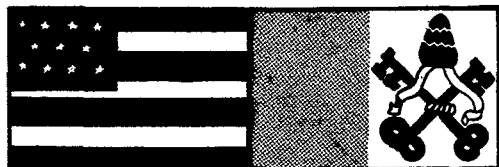


# Some 'fatherly' advice for young Catholics far away

By Father Paul Cuddy  
Courier columnist

From an Army lieutenant: "(I) found out that there is a Cursillo group in Fayetteville nearby. I had attended a Cursillo weekend nine years ago when I was stationed in Savannah. In Kansas I was not able to find any active Cursillo groups in the area. Last month I went to a Cursillo and followed it up with weekly meetings with a small group that meets at Pope Air Force Base. I am glad to be involved. I think that participation in Cursillo will help me to persevere in prayer and evangelization."

He continued, "I have started going to daily Mass at Pope Air Force Base. The



## ON THE RIGHT SIDE

chaplain there gives great sermons. I went to him for confession last week. He reprimanded me for not using the sacrament on a regular basis, strongly suggested that I go to confession every month, and for penance, hammered me with doing three hours of service to the poor through

Catholic Social Services. (I was tempted to say, 'Hey wait a minute. How about giving me three Hail Mary's or something.' But I figured he would just say, 'Not a chance, bub.') I like a confessor who takes an aggressive approach to spiritual development.

Comment: Reading the *National Catholic Reporter* and such, one gets the impression of great hostility toward the church by the young and bright. The lieutenant is a young lawyer, who is married with children. He comes from a strongly Catholic family. He is a graduate of Bishop Kearney High School in Rochester, and has always had a bent for

things of the spirit.

Cursillo has done much to rejuvenate the religious life of many Catholics. There are many "young and bright" Catholics, who have great ideals, and are zealous for Our Lord and the Church. We need more, however.

From a lieutenant in the Marines: "We've been in the Philippines for three weeks and every time I'd try to write, the paper would get so wet from sweat running off my hand that I'd give up. Now I'm back on the ship and there's a little air conditioning."

He continued, "Right now we're about to do a quick operation here in the Philippines and then off to Hong Kong. The first three months of this deployment was filled with monotony, but the next three promise more. H.K., Singapore, Thailand and Hawaii.

I just received notice that I'm enrolled in the K of C Correspondence Course that you recommended. It starts May 15, and I look forward to it with interest."

Comment: The writer is about 24 years old and a graduate of Holy Cross College, Worcester. He is on duty as a Marine in the Far East, intelligent, and still an idealist. I had written to him: "I have the uneasy feeling that you do not know your Catholic religion very well, and I doubt that you learned very much about it at Holy Cross. Why not sign up with the Knights of Columbus Correspondence Course in Religion? The address is: Catholic Information Service, K of C, P.O. Box 1971, New Haven, Conn., 06512.

It would be good if others took the course. This is one of many good services given by the Knights of Columbus.

# Golden rosary links signify faith purified by 'fire'

By Father Albert Shamon  
Courier columnist

Sunday's readings: (R3) John 14:15-21; (R1) Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; (R2) 1 Peter 3:15-18.

There are more songs about love than about anything else. We have so many love songs because we are so in love with love. John is the love poet of the New Testament. In Sunday's gospel, he speaks of Jesus' love for His disciples and all who keep His commandments. Jesus is so in love with us, he can't help saying so and proving it by gifting us with the Spirit. He will not leave us "orphaned," but promises to send "another Paraclete."

The first reading shows us the fulfillment of Jesus' promise. The temperature rises in this reading until the mercury pops out of the thermometer. Philip comes to Samaria, he proclaims the Messiah and miracles happen. The temperature rises. Unclean spirits, being driven out and shrieking loudly, raise the temperature. Paralytics and cripples are cured. Rejoicing reaches fever pitch, and the thermometer pops.

The apostles in Jerusalem can hardly believe their ears: "Samaria has accepted the word of God?" They send Peter and John. The two pray and impose hands — as bishops do at confirmation — and the Samaritans receive the Holy Spirit.

The fruit of the Spirit is to change people into loving, peaceful, and joyful persons.



