

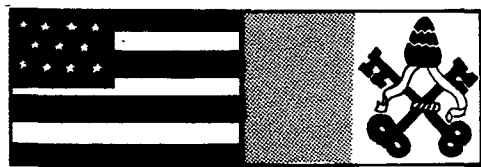
Bus tour around diocese could show church at work

By Father Paul J. Cuddy
Courier columnist

From July 1 through 9, I supplied at St. Ann's Home and The Heritage for the chaplain, Father John Glogowski. It is a pity so many are not familiar with these two institutions, directly across from the 600-bed Rochester General Hospital on Portland Avenue, Rochester.

The original St. Ann's Home was begun by the Sisters of St. Joseph over 80 years ago as St. Ann's Home for the Aged. It was located on Lake Avenue, near the now defunct St. Bernard's Seminary. Twenty-six years ago, during the reign of Monsignor Art Ratigan, who was then director of Catholic Charities, it was transferred to its present location and greatly expanded. St. Ann's is a nursing home. Its adjunct, The Heritage, was built later as a residential home for retired people.

The Heritage has 19 floors, with 10 compact compartments on each floor. Between the two buildings, and conjoining them, is the beautiful St. Ann's Chapel, seating about 300. The Christian spirit, and



ON THE RIGHT SIDE

the fine medical and nursing care makes the place a gem of the diocese.

The administrator is Sister Marie Michelle Peartree, SSJ. A combination commanding officer and drill sergeant, she runs a tight ship. The result is the best of service for patients and residents. Sister Marian, SSJ, has been director of social services for many years, and has developed a staff which is the admiration of similar institutions.

The Sisters of St. Joseph still have some nursing sisters caring for patients. From maintenance to dietary to medical to aides and nurses and to office workers, the whole organization is infused with the spirit of Christ, which was the primitive intention of the Sisters of St. Joseph. When

Father John Glogowski was appointed chaplain, I was disappointed because I knew him as an exceptionally effective parish priest at Holy Family in Auburn. And he was not very happy to be assigned. But in the course of years he has become very contented. It is beautiful to hear the praises: "Father John is so kind and thoughtful." Also he likes humor and tells jokes similar to those of the late Father Kress.

Our diocese does not have a home for retired priests, but we do have Monsignor Les Whalen, Monsignor Charles Boyle, Fathers Michael Wurzer and Vincent LeFrois at St. Ann's; and Monsignor George Vogt and Father Howard Geck at The Heritage. Father Geck is the second oldest priest in the diocese, and he plays bridge each day. The oldest is Monsignor Francis Burns who now resides at the Infirmary of the Sisters of St. Joseph, and entertains them with his piano playing, to their delight.

A large and dedicated group of volunteers come to help at St. Ann's in many

ways: escorting patients in wheelchairs to chapel or treatment rooms; sorting and distributing the mail; reading to patients whose eyes are weak — so many things without which the facility could not function as it does.

I have often thought: "Wouldn't it be good to arrange a tour and let people know of the fine things in the diocese: St. Ann's and The Heritage, a double gem; the Trappist Monastery near Geneseo; Notre Dame Retreat House near Canandaigua; the Cenacle in Rochester; our many colleges and high schools and churches; Mercy and Nazareth motherhouses. Then we have the works for the underprivileged from Corpus Christi and Blessed Sacrament and St. Augustine parishes, St. Joseph's House of Hospitality, Melita and Bethany houses, Sister Pat Flynn's St. Michael's Wood Shop to train inner city youths in skills and discipline." Sometimes people say critically: "What's the Church doing, any way?" The answer is get on a bus and keep your eyes, ears and mind open, and you'll find out.

David decides to engage an 'invincible weapon'

By Cindy Bassett
Courier columnist

"David! David! Come back to the house!" Jesse called out.

When the Philistines had started the war against the Hebrews, David had returned home from King Saul's court so that he could take care of his father's sheep while his three eldest brothers were away with the king's army fighting the enemies.

"Yes, father, what is it?" David asked. "I'm very worried about your brothers," Jesse replied. "There has been no news from them for over a month. Take this food to them and find out how they are doing."

When David arrived at the Hebrew camp, he was puzzled. He had expected to see the troops fighting. Nothing was happening. The Hebrews were camped on one mountain top facing the Philistines, who were positioned on the opposite mountain top. A huge ravine separated the two forces.

"This is what is known as a stalemate," David's brother, Eliab, said as he greeted David.

"The Philistines are certain that no one will be able to defeat their invincible weapon," explained Shammah, another of David's brothers. "They are simply waiting for us to surrender."

"Invincible weapon?" David asked. Just as he asked the question, a voice boomed out from the Philistine side. "Is there no one among you Hebrew cowards who has the courage to accept my challenge?" the voice taunted.

David looked over to the opposing hillside and saw a man who was more than 10 feet tall. This giant wore a full suit of bronze armor and brandished a huge spear. He towered over the other Philistine, who carried his shield for him as strutted back and forth mocking the Hebrews.

"Who is that?" David asked his brother

"That is Goliath, the Philistines' invincible weapon," Eliab answered.

To David, Goliath did not seem to be a man at all, as he stood on the mountain waving his sword and spear at the Hebrews. Rather he looked like a huge winged bird of prey surveying the Hebrew troops, waiting to swoop down on them.

"Every morning and evening for 40 days, Goliath has taunted us with the same challenge: 'One of you come forward and fight me. If you succeed in killing me, the Philistines will be your slaves. If you fail, then you shall be our slaves.'" Shammah told David.

"This Goliath is a heathen who insults our God by his remarks," David said. "Why has no one accepted his challenge?"

"Stop talking about things you know nothing about!" Eliab snapped at him.

"David, I think it's time you go home and tend to father's sheep. Leave the war to King Saul's army!"

David was not dismayed. He continued asking the other soldiers the same question.

"Goliath is too strong for us," one of them said. "It's an impossible task to defeat such a man."

"Even King Saul's generous reward is not enough to convince anyone to try," another said. "It is certain death for the person who goes against the giant."

"We would be willing to fight against these Philistines even though they outnumber us with soldiers, horses and chariots, if not for Goliath. Against him, we are nothing."

"Goliath is the biggest and strongest man I have ever seen," David said. "But



THE BIBLE CORNER

even with all of his might, he will never be stronger than God."

"What are you saying?" a soldier asked him.

"I want to accept the challenge and fight Goliath," David said.

Scripture reference: 1 Samuel 17:1-31. Meditation: "Is there anything too hard for the Lord?" Genesis 18:14.

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EDWIN SULEWSKI
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