

# Sanctuary Arrests Said Attempt to Quiet Critics

The crackdown on people harboring Central Americans is an attempt "to silence the refugees and the truth about U.S. foreign policy," said Sister Darlene Nicgorski, one of 16 people indicted Jan. 14 for smuggling illegal aliens.

Father Anthony Clark, who was also indicted, agreed. "I believe the refugee situation is threatening the present policy of the U.S. government" in Central America, he said in an interview following the indictments.

"Instead of seeing refugees as people with human rights who are running from a tragic situation, the response is to discredit them," he said. Immigration and Naturalization Service classifies almost all Central American refugees as economic, not political, refugees.

In the Jan. 14 sweep two priests and three nuns were among those charged with

aiding and transporting illegal aliens, and more than 50 illegal aliens were arrested. The indictments were the toughest move by the government against the sanctuary movement, a church-sponsored network of people who shelter Central American refugees.

Duke Austin, an INS spokesman in Washington, said INS was not making a special effort against the sanctuary movement but U.S. Attorney A. Melvin McDonald said the indictments stemmed from a 10-month-long investigation. Chief Prosecutor Don Reno, a special assistant U.S. attorney in Phoenix, said the investigation included "confidential informants" and two undercover immigration agents.

Sister Nicgorski, a member of the School Sisters of St. Francis, said, "I think the government fears are moun-

ting because the refugees are telling the truth, not just hiding. It's a sad day in our country when our government oppresses church workers for carrying out their work."

Sister Nicgorski said she was told she faces seven or eight felony charges and seven or eight misdemeanor charges. "I've got enough years to last me till I get to heaven -- and then some."

She said she was in Detroit for a religious conference when the attorney for the Phoenix Diocese informed her of the indictment. She said she was told that INS agents in Phoenix had gone through her possessions, taking her passport and letters and going through her photo album.

Father Clark said, "I don't know why they think the clergy is conspiring against the government.... No one I know in the sanctuary movement is anti-American. They are people who hear the cry of people who are running from a tragic war that has divided their country."

Father Clark, a priest of the Diocese of Davenport, Iowa, who lives in Nogales, Ariz., said most Americans do not understand the problems in Central America and how much Central Americans love their homelands and want to return home when the fighting is over.

Besides Father Clark and Sister Nicgorski, others indicted included Sisters Mary Waddell and Ana Priester, both Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and Father Ramon Dagobereto Quinones of Nogales, Sonora, Mexico, a Mexican citizen.

Renny Golden, a founding member of the Chicago Religious Task Force on Central America, called the

crackdown "an ominous sign." She said if the sanctuary movement doesn't suspend its activities she expects INS to step up the indictments and arrests even more.

The Chicago task force coordinates the network of sanctuary workers. Ms. Golden said that network is made up of 166 places of sanctuary, including about two dozen Catholic shelters, with about 70,000 people involved.

Many of the sanctuary workers have vowed to continue their efforts despite the crackdown. A rally Jan. 15 in Phoenix supporting Sister Nicgorski drew about 300 people, according to Ms. Golden.

At St. Rita's Church in Detroit a Salvadoran family of four that has sought refuge at the church since July plans to stay on, according to Father John Nowlan, pastor.

"There's no doubt in my mind or theirs that if they returned to El Salvador they would be executed. This really is life and death stuff," Father Nowlan said. "Things are getting worse in El Salvador. There's bombing of villages and burning of bodies so there's no body count."

The Benedictine monks of the Weston Priory in Weston, Vt., another Catholic group involved in the sanctuary movement, plan to continue sheltering a family of seven Guatemalans.

Brother Philip Fronkiewicz, a priory spokesman, said the family considered applying for political asylum but decided

against it because they thought they would have little hope of receiving it and because they felt it would mean betraying the people who helped them in Guatemala.

"Part of the form asks that the applicant indicate where he lived or worked before coming to the United States," Brother Fronkiewicz

said. "A copy goes to the consulate of the country of origin. We feel it's a death list. It's too great a risk; other people's lives are at stake."

Also, INS asks for documentation of persecution, a requirement almost impossible to fulfill in places where "most people don't even read and write."

## Camp Stella Maris Hosts Winter Camp

Camp Stella Maris on Conesus Lake will host its annual Winter Camp Feb.

17-22, during school vacations.

The program includes full room and board, and ski equipment, lessons, lift tickets and transportation to and from Swain Ski Center daily.

Other activities will include sledding, hiking, movies, scavenger hunts, singing and dancing.

The camp is open to boys and girls, ages 11 to 16. Fees are \$175 for the full package, or \$160 if participants bring their own equipment.

Registration forms can be obtained by phoning Camp Stella Maris, (716) 346-2243, daily between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

## Knights Plan Polish Party

A Polish Holiday has been scheduled by the Knights of Columbus Trinity Council 4618 with food at 6 p.m. and dancing at 9 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 16, at the Columbus Center, Barrett Drive, Webster.