## A WORD FOR SUNDAY

Such a change can bring about one of two reactions. For some people it will stir up questions: "Why are they like that? Why have they changed? What has caused this?" And this wordless witness will draw them to the faith.

Others might attack those who have changed for the better, as often happens to those who defend the moral law. In such cases, Peter counsels us not to react in kind, lest we become like our persecutors. Rather, speak "gently and respectfully;" let your behavior be beyond reproach. Better to suffer for being good than for being evil. That was the way it was with Christ.

A phenomenon that occurs frequently to pilgrims going to Medjugorje is to have their rosary links turn golden. This happened to a friend of mine. Her rosary broke at home, so she took it to a jeweler in Auburn.

While he was repairing the rosary, she told him how it had turned golden. He laughed and said it was simply tarnish. "This happens often," he said. "We have an acid solution that will turn it back to its

original color."

She asked him to put her rosary in the solution and he did. Nothing happened; the rosary remained golden. The jeweler, who was of Jewish faith, was puzzled. He couldn't understand it.

One night while giving a talk in Liverpool, I was asked what is the significance of rosaries turning golden. At that time, I hadn't thought much about it. So I whispered a quick prayer to Mary for help. And I felt she answered it, for an explanation came that seems so correct to me.

In turning rosaries gold, Our Lady is simply calling her children to higher sanctity. Gold is purified by fire, so our faith is purified by suffering and the cross — if we accept our sufferings and crosses, as Jesus did.

By the rosary change, Our Lady is saying, in effect, "mature now. Don't waste your daily crosses by complaining and rejecting them; accept them as did my son and these will purify you and sanctify you."

Mary, in other words, is calling us to become more like her Son — the ultimate desire of her motherly heart.

## CFC programs to benefit from thousands in new grants

ROCHESTER — Catholic Family Center has received six grants in recent weeks totaling \$18,200.

The center's Amerasian Refugee Resettlement program received \$5,000 from the John Wegman Foundation and \$3,000 from the Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation; the Women's Place, a homeless shelter program, received \$2,000

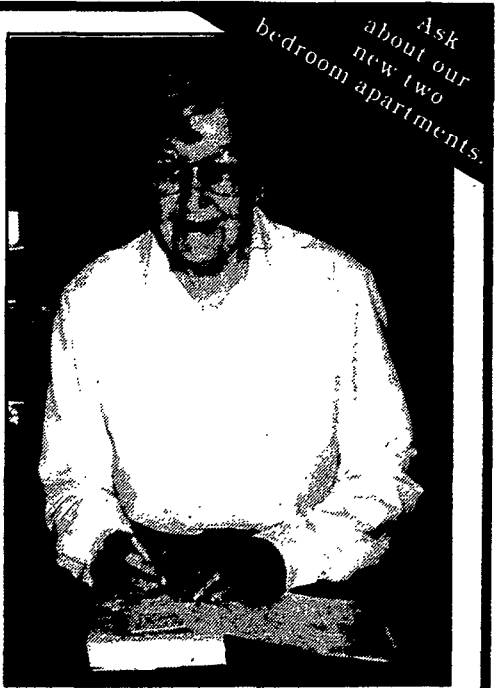
from the Martin Luther Foundation; a media campaign to promote adoption received a \$5,000 from the Fred and Floy Willmott Foundation; The Rochester Area Foundation donated \$2,500 for a micro-computer system to be used in fund development for the center; and the Great Lakes Foundation gave \$700 for a mentoring project for disabled youth.

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FUNERAL DIRECTOR**

**When should we get back to a regular routine after a loved one dies?**


No two people react in exactly the same way to the death of a loved one! Some people do well by plunging into old routines or setting up new ones. Others need time to adjust without the deceased. They need time to express feelings, to learn new ways of doing things and to put affairs in order. The critical matter is that the grieving person be aware of and willing to deal with the changes death has created. Activity solely for the purpose of escaping feelings and running from the pain will not work. On the other hand inactivity can further depression. The newly bereaved should take time to deal with feelings and then begin the tasks necessary to make life meaningful.

We purchase all forms of insurance to protect our family & assets, not because we expect the worst to happen, but to be prepared. Doesn't it make sense then to prepare for what will happen. Let our trained counselors assist you with the many options available in planning for a worry-free future.

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