

# Along The Way

With Bishop Matthew H. Clark



Jerry is an excellent priest who is going through a difficult time these days

Laura grieves the loss of a mother very dear to her.

Millie and George worry more than they let on, I believe, about the eldest child who can not seem to avoid the edge of trouble.

These are not real names but the concerns are genuine concerns for people very much like you and me.

They are people of faith and hope who believe in the Lord's gift and promise of life: their faith roots them deeply in life and gives them direction.

But they also experience incompleteness and pain and the kind of longing for fullness which is part of all of us.

For them and for all of us I hope this Advent season brings strength of spirit and a renewal of heart. During these days we remember the Lord's care and fidelity. We recall as well His

promise to come again in glory to bring His kingdom to fullness.

The season calls us to remember and to hope; it puts us in touch with the past and the future so that we may appreciate fully the gift of the present.

This calls for an attentiveness not easily realized in our age. It suggests a need for quiet and a sense of anticipation which allows us to be aware even of the quietest grace offered to us.

We are to be like the child who stands on tiptoe lest she miss even the slightest bit of color in the parade. We are to be like the lover of fine wood who gently passes his fingertips over the time-burnished grain of an old cabinet. We are to be like the mother bathing her tiny new daughter. We are to be that attentive, that centered.

That's not so easy in a culture which tends to measure our worth by the intensity of our activity. It can be doubly difficult given what has become an almost irresistible pressure

to begin our celebration of Christmas on the day after Thanksgiving.

No. If we want to celebrate Advent at all, we have to stop and think and pray and decide that we're going to do it.

We have to decide to stand on tiptoe so that we will not miss a single thing the Lord has done for us.

We need to take the time to stop and let our fingers linger lovingly over the wood so that we can know in our bones that God is still active among us.

We must so center ourselves in loving care as to appreciate anew something of what it means that God became one of us.

And all of us should be praying for Jerry, Laura, Millie and George. Their faith is strength for all of us and their longing for the peace of Christ reminds us of where our hearts ought to be in these days.

Peace.

## Ecumenical Freeze Group Sends Message to Reagan, Holiday Card to Andropov

By John Dash

**Cohocton** — Following a meeting after the program "The Day After," the ecumenical People United for a Nuclear Freeze decided to send a message of "support" to President Reagan, informing him that it would pray collectively and individually, "that he would be

open to God's Spirit as it directs him to be a peacemaker," Father Eugene Sweeney said last week.

Father Sweeney is a founder of the organization of church-goers in the Cohocton-Wayland-Perkinsville area.

PUNF also will send a "religious" Christmas card

to Soviet premier Yuri Andropov.

The action, Father Sweeney said, arose from a meeting at which the subject of hope was foremost among the topics discussed.

"Hope is a viable reaction," Father Sweeney said, to the apparition to nuclear warfare. "A lot of emphasis was placed on the virtue of hope. Hope is always there because we still have the opportunity to choose and not unleash the holocaust."

Conversely, "Hopeless comes from Godlessness," Father Sweeney said. "Hope also is in the patience of God: humanity will somehow find avenues of peace."

The meeting, he said, also discussed prayer, its necessity, its importance now so as to make an impact on world leaders.

Included in that idea, he said, is that "social action is one form of prayer."

It was from that consideration, Father Sweeney said, that the group decided to send its concerns to Reagan and Andropov.

PUNF will sponsor its third annual advent gathering of study and prayer for peace, on the theme of "Hope," 6 p.m., Dec. 4 in St. Pius Hall.

The program will begin with a tureen supper followed by a presentation on Christian hope, and a prayer service.

Wayne Hunt is chairman of the organization.

## Anna M. Brady Dies

### Worked Many Years for the Diocese, Described as 'Saint' by Bishop Hogan

"A saint," so described by one of the bishops for whom she toiled, died last week.

In speaking of Anna M. Brady, who died Friday, Nov. 25, at St. Ann's Home, Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, said, "It is probably safe to say that she worked for the Church all her life."

Bishop Hogan was scheduled to be concelebrant at the Mass of the Resurrection scheduled yesterday at Guardian Angels Church. Another longtime friend, Father John E. Roach, pastor of St. Felix in Clifton Springs, was to be a concelebrant.

Miss Brady retired from diocesan service in 1977 and was feted by hundreds at a gathering at the Party House. She had worked for 21 years at the diocesan pastoral center. Before that, she was secretary at Immaculate Conception parish, working 26 years for Msgr. Joseph S. Cameron.

Mrs. Irene Hart was a close friend of Miss Brady since they met in the second grade at Immaculate Conception. "She had no family of her own," Mrs. Hart said, "so we (the Ennis family) considered her a part of ours. And later the Harts, when I got married, felt the same way. I have nothing but wonderful memories of Anna."

An open and cooperative person, Miss Brady nonetheless kept one secret -- her age. Mrs. Hart said with a chuckle, "And I'm not going to tell it now."

