.

Deadline
Items intended for publication must be typed and in the Courier-Journal offices by noon Thursday before the Wednesday publication. The Courier-Journal is located at 114 S. Union St., Rochester, N.Y. 14607.

Seneca Leather 'N' Lace
ALL of Seneca's Services Plus...
LATEST LEATHER SPORTSWEAR FASHIONS
PERINTON SQUARE SHOPPING MALL
MIDTOWN PLAZA 454-6189

For Suede & Leather Cleaning See Us. We're Experts.
1227 Maple Street 328-1736
Seneca Dyers, Inc.
Mon-Fri. 8 to 5:30, Sat. 8 to 1

NEW SHIPMENT OF ORIENTAL RUGS NOW AVAILABLE FOR YOUR VIEWING

Wanted: USED ORIENTAL RUGS
WE OFFER EXPERT CLEANING, REPAIRING, APPRAISING
175 NORRIS DRIVE
275-9250

Est. 1924 • Free Parking • Open: Mon.-Sat. 9-6:30, Thurs. till 9

ARSEN SOLICKIAN
DEALER & COUNSELOR IN ORIENTAL RUGS
175 NORRIS DRIVE ROCHESTER, N.Y.

The Shire at Culverton Adult Home & Village Apartments
for Senior Security and Leisurely Living

The Shire at Culverton Adult Home offers the kind of security & independence and convenience that your loved one deserves with complete personal care including:

- Trained Personnel, 24 hrs. daily
- Intercom Call System
- Security Guards
- Delicious Meals
- Waitress Service
- Beauty, Barber & Gift Shops
- Special Activities Program
- Quiet Park Like Grounds
- Health Club & Green House
- Arts & Crafts
- Weekly Shopping & Field Trips
- Religious Services

Life at THE SHIRE AT CULVERTON ADULT HOME is geared to our residents, their comfort their needs, their interests.

Tours Monday thru Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or by appointment.

TEMPORARY RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME

2515 Culver Road, Rochester, New York 14609

Please Call 467-4544

When a loved one dies, the funeral arrangements are difficult and traumatic. We cannot completely erase the pain and anxiety of this most difficult time, but we will offer guidance and support, following a fifty-two-year tradition of dignity, competence, and understanding.

FRANKLIN GRANATA

POLVINO and GRANATA FUNERAL HOME INC.
FRANKLIN G. GRANATA
371 LAKE AVE., ROCHESTER, N.Y. 14608 458-3341

COURIER
Edit
Wh
Ab
Some
this news
space by
persecuti
Why,
Catholic
concerns
problems
To be
easy one
enough
pages. So
cause of
Thoug
no choice
anyone it
persecuti
is among
Fr. Alb
Shamo
Word for
Happ
Is Tru
In the
Sunday's
Lk. 6/17,
17/5-8. (R2)
20.
Happine
concept,
wants it
The media
thousands
get happin
can be re
persons of
Sunday's
about happ
say that t
piness is j
posite of t
the world
said, "Cur
who tru
beings;"
"Woe to y
trust in thi
not filled
the ear wit
the wise m
myself ho
gardens
acquired r
slaves...
gold and w
all huma
nothing m
I deny...
vanity." (E
St. Augu
from brok
way from
Milan, be
fessions,"
restless ur
Thee."
For the
and the w
so cannot
the triang
the triune
And th
Sunday S
are saying
man who
whose hop
(R1) And
for your
now." (R3)
What b
Jesus wer
one sets hi
all his ener
things the
probably
that, very
ever get. H