

Are We Getting Soft on Sin?

By DENNIS J. GEANEY, O.S.A.

The Catholic Church to many members is no longer a hard religion that makes demands that are backed with penalties that stick. Renewal people are accused of being soft on sin and "kookie" on love.

I would like to take up these charges. What people mean when they say that renewal people are eliminating sin is that they no longer bear serious violations of laws denounced unequivocally as mortal sins. Maybe they figure that priests cannot holler and holler about going to hell for missing Mass on Sunday because the clout for eating meat on Friday is gone.

A priest who threatens people with hell fire for using the pill might wake up and read in the morning paper that the Church has withdrawn its prohibition. Formerly we measured sins, whether it was in dollars and cents—for stealing—the amount and kind of exposure in women's wear, or the length of kisses on dates. Today this kind of precision in measuring sins is gone.

Biblical View of Sin
No, sin has not gone, but rather the stop watch, tape measure, rule book approach which Christ condemned in dressing down the Pharisees. We are coming back to the biblical view of sin which is far more pervasive than the neat rules by which Catholics lived. Sin in the biblical sense is an alienation from man and God. It is setting up ourselves the center and measure of all our actions.

On Measuring Sin
Most of us have really no awareness of how really sinful we are. The rules approach took us off the book. It was the

check-off system. A clean slate meant sinlessness. In the old system some people often felt the need of feeling sinful so that they could enjoy the therapeutic effects of a good spiritual bath. The way it was done was to get an old time prayer book or stations of the cross and read prayers about how you are the most wretched and vile among the sons of men and deserve the worst and most indescribable forms of torment. I suppose that someone could write a Games Religious People Play.

If I want to see the sinfulness in myself I need the help of someone who would reveal to me what his candid camera finds me doing. I was visiting a businessman. We began to talk about a competitor who had recently had his store robbed and seriously damaged. His words were sorrow-filled, but his face was radiant with joy. He had no awareness of his own sinfulness.

I know the direction in which my life must move, even if I say, "Lord, not yet." An awareness of my sinfulness can be a source of compassion. The most unlovely people you meet are the righteous, the people who let you know what clean, moral lives they live. The alcoholic and the prostitute can seem like great Christians when compared with the righteous church-going, non-drinking, sexually chaste parishes who makes life center around himself, thus separating himself from his fellow-man and thus from God. The tragedy is not simply that he is a sinner, but that he's unaware of his sinful condition.

Have no doubts. Sin is here to stay. Our greatest confrontations with our sinfulness seems to come in honest conversations with a friend or a friendship group who are not afraid of telling each other what they see in one another. Situations in which we are either willing to take off our mask or permit it

Takes Ambulance To Jubilee Mass
Confined to her home for the past 10 years as a result of multiple sclerosis, a Greece woman was still able to attend a Mass on the occasion of her 25th wedding anniversary.

Navy Reserve Lists Courses
Cmdr. John G. Putnam, Jr., Commanding Officer of the Naval Reserve Officer School located in Buffalo, said that courses would be offered to all Naval Reserve Officers in the following subjects: Nuclear Power, Meteorology, Fundamentals of Science, Oceanography, Space Technology and Counter-Insurgency, Thursday evenings, 8 to 10 p.m., with registration to be held the first Thursday after Labor Day; classes continue through the end of June. The school is conducted at the Naval Reserve Training Center at the foot of Porter Avenue in Buffalo.

Fleming Parish Lists Barbecue
Parishioners of St. Isaac Jogues Church, Fleming, will hold their annual chicken barbecue and bazaar on Sunday, August 27.

Journalist Enters TV Field
London — (NC) — Desmond Fisher, former editor of the Catholic Herald, British national Catholic weekly, has been appointed deputy head for news for Radio Telefis Eirann, Ireland's national radio and television network.

CYO Membership Drive Will Kickoff on Sept. 13

The 36th Annual Catholic Youth Organization Membership Campaign will be held September 13-25 according to Paul B. Schmidt, CYO Executive Secretary.

The goal of this year's campaign is \$57,000, an increase of \$2,000 over the previous year. General Chairman will be Herbert G. Lettau, 233 Raines Park of the Marketing Staff of the Rochester Telephone Company. Bishop Sheen is Honorary Chairman.

Three Division Chairmen will assist Lettau. Dr. David Springer, 784 Oakridge Drive, Manager of Planning and Administration at Gerco will head Special Sponsorship. Elmer A. Frank, 148 Cuyler Parkway, President of the Collinger Corporation will be in charge of the Men's Division.

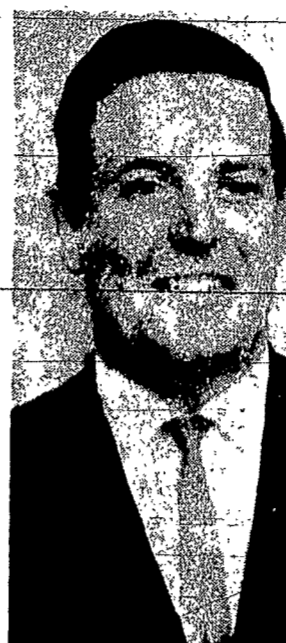
Mrs. Donald (Judy) Bardell, 190 Rock Beach Road, will be Women's Division Chairman.

The CYO provides the Rochester Community with a wide range of professionally planned and supervised recreational programs for all ages, regardless of race, color or creed. During this summer it embarked on new programs to serve the inner-city youths. Summer day camp programs for inner-city children were held at St. Martin DePorres School for Gorman-Hand Street children and at the Mercy Mission Center on Joseph Ave.