Many others have "nothing but wonderful memories" of Miss Brady, including Bishop Hogan, for whom she was corresponding secretary as she had been for Bishop James E. Kearney.

"Anna Brady was a saint, no doubt about it," Bishop Hogan said upon hearing of her death. "Just a perfect person -- one of the greatest. She thought I might have been one of the saints who go marching in. I know she surely was."

"She could have written volumes about the human foibles of those for whom she worked. But the charity that dominated her life urged her to silence. For 'only goodness and kindness followed her all the days of her life.'"

Miss Brady often attached



Miss Brady in typical scene.

clippings of anecdotes to her personal notes, Bishop Hogan recalled, and "I have treasured the ones she sent to me. They urged me on to challenges for better days and better performance as bishop of the diocese."

"She has always been among my priorities -- in the litany of my thanksgiving for the blessings that have graced my life."

At her retirement party, Father Roach, who met her in 1943 at Immaculate Conception, said, "She never said a bad word about anybody."

Because of her position as the bishop's recording secretary, Miss Brady had a particularly close relationship with the diocesan newspaper, the Courier-Journal. Its publisher and general manager, Anthony J. Costello, also remembered her clippings.

"Perhaps we would be having some problem at the paper and I would mention it to Miss Brady. Soon would come a personal note of cheer and usually attached would be an apropos clipping or cartoon which would relate exactly to the problem."

Margaret Connolly, since retired from the Courier-Journal, wrote of Miss Brady in 1977, "She is a stickler for accuracy, a first-class speller, a grammarian. And she is very courteous and humble."

Miss Brady learned such things at Immaculate Conception School and Nazareth Academy. By the age of 18, her family had all died. At first, she went to work for

Kodak but soon joined the staff at Immaculate Conception where she stayed for 26 years until going to work at the diocesan chancery, then at 50 Chestnut Street, in 1956.

The simple death notice earlier this week in the Democrat and Chronicle could not list any relatives but said "Anna M. Brady is survived by her friends, Mrs. Irene Hart, Mrs. Agnes Sentner, Mrs. Mary Rita Donoghue, Audrey and Sam Renna, Clare and Annette O'Reilly and the O'Reilly-Hart families.

Obviously those listed were only those closest to Miss Brady. For her friends are legion.

## Br. Ellis Retains Position

Brother Renatus Foldenauer, CSC, Provincial of the Brothers of Holy Cross and president of the Board of Trustees of Cardinal Mooney High School, has announced that Brother Francis Ellis, CSC, principal of Cardinal Mooney High School, has received an extended one-year term as principal for the 1984-85 school year.

In schools administered by the Brothers of Holy Cross, principals are appointed for a six-year term, and, if warranted, for three one-year extensions. Brother Francis was appointed principal in 1977 and will complete his six-year term in June, 1984.

## WXXI Documentary Wins Cancer Award

"Conquering Cancer," a 30-minute documentary produced by WXXI-TV, has won a top American Cancer Society state

media award for its examination of primary cancer research at the University of Rochester.

Produced by WXXI reporter/producer Barbara Powers for the weekly "21 Report" series shown at 7 p.m. on Saturdays, the documentary won the prize for Best Television Feature.

"Conquering Cancer" followed researchers through their day-to-day activities at the sophisticated U of R Cancer Center, capturing the feelings and frustrations of trying to understand and find a cure for cancer.

The program also detailed the progress being made at the U of R in cancer research.

This is the second year the Cancer Society has honored television, radio and newspapers for excellence in communicating information about cancer.

## 'Nutcracker' Scheduled

The Enid Knapp Bottsford School of Dance will present "The Nutcracker" under the direction of Suzanne Nash and Jurgen Schneider at 8 p.m., Friday, Dec. 9 and 2 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 10, in the East High School Auditorium, 1801 E. Main St.

Guest artists will be principal dancers from the American Ballet Theatre, Marianna Tcherkowsky and Danilo Radojevic. They last appeared together with the Bottsford School in 1979 in the pas de deux from "Le Corsaire."

Tickets and information are available from 586-4605, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

## Father Benwitz, CSB, Dies

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Nov. 22 for Father Donald E. Benwitz, CSB. Father Benwitz, a Rochester native, died of a heart attack, Nov. 18, 1983, in Santa Fe, N.M.

After graduating from Aquinas Institute in 1958, Father Benwitz entered St. Basil's Novitiate where he took his first vows as a Basilian in 1959.

He earned a bachelor's degree in history from St. John Fisher College and a bachelor's degree in theology from the University of St. Michael's College in Toronto.

He was ordained, in Rochester, Dec. 13, 1969.

During his priestly career, he taught at Aquinas and was moderator of the student council there; taught at Andean High School, where he became assistant principal and later principal; and earned a master's degree in Spanish from the University of Notre Dame.

At the time of his death, Father Benwitz was on retreat at the Monastery of Sangre de Cristo in Santa Fe.

He is survived by his sister, Mrs. Geraleen Scalia; his brother, Gary; and several nieces and nephews.



FATHER BENWITZ