

## How Can I Counteract My Husband's Bad Example?

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I'm very worried over the example my husband is giving our four children by missing Mass and general indifference towards any of the tenets of our faith. He's quite stubborn and unstable, so that if I make the slightest criticism, he simply "stares me down" and tells me to save my own soul. Since the children hate him, as they should, how can I counteract his bad example?

I don't have to tell you, Marie, that you face a real challenge. Children live in a small world, and the most important people in that world are their parents. Because they love and admire their father and mother, parental example speaks more effectively than words.

As one cynic has remarked, "Children are good mimics; they act like their parents in spite of every effort to teach them good manners!" Modern psychologists point out that this tendency of the child to make his own attitudes, feelings, and even gestures—and little mannerisms of his parents—is basic in the formation of his personality.

They call this process identification. The child tries to make himself like that is, he identifies with his parents.

The serious obligation of parents to lead good Christian lives follows from this normal tendency in children, whether they like it or not. Parents serve as models for their growing children. They may be good models or poor ones, but their example always remains powerful.

Considered from this viewpoint, parenthood is necessarily a perfecting and sanctifying vocation because it seriously obliges fathers and mothers constantly and consciously to be on their good behavior. Once they bring children into the world, parents have no choice but to serve as their models.

In this connection, Christian parents would do well to meditate upon Our Lord's truly frightening condemnation of those who dare to scandalize "His little ones." It's evident from your letter, Marie, that you're fully conscious of your parental obligations. As you say, "You're working overtime trying to counteract the example of your husband." One point in your favor, of course, is that, at least in the early years, a mother's influence on her children tends to be much greater than the father's.

She does more for them, she is with them more, and in their little world she tends to be by far the most important figure. However, as children grow older, the father's influence tends to increase, particularly in regard to attitudes and practices not directly related to life in the home.

As you clearly recognize, this is a delicate problem. On the one hand, you want your children to love and respect their father. They stand in need of his affection, instruction, guidance and direction.

Nevertheless, they are soon going to recognize the difference between what you teach them, together with what they learn at school, and what their greatly admired father says and does. How can you preserve their love and respect for their father, yet teach them not to imitate his bad example in regard to religious attitudes and practices?

There are several possibilities, Marie. First, try to get your husband to understand his serious obligations to be an example and model to his children. Point out to him



that they are getting old enough to see the contradiction between what they are taught at school and what he does.

Remind him that he stands to lose respect and status in their minds if he refuses to change. Don't give the appearance of comparing him to yourself or of passing judgment on the state of his soul, simply appeal to his love for his children and common sense as a father and head of the family. Sometimes men who are unmoved by all other arguments will make remarkable changes for the sake of their children.

Further, as your children become more mature, you must help them to understand that religion is a highly personal matter. It deals with their personal relationship to God.

Each must accept Christ personally and individually.

### Parents Told

## Test Vocations In Seminary

Cleveland — (RNS) — Too many Roman Catholic parents try to "test" the vocations of their children in the wrong place, the new president of the Serra International warned here.

Dr. Frank J. Hanrahan Jr., father of seven and director of internal medicine at St. Vincent Charity Hospital, was elected Serra president at its recent convention in Pittsburgh. In an interview, he pointed out that the "life of the world" is not the place to "test" a boy's vocation; the right place is a minor seminary.

IN NO SENSE of the word, he insisted, is the boy who leaves the seminary a failure. On the contrary, he's wise to find out early in life if he really has a vocation.

Parents shouldn't be too anxious to tell their religiously-minded children "to wait a few years," Dr. Hanrahan said. Studies have shown that the majority of priests and religious have made up their minds before the eighth grade.

It's important to remember, he said, that in addition to the grace of the vocation itself, there is the grace of perseverance. Too much harping that a child is too young to know, sending him to a co-ed high school and allowing them to get too deeply involved in the distractions of the world can prove harmful to the grace of perseverance in its early stages, Dr. Hanrahan believes.

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## Ten Priests Named Monsignors

(Continued from Page 1)

Our Lady of Lourdes in Brighton. The present church was built and dedicated before the end of the year 1937. He was transferred to the parish of St. Ambrose Church, Rochester, where he is currently engaged in supervising construction of a new parish church and expansion of school facilities. Estimated cost of the combined project is approximately \$90,000. A successful fund drive to raise \$375,000 was held in 1957 which soared over the goal to total \$535,458 to finance the building program.

Rt. Rev. Msgr. John E. McCafferty, J.C.D., a native of Geneva, was ordained in 1945 following studies at St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries. He was assigned his doctorate in canon law in 1949 at the Catholic University, Washington. He served as curate at St. Mary's Church, Canandaigua, and at Immaculate Conception Church, Rochester, and as director of the Family and Child Care Division of the Rochester Catholic Charities. He was appointed official (presiding judge) of the diocesan Tribunal in 1951. The Tribunal decides cases concerning the validity of marriages according to Church law and other cases involving litigation in religious matters.

