Intercommunion Gaining in Popularity

Strict Catholic doctrine and discipline forbidding - intercommunion - Catholics receiving Communion at Protestant services or Protestants being given Communion at Catholic Mass — has long standing force and clarity.

But some Catholics and Protestants are disregarding the lines of discipline and theology both in small "underground" gatherings and large urban churches where only a small part of the congregation is known to the celebrant. Disobedience is rationalized by the belief that intercommunion will promote Christian unity. The following roundup indicates recent actions and reactions in a growing controversy between strict doctrine and practice.-The Editor.

While theologians of many Churches still have reservations about intercommunion, the practice itself, with or without ecclesiastical approval, is rapidly becoming both more widespread and more public.

A new level in Catholic-Protestant intercommunion was reached at the recent-meeting of Latin American bishops in Medellin, Colombia, when five Protestant delegate-observers took Communion at a Catholic Mass with the approval of the bishops.

This incident has touched off reactions at the Vatican.

A month before the Medellin incident, a number of Catholics took Communion during a Protestant service at the Fourth General Assembly of the World Council of Churches in Uppsala, Sweden. When the intercommunion was publicly reported, Church officials hastily pointed out that these Catholics were not Group

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part of the official group of delegate-observers.

The Church's reaction to the intercommunion at Medellin was sharper, perhaps because the persons involved were official Protestant delegate-observers and prominent Catholic officials.

When news of the intercommunion became public knowledge on the international level, almost a month after it took place, the Vatican's reaction came from the Church's most prominent and respected specialist in ecumenical relations, Augustin Cardinal Bea, president of the Secretariat for Christian

Cardinal Bea's statement assumed that the intercommunion had been permitted because of a misinterpretation of his secretariat's May 1967 Directory on ecumenical relations. The Directory, partially implementing decisions of the Second Vatican Council, bad authorized "limited" intercommunion in situations of "urgent personal need."

This authorization is restricted to members of the Orthodox Churches and does not include Anglicans and Protestants, Cardinal Beasaid. Protestants, Cardinal Bea

"It is not sufficient that a Christian belonging to one of the confessions mentioned is

spiritually well-desposed and freely solicits Communion from a Catholic nainister," he

"There are two other conditions to be fulfi lled — that a person has toward the Eucharist the same faith professed by the Catholic Church and that he is not able to secure the ministrations of his own confession."

Father God Frey Diekmann, 0.S.B., a liturgist at St. John's University, Collegeville, Minn., has exiticized the Directory for granting less than the Council's Decree on Ecumenism in the area of intercommunion. In an address to the Fifth National Workshop on Christian Unity last June, Father Die kmann noted that the Vatican Council sanctioned inter-communion, not only in cases of necessity but also "for the restoration of Christian unity."

He quoted the provision of the Decree on Ecumenism "The course of action to be adopted is to be decided by local episcopal authority, unless otherwise provided for by the national bishops' conference or by the Holy

This sentence was dropped in the Directory Eather Dickmann observed. In connection with both intercommunion and liturgical experiment, he asked, "Can a decision of a General Council be rendered void in this fashion?'

While it was asked before the Medellin intercommunion, Father Diekmann's question is given further point by this incident, where the officials of a Latin American bishops' conference did, in fact, permit intercommunion "for the restoration of Chris-

A strong grass-roots desire for the removal of restrictions on intercommunion was indicated in a survey of suggestions submitted to the Detroit Archdiocesan Ecumenical Commission, Msgr. Albert A. Matyn, head of the commission, said that a number of persons had suggested intercommunion on special occasions such as weddings. Others, he added, believe that Catholics should be able to fill their Sunday Mass obligation by attending any Christian service.

United Methodist Bishop James K. Matthews, chairman of the Division of Christian Unity of the National Council of Churches, expressed a view widespread among Protestants when he said that Cardinal Bea's limitation of intercommunion is "understandable but disappointing.'

sity, on the generation gap.

Feast of Christ the King.

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are invited to bring interested friends,

Discussions which include He noted that some other intercommunion among other Christian Churches also have topics are currently taking reservations about intercomplace among the Roman Cathmunion and that full sharing olic, Orthodox, Anglican and of the Eucharist "is still a Lutheran Churches.

Barnaby Faherty, S.J., history professor at St. Louis Univer-

Auxiliary will march into Holy Rosary Church at 8:45 a.m.

tercommunion.

tian unity.

glimpsed from afar."

