

Trip fosters thoughts of church's vitality

By Bishop Matthew H. Clark

I begin this week's "Along the Way" at the Palisades Retreat Center in Federal Way, Washington. I came out here on Sunday afternoon in response to an invitation to lead a retreat for a group of priests of the Seattle archdiocese. Now, on Friday morning, these good men are on their way home and I am soon to leave for the Seattle-Tacoma Airport for the flight back to Rochester.

It has been a very rewarding experience for me to visit that local church and to have had the opportunity to spend such privileged time with its clergy. I'd like to tell you why:

1.) Such opportunities as this one allow me to express, to live out in some modest fashion a dimension of the bishop's ministry which I can too easily forget in the press of daily activities. That dimension is to keep a lively care for all the churches and not for just the particular church in which one may serve. Bishops are ordained to the college of bishops — all the church's bishops with the Holy Father as first among them — for the care of the whole church. To visit Seattle has been an opportunity both to express that dimension of the bishop's ministry and to appreciate more deeply its importance.

2.) In the course of normal relationships and exchanges of ideas we carry on with other local churches I have found that we in Rochester have benefited a great deal from the vision and pastoral imagination of our friends in Seattle. I think of such things as pastoral planning, education for ministers and sound personnel policies for ministers in the church.

3.) The Church of Seattle has endured a great deal of pain and suffering in recent years. I have always admired the good heart they have shown in the midst of all that and welcomed



ALONG THE WAY

the chance to express my admiration and gratitude to them through this visit.

4.) I have long been an admirer of retired Archbishop of Seattle Raymond Hunthausen. His example of honesty, of pastoral care and of openness to his people's hearts and spirit have always spoken strongly to me about the office of bishop in today's church.

5.) Last, but certainly not least, is the fact that I was invited to come to Seattle by its current pastoral leader, Archbishop Thomas Murphy. I first met Tom in the mid-1970s when he visited Rome and stayed with us at the North American College. At that time he was a priest of Chicago and rector of their seminary at Mundelein. I was much impressed by Tom at the time. In the years since we have been bishops we have served together on two committees of our conference and — through that experience — my regard for him has only grown.

This gives you a sense of why I was happy to accept the invitation to come to Seattle for this retreat. Let me end this piece by telling you

why, now that the retreat is over, I am doubly happy that I came. I'll mention three main reasons:

1.) I found the priests who attended the retreat to be lively and warm, hospitable to me and to one another. They communicated a sense that, while there is much diversity among them, they have a genuine affection and respect for one another and a deep love for the people among whom they serve.

In addition, I was much nourished by their willingness during the course of the retreat to trust me and one another with their personal experiences of and hopes for ordained priestly ministry. Their ability to reflect with care on the experience of yesterday and today will, I believe, strengthen their capacity to deal with tomorrow's challenges.

2.) The Church of Seattle experienced earlier than we the need to make strong adjustments because of vocation issues. As a result they have some experience in responding to this challenge, which may prove helpful to us in our own work. It was good to have the opportunity to hear and ask questions about their pastoral initiatives in the relaxed context of the retreat.

3.) Whenever I return from such trips — and this one to Seattle is no exception — I do so with a heightened awareness of how energetic, creative and lively our own community is. It's wonderful to know the goodness and life of another community such as Seattle. It's a double blessing that an experience like that is a reminder that God is good to all of us, to all of our communities in a remarkable variety of ways.

I thank my friends in Seattle for making me so much aware of that last week. I thank you for making me so much aware of that every day of the year.

Peace to all.

Get your '94-95 Diocesan Directory! Available Now!

This 150-page loose-leaf book is your guide to every parish, office, agency and organization in the 12-county Diocese of Rochester. It contains telephone listings for all clergy and church personnel, as well as complete Mass schedules for every parish in the diocese!

Mail orders may be placed by sending the coupon below — with payment — to the address indicated on the coupon.

★ NO PRICE INCREASE ★

Directory Pages with Binders	Directory Pages only
1-3 sets \$15 each	1-3 sets \$9.50 each
4 or more sets \$12 each	4-6 sets \$8.00 each
	7 or more sets \$7.00 each

1994-95 DIOCESAN DIRECTORY c/o CATHOLIC COURIER
1150 BUFFALO ROAD, ROCHESTER, NY 14624

Enclosed please find \$ _____ for _____ page sets only
Enclosed please find \$ _____ for _____ page sets with binders
Total enclosed: \$ _____

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

(Please make checks payable to Catholic Courier Directory)



Catholic Courier (USPS 135-580) Vol. 106 No. 16 January 26, 1995
Published weekly except the last Thursday in December.
Subscription rates: single copy, 75¢; one-year subscription in U.S., \$20.00; Canada and foreign \$20.00 plus postage. Offices: 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624, 716/328-4340. Second-Class postage paid at Rochester, N.Y.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Catholic Courier, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624

A donation to help support THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS will be greatly appreciated.

THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY?
— FOR HOLY CHURCH AND FOR PRIESTS —

O my Jesus, I beg You on behalf of the whole Church: Grant it love and the light of Your Spirit and give power to the words of priests so that hardened hearts might be brought to repentance and return to You, O Lord.
Lord, give us holy priests; You Yourself maintain them in holiness. O Divine and Great High Priest, may the power of Your mercy accompany them everywhere and protect them from the devil's traps and snares which are continually being set for the souls of priests.
Copyright © 1987 Congregation of Marianas, Eden Hill, Stockbridge, MA 01282

May the power of Your mercy, O Lord, shatter and bring to naught all that might tarnish the sanctity of priests, for You can do all things. I ask You, Jesus, for a special blessing and for light for the priests before whom I will make my confessions throughout my lifetime. Amen.
Mass-Rosary-Fasting-Day Offering
Eucharistic Adoration
Offering of Sufferings
Divine Mercy Chaplet
Or whatever the Lord inspires you to offer Him on behalf of His Priests.

FEBRUARY, 1995

DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER, NY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
For subsequent months or extra copies, write to: THE MPRP, 70 Green Knolls Dr, Apt. A Rochester, New York 14620-4746	Rev. Frs: 1 Robert L. Collins	2 Daniel J. Condon	3 Gerard T. Connor	4 Mark Curesky, OFM, Conv	5 William J. Donnelly	6 Robert J. Donovan
7 Ronald A. Antinarello	8 Michael J. Bausch	9 L. James Callan	10 Donald J. Haycock, CSC	11 John Polukis, CSB	12 Jose Quintero	13 Urban Snyder, OCSO
14 Joseph A. Trovato, CSB	15 Edward L. Palumbos	16 John A. Reddington	17 Winfried M. Kellner	18 Roman Golemba	19 Mark A. Miller	20 Victor W. Bartolotta, Jr.
21 Rt. Rev. John Eudes Bamberger, OCSO	22 Edward Golden	23 Ronald P. Frederick	24 John A. Lynch	25 John J. Philipps	26 Paul R. Schnacky	27 Louis A. Sirianni
28 Charles T. Manning	*The 1995 MPRP Calendar year begins February 7th					

Look for next month's MPRP CALENDAR in the Catholic Courier's FEBRUARY 23rd issue.