

Law Dean For Legal Abortion With Clear, Strict Safeguards

A Jesuit legal expert called for the abolition of all criminal sanctions against abortion in an address given at McQuaid Jesuit High this week.

Father Robert Drinan, S.J., dean of Boston College Law School, while not denying the traditional view of abortion as immoral, argued that it should not, in pluralistic America, be regarded as a legal crime.

He suggested instead that there be substituted legal safeguards which would at least:

- minimize the number of fatal deaths;
- avoid the imposition of sectarian

beliefs on those who do not accept them;

• assure that women seeking an abortion would be treated humanely;

• provide all possible safeguards to prevent any erosion of public respect for the sanctity of life.

If abortion on request were legalized, Father Drinan continued, it should include a mandatory waiting period with competent counseling for a woman seeking abortion. Repeal of the present "unenforced and largely unenforceable laws against abortion" would decrease the disregard and contempt for law which the widespread defiance of any law always breeds, he stressed.

In pressing his case, Father Drinan admitted that such a change in abortion laws would indeed "withhold the state's firmest protections — its criminal sanctions — from human beings during the first 20 weeks of their fetal life."

The painful dilemma facing Catholics in the abortion issue, he concluded, is whether to throw the Church's prestige and power into retaining present abortion laws — against the sincerely held convictions of many non-Catholics or non-believers — or to risk the verdict of history that the Church was silent when "misguided men sought to permit the extermination of undesirable and unwanted human beings."

\$30,000 Will Benefits Education

Miss Elvira Paolone, 76, who died Dec. 18, left the bulk of her estimated \$30,000 estate to the Rochester Catholic Diocese "to be used for religious education of Catholic children attending public schools."

Miss Paolone, who lived at 116 Rockingham St., retired in 1967 after 50 years of teaching religion in Rochester parochial schools. On her retirement she was given a 50-year award by the local Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.

Msgr. Albert H. Schnacky, diocesan director of the CCD, recalled this week that Miss Paolone had said she began teaching religion in 1917 at Mt. Carmel School to children attending public schools in that area.

Other parishes where she similarly served included St. Anthony of Padua, St. Patrick and St. Andrew.

Msgr. Schnacky noted that Miss Paolone never drove an automobile, making her trips by street car and by bus. She often visited the home of some of the children she taught.

Msgr. Schnacky added that he could not recall any other bequest similar to Miss Paolone's specific designation that the money be used "for religious education of Catholic children attending public schools."

A \$1,000 bequest goes to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, \$2,000 is set aside for Masses, and \$500 is given to each of five nuns. The remainder of the estate goes to the Diocese.

Laity, Pastors Seen Key To Education Program

Successful coordination of the parochial programs of Christian formation will depend on broad assistance from the laity and pastors in every parish, 10 newly-appointed priests-coordinators decided in their first organizational meeting last Thursday.

Father Albert Shamon, diocesan director of the Office of Christian Formation, who convened the overnight meeting at the Notre Dame Retreat House, Canandaigua Lake, said that "communication with pastors and mustering of lay advisers in every parish" would be first steps in the Spring survey now beginning.

"We must get a profile of the religious teaching programs in every parish — how the procedures for First Confession and Communion are carried out, the scope of CCD and adult education and even pre-school instructions — before we shall structure our diocesan program."

The 10 priests detailed to coordinate all religious education in the diocese are: Fathers Robert Kanka,

James A. Schwartz and Foster Rogers for the Rochester area; also Fathers John L. O'Connor for Newark area; Robert Miller for Geneva; John J. Gogowski, Auburn; David N. Gramke, Ithaca; John M. Mulligan, Elmira; Robert G. Magin, Hornell; David P. Simon, Avon area.

Other participants and advisers in the meeting were Msgr. Albert J. Schnacky, Father Daniel Holland and Sister M. Eugenia Lange, RSM, representing CCD programs in the diocese; Mother M. Helene, SSJ, Father Leopold Protomastro, director of Adult Education Courses program, Father Edwin B. Metzger, St. Bernard's Seminary faculty, and Mr. Arthur Maurer, adviser for the CCD Board and Christian Formation Office.

The interrelation of religious training programs for children and evening courses for adults will be studied by the coordinators. Their stated aim is the desired "Christian Formation" is to "help all the people of a parish make a Christian response to God and neighbor."

'Christ Is Our Peace,' Minister Tells Parish

"Christ is our peace — in Him, in His love, we are one."

This was the theme of a homily delivered at Masses last Sunday from the pulpit of Christ the King Church by the Rev. Marvin Chandler, associate director of the Rochester Area Council of Churches.

It was the second occasion on which the Rev. Mr. Chandler had mounted the pulpit during Sunday Masses in a local Catholic church. He spoke at Masses a few months ago in Sacred Heart Cathedral.