In a sense, intercommun-

ion is the iceberg of the ecu-

menical movement — an is-

sue and an activity that lies

almost entirely beneath the

This remark applies not

only to the physical act of in-

tercommunion, which often

takes place privately; it is

equally true in the realm of

Below the issue of the shar-

ing of Communion are many

other concerns: the nature of

Christ's presence in the Eu-

charist; the function of ec-

clesiastical authority and the

Among denominations in which Communion is given to all who seek it are the Methodists, Presbyterians, Disciples of Christ and the United Church of Christ. some Baptist groups do not practice open Communion, but the American and Southern Baptist Conventions leave the decision to the local congregations.

Orthodox Churches generally practice intercommunion only with other Orthodox Churches and many Lutheran denominations have only of late begun conversations on full - scale . intercommunion among themselves.

movement toward decentrali-The Anglican Communion zation in the Catholic Church; has taken steps toward limithe meaning of the Eucharist ted, mutual intercommunion as sacrifice, as meal, as a with other Churches and alsource of grace and as either ready has special provisions a sign or a promoter of Chrisfor ecumenical occasions. In the U.S., the Episcopal Church has approved the giv-The simple act of receiving ing of Communion to baptizthe Eucharist inevitably has enormous ramifications since ed Christians of other denominations at ecumenical gatherit is, for a large segment of Christianity, the central, basic ings and "in circumstances of act of worship. Churches individual spiritual need."

which do not give primary Although no reliable figemphasis to the Eucharist, ures can be obtained, it is generally-those with less hiergenerally believed that interarchical structure, have no communion occurs most often particular difficulty with inin the "underground Church," where concelebration is also a common practice and denominational differences are usually de-emphasized. The practice is becoming increasingly public, however, at ecumenical gatherings

Diocese Establishes Board of Appeals

Worcester, Mass. — (RNS) — Establishment of a Diocesan On Channel 10, at 8:45 Sunday morning: Father William Council Board of Appeals, to parish council majorities was announced by Bishop Bernard J. The Knights of St. John and members of the Ladies Flanagan in a pastoral to priests of the Worcester diocese.

Sunday for their 28th annual corporate communion on the The pastoral called attention to the fact that the right of appeal also is open to any in-Area Lay Carmelites, chapter meeting at 3 p.m. Nov. 3 dividual "who feels that his personal rights as a member of the parish council have been HOSTESSES. Earn your own Christmas toys FR. EE. Have a C and B Toy Party, Call 254-6546. in St. Joseph's Church, Father Sebastian Falcone, O.F.M. Cap., of Geneva, will be introduced as spiritual director. Members the parish council have been denied him."

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sister, Mrs. Dorothy Feller Schneider.

last week in Baltimore for his

Mrs. Schneider

Deaths

DeWaim Feller, Florida; Jack Hornell - Father Orrin W. Feller, assistant pastor of St Feller, Baltimore, and Raymond Ignatius, offe-red a funeral Mass Feller, Roch€ster.

Schneicher, wife of Jacob A. Survi yors imclude two daughters, Mrs. William Chesney and Mrs. Paul Pratt, Baltimore; a sister, Mrs. Margaret Zak,

Rochester; and three brothers,

CHURCH

Adjust Mis

By Father P. David F.

Earlier this year Msgr.

Donohue touched off a good-

troversy at the San Franci

vention of the National Cath

cational Association. He cal

serious examination of pric

Catholic education and sugge

the first priority be education

urban ghetto. Later in the co

he was supported in his c

priorities by Harold Howe,

Commissioner of Education

diocesan inner-city schools b

ed next year and increasing

at the Pastoral Office of

schools, Msgr. Donohue's su

subsidies paid to inner-city

may deserve a longer look

if the protagonists could

a basic ground for discus

One is seriously questioning

ture of the Catholic educati

The issue is whether the

for that educational system

still the general parochial a

The Bishops of the Unite

By Barbara Ward

What are the positive a

of channeling a greater prop

Funds for economic dev through international age

through such institutions

World Bank and its subsid

International Development

tion (IDA), through the Inte Monetary Fund (IMF), or th Nations—Development (UNDP)?

