

Stop Using My Name, Mother Teresa Asks Foundation in U.S.

New York (NC) - U.S. representatives of Mother Teresa have filed a complaint in New York to stop a group known as the Foundation of Tribute to Mother Teresa from using her name without authorization.

The complaint was filed with the New York state attorney general April 9 by Sister Priscilla Lewis, American superior of Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity. Sister Lewis said she had spoken personally with Mother Teresa before making the complaint.

Using someone's name in fund raising without permission is a misdemeanor in New York.

Lawrence X. Cusack, an attorney for the nuns, said one of the foundation directors, Robert Pearlman, who had written to Mother Teresa, had received a handwritten note asking the group not to use her name.

A copy of her reply, four handwritten pages from Calcutta, India, dated March 17, was included with the complaint papers.

"I have come to the conclusion that 'Tribute to Mother Teresa' is one more way of the rich using the poor to make money," Mother Teresa wrote.

After talking about her work for the poor and dying, she concluded, "Please I beg of you, stop any kind of fund raising in my name. If the people want to learn how to love, how to put their love into a living action, let them come and see. Let them share the joy of loving with the Sisters and the poor and this will be the greatest tribute of love you can give me and our poor."

Transmitting that letter on March 27, Cusack told the foundation's attorney, Robert Solomon, that Mother Teresa in a separate letter to him had asked that the matter be handled "with forgiveness and compassion" in keeping with the spirit of the Holy Year of Redemption. Because of that Cusack said he would give the foundation until April 6 to indicate it would comply with her request.

According to papers filed with the April 9 complaint, the foundation's certificate of incorporation was issued last June 23 and listed as directors Pearlman and Charles F. Brush of New York and Michael Lannon of Greenwich, Conn.

A week later, according to the complaint, Sister Lewis contacted Cusack and asked him to discourage the foundation from using Mother Teresa's name. Cusack wrote Solomon that day, July 1, 1983, and on July 15 had a telephone conversation with Solomon, according to the complaint.

Sister Lewis then discussed the matter with Mother Teresa, the complaint said, and Cusack reiterated the request not to use her name in an Aug. 12 letter to Solomon.

According to the foundation's incorporation papers the purpose of the non-profit agency is to "raise funds to help and nurture needy and abandoned children, to help the poorest of the poor, to enable the destitute to die with dignity, regardless of race, color or religion."

The papers said the foundation would "contribute to organizations providing these

services" and "will not perform the social services itself."

A fund-raising appeal sent by the foundation and included as part of the complaint says, "You can truly make a difference in the world by helping us help Mother Teresa. Please join us."

In a telephone call to the foundation, a man who would not give his name said he would be going to India to see Mother Teresa and clear up the issue. He said that if after discussing the matter she says she wants the foundation not to use her name, it will stop.

The man also said the foundation received a letter from Mother Teresa expressing her approval of what it was doing but said she apparently was now getting "misinformation."

He said he would be taking money that the foundation had raised to Mother Teresa.

Cusack said a lawyer for the foundation had told him the foundation would not necessarily turn over all the funds it raised to Mother Teresa. But even if it did, Cusack said, Mother Teresa would still object to its fund raising because she does not want anybody carrying on a campaign on her behalf or using her name.

Cusack said there had been "quite a few" other instances of people across the country using Mother Teresa's name in fund raising, some apparently with good will and others not. But all are objectionable to Mother Teresa and the Missionaries of Charity, Cusack said.

He said he had written to other groups using her name and most had agreed to stop.



Ice Champions

With a season's record of 23-2 the McQuaid Hockey team went on to win the Monroe County League Section 5 title. Reason for the success? "Hard work, good coaching, terrific team spirit and excellent fan support," said Father James Curry, athletic director. The team is ending its exciting year on the ice with a three-game schedule in Rennes, France. The jubilant hockey players left April 13 for the combined competition and sight-seeing trip.