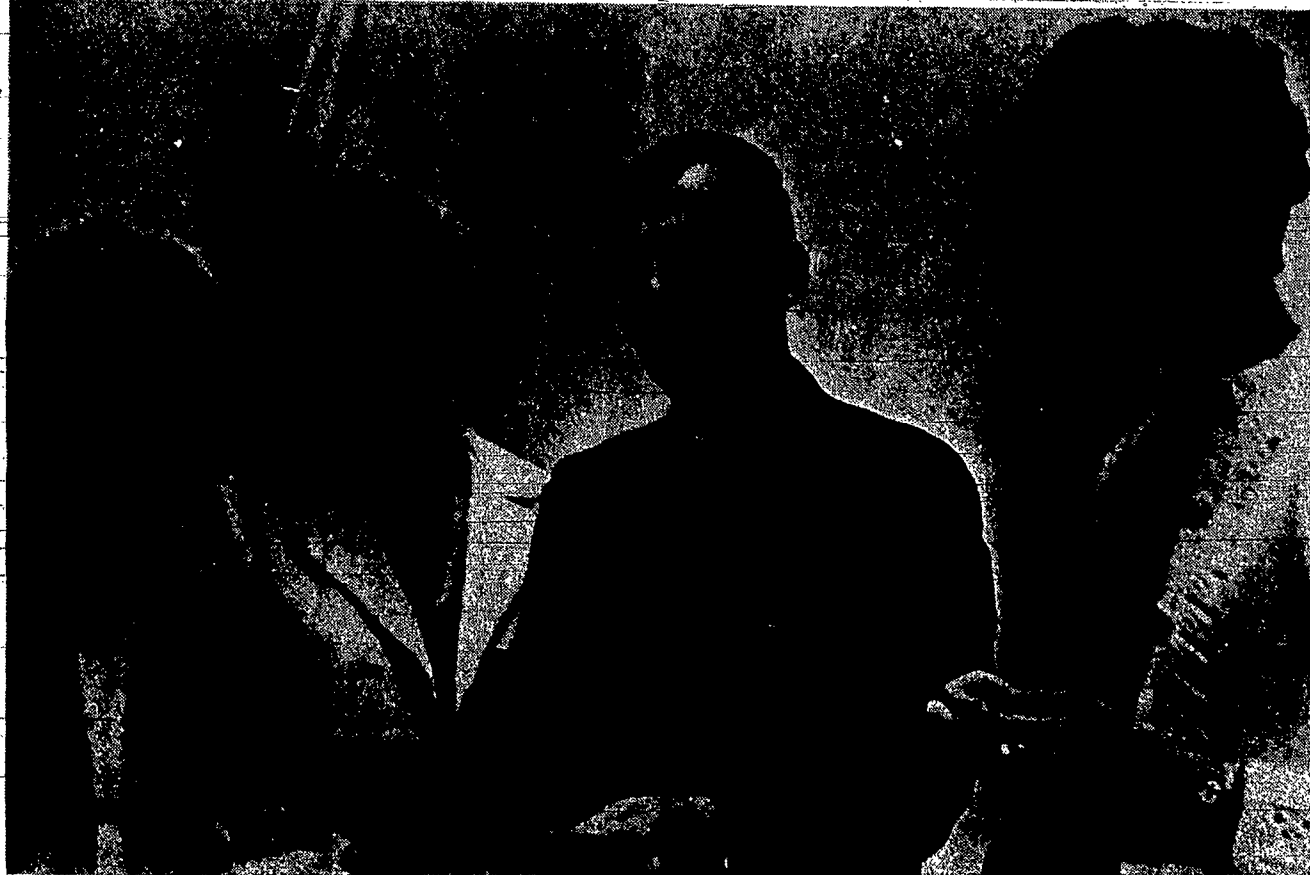
Mr. Chandler noted that there are "walls" of hostility, prejudice and mistrust which must be torn down if society is to make progress. Some of the attitudes, he said, are merely psychological.

Love of neighbor, he asserted, is centered in love of Christ. "Only when we commit our lives, our bodies, our spirits, our resources and ourselves fully to Him," he added, "will you and I realize that in Christ we all are one."

Lay Catechist Institute Scheduled April 26

The second annual Lay Catechist Institute is scheduled Saturday, April 26, at Mercy High School.

Attending will be Confraternity of Christian doctrine personnel and lay teachers from throughout the diocese. Reservations, with a fee of \$5, may be made at the CCD Office, 50 Chestnut St.



SECULAR MISSION DESCRIBED—Father John J. Hempel outlines work of diocesan Secular Mission among poor in seven counties of diocese at recent meeting of Rosary Guild of Sacred Heart Cathedral. Guild leaders (from left) are Mrs. Joseph Shannon, Mrs. Maurice Culhane and Mrs. Paul Tuttle.

Sister James Appointed To National Committee

Sister Mary James Lynch, SSJ, administrator of the Community Teacher Program of the Center for Cooperative Action in Urban Education, has been asked to serve on a national panel of consultants for Early Childhood Education.

There will be 15 members of the panel, which will serve as an advisory committee under the Education Professions Development Act administered by the Bureau of Educational Personnel Development.

The bureau works from the Office of Education of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare in Washington, D.C.