The first argument is th

of approaches to the provisi

velopment funds which these

make possible. With the gu

an exceedingly expert staff, t Bank makes loans, at co

rates, for basic needs like

power, and is increasingly i

in agriculture. Although it

in the lending business for n 20 years and has a volume of

about \$1 billion a year, th

been no defaults on its len

its financial rating is held to

This fact shows the cowhich cases are chosen.

commercial interest rates

have been afforded. It also

remarkable contrast with

"internal improvements" in ed States or loans for Latin

Development ended in bank

the 25 state governments

In the 1840s, for instance,

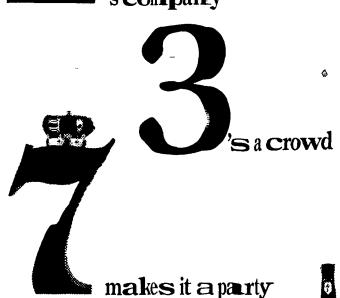
made the parish school syst

san high school setup.

It would help the dialogu

With the prospect of on





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By FATHER ROBERT A. (

Special Corresponder Vatican City - (RNS) flurry of rumors and cha

Vatican confirms that the w the Dominican theologian ar Father Edward Schillebee now being examined by the gation for the Doctrine of t formerly the Holy Office. I is no question of a "trial, speaking.

The Congregation, it is sai ply carrying out its assigned of keeping abreast of cont theological thought.

"It is normal," said the spokesman, "that the Sacred gation for the Doctrine of should

Analysis

He denied that there is

what comes later? If, in fact,

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What's Happening In the Diocese

For the Holy Childhood School, which relies on tuition, gifts and such fund-raisers as this spaghetti supper tonvorrow night 5 until 9 at Cardinal Mooney High School, by the Parents

A book review-function at the Rochester Club Oct. 29 will be the first fund-raiser of the new Women's Auxiliary of St. Martin de Porres Center, Mildred C. Boylan will review Robert Massey's "Nicholas and Alexander" at noom, preceding lunch For reservations Mrs. Andrew SteInyk, 266-5077, or Mrs Robert Brown, 544-7627.

A fashion show, luncheon and bazaar . . . all this and baby sitting, too will be offered by the Seton Branches at their annual sale Nov. 7 in the nurses' residence, St. Mary's Hospital On sale from 9 to 4 a book of members' favorite recipes, handmade holidays accessories, baked_foods, Italian imports Lunch at 11, 12 45 and 130. Mrs Joseph Deane, heads the sale commuttee, Mrs. Richard Schuhart, the luracheon.

Bayariam atmosphere will pervade McQuard Saturday night with the hall decorated as a German Beergarden and the Schuplattler Group of the Bavarian Club providing the music for the Parents' Club Oktober fest

Rosary Guild opportunity sale of clothing, household equipment, books, toys and baby gear, with coffee and doughnuts the while-10 am until 4 pm. Saturday at Holy Rosary school hall. Senior citizen handicrafters fr omsix countries will sell

their products Tuesday, from noon until 8 p.m., in the basement of the Rochester Gas and Electric Building, East Ave. Marrus Alexis, president of the Urban League and pro-

fessor of business at the University of Rochester, will review "THE CONFESSIONS OF NAT TURNER" by Wil liam Stryon, in the lunch hour series at Rochester Public Li brary, 12:13 At Memorial Art Gallery, a one-day exhibition and sale

of original graphics Wednesday The collection in cludes lithographs, etchings, woodcuts and silk screens by old masters

At Our Mother of Sorrows, Christmas cards are on sale now that the church may be air-conditioned next summer. Ladies Catholic Benevolent Association-Advisory Senate meeting 8 15 pm Monday, our Lady of Perpetual Help hall.

Ladies of the Albambra, postponed until 12 3 0 pm. Tuesday, at K of C clubrooms, Monroe Ave Bowling party at Clover lanes, 2750 Monroe, at 2:45 p.m.

Sunday, sporsored by Catholic Alumni Club for sangle college

Cardinal Mooney Women's Guild, 8 pm. Monday at school.

Two parish card parties tonight St. Joseph's, Penfield. at 8.30 and Corpus Christi at 8, by the Rosary so-cieties. Chicken dinner tomorrow night, 530 to 9, at Most Pre-

Seton Branch 83, Saturday lunch with Mrs. William G. Martins, 2022 Edgemere, 1 p.m.

At St. Josaphat's car wash Saturday by eightlæ grade girls. Catholic Adults Club chicken barberue and square dance Sunday at 3, Mather of Sorrows school hall.

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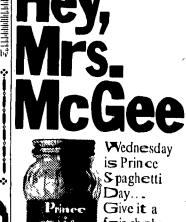
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The Schillebeeckx case is ings should be found to

thing. Th gians r greatest of investi research

tation of ly that these interpretation denature the doctrine but he