Jack Jarosinski's Hy-Tones will provide the music. Tickets are \$2.50 and are available by telephoning 671-3682, 586-4857 or 467-0179.

## DEATHS

### Sister Carlina Mahoney SSJ

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Jan. 19 for Sister Carlina Mahoney of the Sisters of St. Joseph. Sister Carlina died Jan. 17, 1985.

Born in Geneva, Sister Carlina was a member of St. Francis de Sales Parish. She graduated from St. Francis de Sales High School in 1917 and entered the congregation that same year.

She received her professional education at

Nazareth Normal School, and Canisius College in Buffalo. She also did further graduate work at Catholic University of America and the University of Notre Dame.

She was permanently certified to teach in the secondary schools of New York State.

She taught elementary school at Holy Apostles from 1919 to 1925.

In that year she was

assigned to teach at Nazareth Academy, where she remained for 30 years.

She taught at St. Agnes High School for two years, but returned to Nazareth where she continued teaching until her retirement in 1974.

Sister Carlina moved to her congregational infirmary in 1981.

She is survived by a sister, Mrs. Charles (Nora) Campbell of Geneva, and by several nieces and nephews.

### Sister Virginia Romano MPF

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Jan. 21 for Sister Virginia Romano of the Pontifical Institute of the Religious Teachers Filippini, who died Jan. 19, 1985.

Sister Virginia had been stationed at St. Mary of the Lake Parish in Watkins Glen in 1963.

She died and was buried in

Morristown, N.J., her institute's provincial headquarters.

Sister Virginia, a native of Hazelton, Pa., received the habit in 1931 and made her final oblation in 1934.

She served not only as a first grade and kindergarten teacher, but also in the institute's mission parishes.

She retired to Villa Walsh in Morristown 14 years ago.

Sister Virginia is survived by three sisters, Mrs. Lucille Benedetto and Mrs. Grace Campanella, both of New Jersey, and Mrs. Theresa Cushinotto of Pennsylvania; and many nieces and nephews.

### Father Fergus Sheehy CSB

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Jan. 23 for Father Fergus Sheehy of the Congregation of St. Basil who died Jan. 20 after an illness of three years.

Father Sheehy died at the Basilian Fathers Residence in Toronto, and was buried from St. Basil's College there.

Father Sheehy for many years had taught and had served in administration at Aquinas Institute.

He was born in 1906 and ordained in 1935.

In 1937, on the occasion of the Basilian assumption of duties at Aquinas, Father Sheehy was assigned as a teacher. In 1946 he was named principal of the school's freshman division on La Grange Avenue, a post he held to 1950.

He served at St. Michael's College School in Toronto, 1950-51; and at St. Thomas High School in Houston, Texas, 1951-61.

In that year he returned to Aquinas as its principal and

as superior of the local Basilian Fathers Residence.

He served as principal until 1964 and as superior until 1967.

He was then assigned to Assumption High School in Windsor, Ontario, in which place he remained until 1982, when his health failed.

A colleague said of him last week: "All who knew Father 'Ferg' remember his wit, his friendliness and his great community spirit."

### Foil-Ray's™ Reflective Insulation SAVES YOU MONEY

Lowers your Heating and Air-Conditioning Bills

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

ENERJOY® RADIANT HEAT PANELS

Heating comfort on your terms. Takes up no useable space. Warms your floor. Non-Allergenic - No Dust. New construction or remodeling.

Contact Distributor for Information:

Call Charles J. Dispenza

33 Maple Ave., Cohocton, N.Y. 14826

716-384-5110

### HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

The Ability to Write Opens Doors

THE WRITING COURSE is for high school students who must write book reports, papers, & college application essays

Classes meet for 5 consecutive Saturdays beginning January 12 and February 2.

Enrollment is limited. Tuition costs \$185 per session. Classes are held at Nazareth College.

CALL 586-7399



## COURIER-JOURNAL

Wedding Supplement Wed., Feb. 20th, 1985

"Serving 400,000 Catholics" in the Rochester Diocese

Our most popular supplement every year is our Wedding Supplement.

More weddings are performed in the Catholic Church than in any other.

This section, in addition to appearing as a supplement in the issue of Feb. 20, is distributed to couples attending Pre-Cana instruction throughout 1985.

Included in this Bridal Package are 13 one inch ad insertions in a Bridal Guide appearing monthly in the Courier Journal.

- 1/4 page 5 1/8 x 7 inches 295.00
- 1/2 page 5 1/8 x 15 1/2 inches 495.00
- 1/2 page 10 1/4 x 8 inches 495.00
- Full page 10 1/4 x 15 1/2 795.00

Phone 716-454-7050 For Information