The Early Childhood Personnel program is designed to meet both quantitative and qualitative personnel shortages in programs which serve young children. Training projects to be supported will be for aides, teachers, administrators, and other leadership people. The emphasis will be on pre-school and kindergarten years but the scope of the program will extend through the early elementary years.

Sister James is in her third year of directing the Community Teacher Program of Project UNIQUE in Rochester. It now includes 12 teachers, 280 pre-school children and 46 parent aides.

Each of the Community Teachers, working in an inner-city home and aided by a parent, provides two classes twice a week for a small group of 3-and-4-year-olds who are not in any other pre-school program. In the familiar home environment, the children engage in guided activities which develop their motor coordination,



SISTER JAMES

auditory and visual skills, group learning, language and general perception.

Sister James attended last summer's session at the Bank Street College of Education in New York City. In addition to taking courses in "Modern Education, Current Trends" and "Behavior Patterns of Children's Learning," she taught pre-school children twice a week in the Amsterdam-Housing Project. This combination of theory and practice enabled her to evaluate some of the new materials and techniques used in pre-school education programs.

Rural Needs Emphasized

Instances of "poverty, poor housing and degradation" in some rural areas of the diocese are very often more serious than inner city conditions.

Father John J. Hempel, director of the five priests serving the diocesan Secular Mission, stressed this point at a recent meeting of the Rosary Guild of Sacred Heart Cathedral.

Father Hempel, who is stationed at Penn Yan and who serves Yates and Seneca Counties, accompanied his talk with presentation of slide-film pictures showing some of the living and housing conditions in the seven counties where the Secular Mission priests now are working.

Among them were pictures of abandoned freight cars and trucks which, without for instance even a window, are the homes of some families.

The priests, Father Hempel said, continue to "try to cover every road" in their widespread areas in "a story which is being written and rewritten daily."

Even with the help of some Sisters in various areas, the speaker noted, "progress is frustratingly slow." He did indicate that in some communities there is beginning to be a greater awareness of needs, and that there are groups of persons who are volunteering their assistance.

He described the Secular Mission work as "first getting to know the people and their particular problems, then to do whatever we can to help alleviate their material or spiritual poverty."

He said the "band-aid" approach is only temporarily effective, and that "the Christian community must come together to resolve the deep sociological problems of our age."

Fr. Aletto Gaining; No Visitors, Please

Father Nicholas Aletto, pastor of St. Anthony of Padua Church, was reported gaining strength and improving steadily in Genesee Hospital this week.

His condition still is sufficiently serious so that the hospital is barring all visitors except the family.

Through his family Father Aletto expressed his thanks to parishioners and friends for their prayers for him and for the good wishes and greetings sent to him.

Father Aletto and the assistant pastor, Father James Russell, were overcome Jan. 15 by carbon monoxide fumes which accidentally seeped through the rectory. Father Russell still is recuperating at the home of his parents, 940 Jay St.

Scholarship to Honor Msgr. Grady's Memory

A scholarship for graduate study in library science will be started to memorialize the late Msgr. Joseph E. Grady, a former president of the board of trustees of the Rochester Public Library.

Msgr. Grady, retired vice rector of St. Bernard's Seminary, died last Nov. 14 at the age of 82. He had served on the library's board for 30 years.

The board voted last week to endorse a scholarship in his memory under the auspices of Friends of the Public Library.

Role of Private Education To Be Topic at Fisher

A Jesuit priest who has argued before the U.S. Supreme Court on cases concerning private education will talk on "Has Private Education a Future?" at St. John Fisher College on Wednesday, Feb. 26, in Kearney Auditorium at 7:45 p.m.

Father Charles J. Whalen, professor of law at the Fordham Law School and an associate editor of America magazine, is being sponsored by the department of philosophy and the Philosophy Club of the college.

Father Whalen, a Constitutional lawyer and philosopher of law, will discuss the present and future possibilities for the continuance of private education on the grammar, high school, college and university levels. He will talk about the objectives of such schools; of state and federal laws and of Supreme Court decisions in this area; of the financial requirements of such schools; and of possible sources of financing.

He has argued before the Supreme Court and has written in a variety of publications on this subject.

The Rev. Dr. Robert G. Miller, CSB, chairman of the department of philosophy, announced the meeting will be open to the public.



FATHER WHALEN

Father Whalen, 42, a native of Owensboro, Ky., joined the Society of Jesus in 1944 at St. Andrew-on-the-Hudson, Poughkeepsie.

He has a B.A., Ph.D. and S.T.L. from Woodstock College, Woodstock, Md., and a LL.B. and LL.M. from Georgetown Law School, Washington, D.C. A member of various associations, he is on the national board of directors of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Accident Victims Helped at Craig

Seminarians Merle Norbisch and Albert Hanak from the Divine Word Seminary on Hemlock Lake, who died in a tragic accident at Letciworth Park, were assistants of Father Dominic Mckeivicus in his teaching program at Craig State School at Sonyea.

The religious activities at this school were reported here last week, and again today on Page 16. Father Mckeivicus will celebrate Mass for the repose of these two young men at 7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 24, at the Craig School Chapel. Seminarians will sing, and friends of the young men have been invited.

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