Whalen Mission Praised

The Mexican missions of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Whalen of Avon, a lay ministry which antedates by more than a decade the official diocesan ministry in Mexico, came in for great praise last week from William Hoefen of Penfield who recently returned from an extensive tour of the missions.

"I spent considerable time at each mission, and I must say they are doing a tremendous work in three separate villages, caring for medical as well as food needs," Hoefen said.

The village of Santa Ana, he said, has a population of about 5,000. The medical mission there "is staffed with a doctor and nurse in addition to the Whalens from 2-5 p.m. each day to care for the needs of anyone who comes to them," Hoefen said.

The staff serves about 40 each day, and dispenses about \$60 in medicines. If patients can pay, they pay. Otherwise everything is free, Hoefen noted.

In a second village, the Whalens operate a clinic 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. each day. Here both medicines and food are distributed.

A medical clinic is conducted from 1-3 p.m. in yet another village.

"Funds for this work are donated exclusively by friends in the United States," Hoefen said.

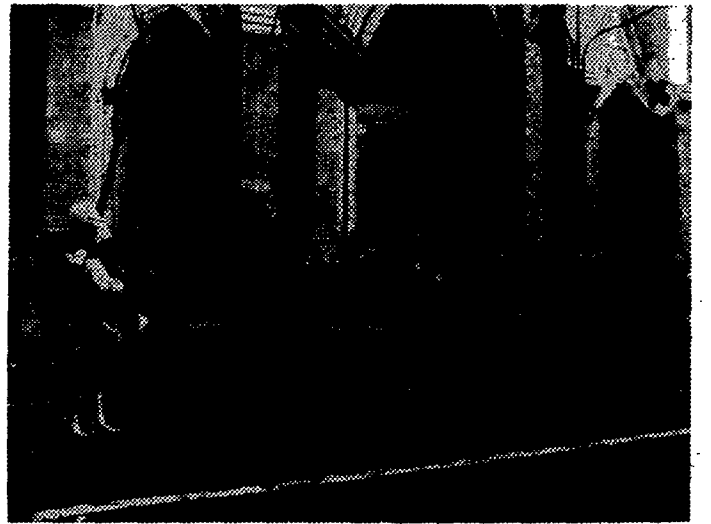
"This couple is doing a great work," he observed.

The Whalens' U.S. mailing address is 1549 Rochester Road, Avon, N.Y.

Junior Miss

An orientation meeting for persons interested in the Monroe County Junior Miss program will be 7-9 p.m., Monday, May 7 in the audio-visual room of Bishop Kearney High School.

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New York Winners

The Bishop Kearney Marching Kings parading by St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City during the St. Patrick's Day Parade. The band took first place in the small band division. Rosalie Gigliotta is drum major.



Korean Martyrs

Framed by Bernini's "Gloria," this painting of the Korean martyrs hung behind St. Peter's Chair in St. Peter's Basilica during the 1968 beatification ceremony of the martyrs. Pope John Paul II will canonize the 100 martyrs May 5 during his visit to Seoul, Korea, in what will be the first canonization outside the Vatican. (NC Photo)

Rivera Wins Award

Nazareth Academy senior Elena Rivera is a 1984 National Hispanic Scholar in the national Hispanic Scholar Awards Program, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. According to school sources, this is the first year the award (a \$1,500 scholarship) has been given and is based solely on academic requirements met through scores on the Scholastic Achievement Test.

Elena is academically first in her graduating class. She is active in the Nazareth Band and has been in the honors program. She will major either in engineering or computer science at Rochester Institute of Technology or Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Elena lives with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Luis Rivera in Gates.

Leukemia Dinner

The Leukemia Society America, Inc., Finger Lakes Chapter is sponsoring a gourmet dinner, "Epicurean Experience" at 7 p.m., Friday, May 4 at the Strathallan. Donations are \$150 per person or \$250 per couple. All proceeds will be used for local research and patient aid for the Leukemia Society.

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