



PAGE ONE

ALL

By Norman L. Grant

## Hosting Cardinal

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bernardi of 479 Prospect St., pause with Mario Luigi Cardinal Ciappi of The Vatican, seated, in the couple's Woonsocket home yesterday. At right is the Rev. Rinaldo Angelico Zarlenga, OP, the cardinal's secretary and a Vatican artist.

# Woonsocket Welcomes Vatican Cardinal Ciappi

By FRANK VISGATIS  
Call Staff Writer

Woonsocket opened its doors and its heart today to Mario Luigi Cardinal Ciappi, OP of the Vatican, and it did so with simple grace and dignity.

Theologian of the Pontifical Household of Pope Paul VI in Rome, Cardinal Ciappi is the honored house guest of Mr. and Mrs. Fred (Carmelia) Bernardi, 479 Prospect St.

But, although personal friends of the Cardinal, the Bernardis shared their

See Editorial

Page 8

esteemed visitor with friends, relatives, city officials and Union St. Jean Baptiste

Society.

Marking the first time in more than a decade that a Cardinal has visited Woonsocket, Mayor Gerard J. Bouley proclaimed "Cardinal Ciappi Day" as part of the ceremonial welcome.

Last night the Cardinal was hosted by the Bernardis at a private reception — more than

Continued on Pg. 11 Cardinal

## Bishops Honor Cardinal

Participating last night at a private reception for Mario Luigi Cardinal Ciappi, seated, at Kirkbrae Country Club, Lincoln, were from left standing, Auxiliary Bishop Kenneth W. Angell of Providence; Archbishop Lajos Kada of Costa Rica, apostolic nuncio and Bishop Ernest B. Boland of Pakistan. More than 100 guests feted the visiting cardinal.



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## Cardinal

Continued from Page 1

100 attended — at Kirkbrae Country Club. At noon today he was guest of honor at a special luncheon at Union St. Jean Baptiste Society, 1 Social St. The Cardinal also toured the Woonsocket-Harris Public Library and the police station.

The quiet, 68-year-old prelate seemed surprised that people were making such a fuss. But he was candid about his impressions of the city and its people.

Elevated to Cardinal June 27, His Eminence had visited here last summer, also a guest of the Bernardi family. His affection for Woonsocket has deepened and he spoke about the hospitality and good will of those whom he has met.

"I will convey those thoughts to The Holy Father when I return to Rome," he said.

The Cardinal is accompanied by the Rev. Rinaldo Angelico Zarlenga, OP a Vatican artist. Father Zarlenga is serving as secretary for His Eminence. Among the Cardinal's observations here was the fact that ethnic groups maintain cultural and religious ties with "the motherlands of France and Italy." He said he admired Woonsocket people for "being so faithful to their traditions and their Roman Catholic faith..."

Cardinal Ciappi received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree Aug. 4 from Providence College. And while in the United States for that purpose, and others, he decided to visit his friends — the Bernardi family. The Bernardis own and operate Commodore Cleaning Co., 157 Front St.

The friendship between the Cardinal and the Bernardis began in 1972. The Woonsocket couple has visited His Eminence at The Vatican on several occasions including audiences with His Holiness Pope Paul VI.

While in Woonsocket, the Cardinal eats his meals at the Bernardi residence and sleeps at St. Anthony's Rectory. Tomorrow he will be principal celebrant at a Solemn Pontifical Mass at 5 p.m. in St. Anthony's Church. The parish choir will present a special musical program. Sunday afternoon he will depart for Boston and a visit with Humberto Cardinal Medeiros before flying to Dublin, Ireland.

But, in the meantime, Woonsocket is savouring his visit and feeling quite honored that a "right hand man" of the Pope took the time to brighten the city with his presence.

Carmelia Bernardi, who is fluent in the Italian language, has no problem conversing with the Cardinal, and she discovered "an easy way" to his heart — through his stomach. She has been cooking

Cardinal Ciappi's favorite Italian recipes including soup with cappelletti, ravioli, and other ethnic "delights."

The Cardinal commented on "the very good cuisine," its tastefulness and "abundance."

Born in Florence, Italy, in 1909, Luigi Ciappi lived most of his youth in the region of Tuscany. Joining the Dominicans at a very young age, he was ordained a priest in 1932. One year later he received his doctorate in theology at the Pontifical International University of St. Thomas in Rome. As Master of Students and professor of theology at the University, he inspired many young men to the priesthood including Father Zarlenga.

Pope Pius XII named then Father Ciappi to the post of Master of the Sacred Palace in 1955. He has served under three Popes, Pius XII, John XXIII and Paul VI as official theologian. He has also served as the Consultor to the Segreteria di Stato of His Holiness and to the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith.

In June of this year, he became only the 20th Master of the Sacred Palace to be made Cardinal in 750 years. Of historical interest, the first Master was St. Dominic himself, founder of the Order of Preachers (OP) as the Dominicans are officially called.