CYO inaugurated a new Recreational Playground in the Manhattan-George Street area and continued its successful Inner-city Job Placement Program for finding summer jobs for inner-city youths.

Sponsorship members have enabled CYO to further this kind of service to the community and to provide over 500 CYO memberships to needy children of various charitable institutions.

The Kickoff Luncheon meeting takes place in the CYO Ballroom on Sept. 13 at 12:15 p.m.



PAUL B. SCHMIDT Announces CYO Drive



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For awards to become fact, not just fable!

Yes, friends, time is fleeting. JUST THIRTY-SEVEN DAYS remain in this Second FUND-Raising POP Game! Where will your group be in the final tally... It depends on you! One or two label-savers cannot achieve POP success, but every member co-operating will bring your organization to the top. The magic words are "SHOP POP, SAVE POP LABELS!"

AND DO KEEP THOSE KEY LABELS COMING. HERE'S A GRAND OPPORTUNITY TO WIN A REAL BONUS FOR YOUR GROUP. KEY, YOU KNOW, IS AWARDED TWO WEST BEND COFFEE URNS... ONE TO THE GROUP WHICH TURNS IN THE LARGEST NUMBER OF LABELS AND THE OTHER TO THE GROUP WHICH TURNS IN THE LARGEST NUMBER PER MEMBER. SO KNUCKLE DOWN, FOLKS, AND START CRACKING FOR KEY.

When we hear the term "gourmet food" we usually think of caviar from Russia, pate de foies gras from France, etc. in other words, food with a continental background.

There's another food, much more popular than the above, which can also claim a continental even classical heritage. This is the well-known and much-enjoyed sausage. There were Chinese, Greek and Latin versions before the dawn of Christianity. Many of the sausages consumed in the U.S. bear the name of the country or city where they were first manufactured—Salami, ologna, Lebanon, Fomina. In fact what we call the hot dog and think of as typically an American product, actually originated in Frankfurt, Germany.

Some years ago we visited the site where "frankfurts" were first made and sold. We were told that this shop dated back to about the 15th century. At the time of our visit, the shop had a high outside "bar". Here the customer purchased his frankfurt, considerably bigger than our hot dog, and stood on the street eating it in his fingers. Large whole dill pickles, eaten in the same fashion, accompanied it.

Austria also had its "wurst" or sausage. Wieners, for example, originated in Wien or Vienna. From here came the first known formula for encasing sausage in a skin.

The American frankfort in a roll was first introduced in 1883 by a St. Louis sausage maker. (Previously he had supplied his customers with a white glove!) It was not until the early 1900's, however, that the term "hot dog" came into use. Coined by a sports cartoonist after a famous baseball game, it has ever since been closely allied with outdoor sporting events.

At Rochester's Maplecrest Sausage Company, the venerable sausage-maker's art is combined with modern scientific know-how. Techniques that require hand operation and individual skill are used together with those that permit volume production, ensure sanitation and long life, and utilize advanced packaging concepts. Vacuum process wrapping, for example, assures the consumer of getting a fresher product, high in nutritional value.

Founded 20 years ago by the Zamliara family, Maplecrest is the only Rochester sausage company that bears the U.S. Inspection seal, a prerequisite for shipping across state lines.

Over the years Maplecrest has introduced many new products. Recently it has successfully sold an old-fashioned "Pop-Open" hot dog designed for outdoor grills, a line of "heat and eat" Polish and Italian sausages and the frozen "Sea Breeze Hot Sauce". The latter is a meat-based barbecue sauce that despite limited distribution, has become very popular in both the Buffalo and Rochester markets. As for that old standby, baloney, this venerable favorite will be around for a long time to come, according to Anthony Zamliara, plant president.

When you're driving out Ridge Rd. West, take a look at the Maplecrest building. Its brickwork won an award for a local craftsman.

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Columbia Banking	POP Receipt for opening a new savings account of \$50 or more, or adding to your existing account
Krey Canned Meats	Label
Loblaws Century	Cash Register Tapes
Maplecrest Sausage Co.	Label from any Maplecrest product
Pepsi Cola Diet or Regular	Bottle Cap
Prince Macaroni Products	Box Front
Royal Desserts	Box Front
Russers Hats and Cold Caps	Label
Wite Potato Chips	Bag or Box Top
AMUSEMENTS:	
Sound of Music, The Bible	Ticket Stub

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AT THE CLOCKS

Jesuits Say Iraq Will Not Close Catholic University

Boston —(RNS)— A spokesman for the New England Province of the Society of Jesus said that newspaper reports in Iraq that Al Hikma University would be closed were false.

The university, conducted by the Jesuit's New England Province, has been a target of repeated attacks in the Iraq press since the Arab-Israeli war.

The report that the university would be annexed to the government-operated Baghdad University was published in Al-Thawra-Arabiya (The Arab Revolution), daily organ of the Arab Socialist Union.

Father Francis W. Anderson, director of the province's Mission Bureau here, said that he had received a cable from Father Richard J. McCarthy, S.J., president of Al Hikma, which said, "Report of Al Hikma closing false" and instructed the provincial headquarters to reassure faculty members who were en route to Baghdad.

No further details were immediately available from Baghdad. One source of resentment among Arab extremists reportedly is the fact that Al Hikma is the only university in Iraq which admits Jewish students.

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