

World War II vet spends his free time serving others

Senior instructs parish's acolytes

By Rob Cullivan
Staff writer

ROCHESTER — Arthur M. Englert possesses many of the same qualities as the altar servers he has been training for several years at St. Andrew's Parish, 923 Portland Ave.

Like an acolyte waiting at the table of the Lord, Englert spends a portion of his free time helping others enjoy the banquet of life.

And just as the humble altar servers maintain the pacing of Mass by assisting the priest, the self-effacing Englert keeps the rhythm of many hearts constant by attending to their needs.

The parish's selection of an 83-year-old man to train children as altar servers says volumes about Englert's character, remarked Father Ronald W. Stacy, pastor of St. Andrew's.

"He's got that kind of upbeat personality that can relate to younger people as well as older people," Father Stacy observed. "He can joke with you. He has no ego trip."

Indeed, getting Englert to talk about his numerous volunteer activities is like persuading a magician to reveal his secrets.

"I don't want to be a big hero," Englert told the *Catholic Courier* as he reluctantly spoke of his service to the church and the community.

Fortunately for those who do consider him a hero, Englert was formally recognized in May as the 1992 "Catholic Layman of the Year" by the Monroe County Catholic War Veterans. Englert served as a technical sergeant in the infantry during World War II campaigns in North Africa and Italy.

"He's an excellent man, and he never refuses anything," commented John A. Sdoia, a trustee with the veterans' group. "These kind of men are very few."

Sdoia's viewpoint is shared by many



Arthur M. Englert (left), a volunteer at St. Ann's Home/The Heritage in Rochester, is known for his good sense of humor and community service, which earned him the 1992 Catholic Layman award of the Monroe County Catholic War Veterans. Anthony C. Antrita (right), also a St. Ann's volunteer, cannot resist contributing to the portrait of his fellow St. Andrew's Church parishioner.

Babette G. Augustin/Photo editor

of the employees at St. Ann's Home/The Heritage, 1500 Portland Ave. Since 1979, Englert has put in more than 1,500 hours of volunteer service at the home, pushing residents' wheelchairs, manning bingo games and generally making wisecracks to amuse all within earshot.

"All the residents love him," commented Barb Joyce, St. Ann's, coordinator of volunteer services. "I've called him lots of times at the last minute," added Joyce, who termed him one of the home's most reliable volunteers.

Marianne Bement, a visiting phlebotomy technician, echoed Joyce's remarks.

"He's always got a smile, and he's

always working his tail off," she said.

Englert credits his love of service to his love for God — a love that he has developed over the years through such activities as weekend retreats.

"It's so good when you come out of a retreat," he said. "To think you can accomplish something — to talk to the Lord!"

Along with the faith of his late wife, Mary, Englert's devout Catholicism apparently helped to inspire his daughter, Elaine, to become a Sister of St. Joseph. Sister Englert, principal of St. Theodore's School in Gates, recently began a sabbatical in San Antonio, Texas, her father said.

Englert said he and his wife were

surprised by their daughter's decision to pursue a religious vocation.

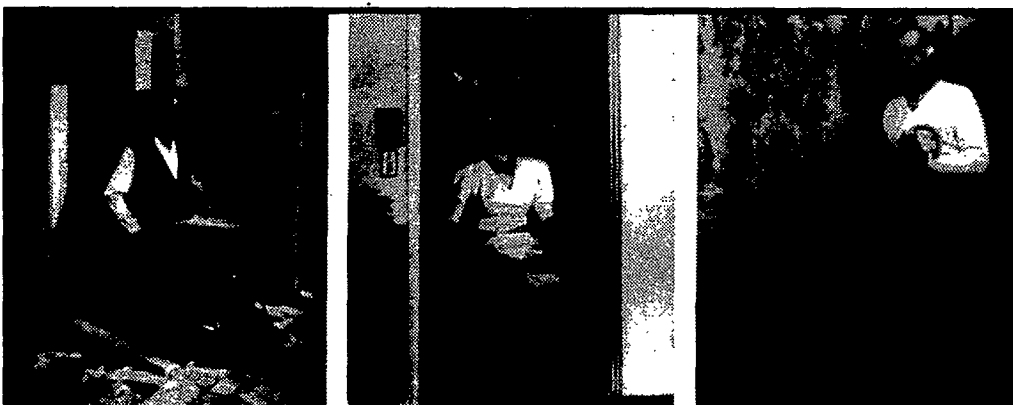
"I didn't believe her. She had a good job at a bank," he recalled.

Nonetheless, the Englerts were delighted that Elaine wanted to become a woman religious.

"At least I knew where she was going to be — you know, in this day and age," he said half-jokingly.

Despite the religious commitment he and his family — including two sons — share, Englert quickly points out that neither he nor any other member of his family is a "religious fanatic."

"We raise hell, and have a couple of beers," he asserted with a laugh.



Eliminate Architectural Barriers

Regain full use of your home, office, church or school.

- Residential Elevators
- Wheelchair Lifts— vertical or inclined
- Stairchairs— curved or straight

Midstate Elevator offers the largest selection of lift products in New York state. With 11 locations we are sure to have an office near you.

Call today for a free consultation and survey

1-800-962-5749

Midstate Elevator

EST. 1964 ROCHESTER: 716-454-4160 CO. INC.

ALBANY • NEW YORK • GLEN FALLS • THRU CAHNS • PLATTSBURGH
POUGHKEEPSIE • ROCHESTER • SYRACUSE • UTO • WATERLOO

RETIRE or JUST ENJOY LIVING

on
Beautiful HONEOYE LAKE
at
Honeoye Valley Mobile Home Park
268 West Lake Road, Honeoye



- ★ SET UP, SKIRTED AND READY TO MOVE IN ON LARGE TREED LOTS.
- ★ Honeoye Lake just steps away; walk-to boat slips available next door.

- ★ Quality Skyline homes
- ★ 1 Year complete warranty
- ★ Low maintenance
- ★ Water, sewer & refuse removal included in lot rent.

Come and see our selection of NEW single and double wide homes now on display!

Homes presented by:
BORDER CITY
MOBILE HOME SALES, INC.
OPEN 7 DAYS 9 TO 7 • 367-3545

OR VISIT OUR MAIN SHOWROOM AT 322 RTS. 5 & 20
IN WATERLOO — OPEN 7 DAYS 9:30 - 5:30