Rt. Rev. Msgr. George J. Schmitt, for fifteen years assistant pastor at St. Boniface Church following his ordination in 1934, was named to establish the new St. Anne's parish adjoining that of St. Boniface. He directed construction of the frame church which was dedicated by Bishop John O'Hara, and is director of Rochester in 1930. This building is currently being dismantled to be used in the Town of Greece for the new St. Lawrence parish. A new and larger St. Anne's Church was dedicated in 1931, a parish hall in 1934 and a \$300,000 school in 1949. After 20 years as pioneer pastor of St. Anne's, he was appointed pastor of Holy Family Church, Rochester, June 20, 1959. He has renovated parish properties there, including decoration of the church. He personally donated the main altar as a memorial to his parents. Monsignor Schmitt is widely known for his interest in dramatics, organizing theater groups at the three parishes he has served.

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Leo G. Schwab has spent over 35 years of his priestly career in Elmira. Following ordination in 1918, he was five months curate at Immaculate Conception Church, Rochester. He was then named assistant pastor at St. Patrick's

Washington — (NC) — Luke E. Hart, Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus, has presented Archbishop Patrick A. O'Boyle of Washington with a check for \$500,000 which completes payment of a K. of C. pledge of one million dollars for construction of the national shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Mr. Hart came from the Knights headquarters in New Haven, Conn., to make the presentation. Archbishop O'Boyle accepted the check in his capacity as a member of the board of trustees of the national shrine.

The campaign will be known as the "Knights' Tower," in honor of the donors. The pledge of funds for the campaign was announced by Supreme Knight Hart on March 31, 1957, on the occasion of the unveiling in Waterbury, Conn., of a bronze statue of Father Michael J. McGivney, who founded the K. of C. in New Haven, 75 years earlier.

The pledge represents payments by all the K. of C. councils in the U.S.

City, Elmira, Dec. 12 of the sixties. He became pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Leicester, with missions at Bedford and Retsof in 1934 and returned to Elmira in 1940 to organize the new Our Lady of Lourdes parish there, first parish established by Bishop Kearney since his coming to the Rochester Diocese in 1937. Monsignor Schwab built the gothic stone church which was dedicated by Bishop Kearney in 1941 and a recently completed new school. He was named Dean of the Chemung-Schuylkill Diocese June 20, 1958.

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Leslie G. Whalen, World War II chaplain, was ordained in 1938 following studies at St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries. He was assigned to special assignments at St. Mary's Church, Auburn, and later at St. Peter and Paul's Church, Elmira. During the war he was a Navy Chaplain serving the Fourth Marine Division in the Pacific area and

was later elected national chaplain of the veterans of the Veterans Association in 1946. He was named assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church, Rochester, and four years later given additional duties as vice chancellor of the Diocese. Pope Pius XII named him a papal chamberlain in 1956. Monsignor Whalen became pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Brighton, March 4, 1958, and he was made a diocesan consultant in June of that year.

Very Rev. Msgr. George A. Cocchi, J.C.D., at 35, is the youngest of the diocesan priests to receive the Vatican honors this week. He was ordained by Bishop Kearney at Sacred Heart Cathedral June 11, 1949, and named curate at St. Jerome's Church, East Rochester, in 1951. He was assigned to special assignments at the Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, where he attained his doctorate in canon law in 1954. He was then named notary of the Diocese and

following year was made vicar chancellor. He attended St. Patrick's Cathedral school and St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries.

Very Rev. Msgr. Edward J. McAniff was ordained by Bishop Kearney at Sacred Heart Cathedral Dec. 18, 1943. His first and only parish assignment was as curate at the Cathedral where he served for eleven years. Besides his parish duties, Father McAniff aided in arrangements for diocesan rites held at the Cathedral including pontifical Holy Week ceremonies to receive the Vatican honors, ordinations, and other special church services. He is well known for his adult instruction courses given annually in the Cathedral parish which have introduced scores to the Catholic faith. He became secretary to Bishop Kearney June 28, 1955, a position which takes him throughout the Diocese to assist the Bishop in solemn ceremonies.

Very Rev. Msgr. Richard M. Quinn has spent most of his years in the priesthood training seminarians to step into the priestly ranks. He has been rector of St. Andrew's, the diocesan preparatory seminary at 1150 Buffalo Road in suburban Rochester since 1956. Prior to his appointment as rector he had been eleven years a member of the seminary's faculty teaching American and European history and French. He was also moderator of the Newman Club of the Eastman School of Music. He attended Immaculate Conception school, Rochester, Aquinas Institute, St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries. Following ordination in 1930, he served St. Cecilia's Church, Rockaway, St. Mary's, Denyville, St. Nicholas, Passaic, parishes in the Paterson, N.J., diocese and as spiritual director of Pope Pius XII Memorial high school, Passaic. He then returned to Rochester to be curate at Holy Cross Church, Rochester. He has done graduate work at Columbia University and Canisius College where he won his master's degree. He is currently working towards his doctorate at Ottawa University.



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