



"Religion in American Life" is inaugurating a new mass media advertising campaign based on the theme, "Break-the hate habit. Love your neighbor." This year's large outdoor poster sets the theme. The noted graphic artist, Ronald Chereskin,

has focused on the word "love" which bursts into a flower. This is set against a background "love-scapes" of trees dancing across the horizon and brightly colored hearts emanating from fanciful clouds. (Religious News Service)

Catholic Home Gets Aid

Church, State Truly Separate?

New York — (RNS) — The "joining of church and state" was physically evident here as Gov. Nelson Rockefeller and Terence Cardinal Cooke, Archbishop of New York, shared the spotlight at the dedication and blessing of a new \$12.8 million Catholic home for the aging.

The new Mary Manning Walsh Home, a 16-story structure accommodating 347 residents is the first home for the aging in New York State to take advantage of a \$400 million program of long-term, low-interest loans recommended by Gov. Rockefeller for voluntary nursing home construction.

The Walsh home construction received \$11 million from the state.

Administered by the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm, the new building is one of 33 homes for aging in the U.S. and Europe operated by the nuns.

In his dedication address Cardinal Cooke observed, "People who are fearful that a youth-centered society will not hold them in sufficient regard to provide for their needs find reassurance in this dedication — a dedication which joins the lifelong commitment of the Sisters."

"This commitment," the cardinal added, "also finds expression in the public policy of our state, which holds that the care of the elderly is a matter of high priority."

The governor said he has taken steps to provide hospitals with the same kind of loan assistance and that a state constitutional amendment just passed will offer such help to private hospitals. He added he had just appointed a special commission to study the state's entire educational system, public and private, to seek solutions to problems there.

Mother M. Aloysius, administrator of the home which in October moved from its former location on New York's lower East Side, said that more than 300 residents were transferred in four days "without mishap to our traditions of loving care. 'Home at last' was our greatest reward," she said.

The Walsh home is sponsored by the Archdiocese of New York through Catholic Charities. It operates on funds from resident fees and private contributions. Average age of residents is 84.

The founder of the Carmelite order, Mother Angelina, began her work in September 1929 with six companions and seven elderly persons in a small house in upper Manhattan. The order now has 500 Sisters, most of them specialists in modern geriatric techniques.

New Jersey Bishops Support Sex Ed

Newark, N.J. — (NC) — The bishops of New Jersey have issued a joint pastoral letter supporting a program of sex education in Catholic schools of the state.

The letter was released to the press Nov. 7 before being read in churches throughout the state. It was signed by Archbishop Thomas A. Boland of Newark, Bishop Lawrence B. Casey of Paterson, Bishop George W. Ahr of Trenton, Bishop George H. Guilfoyle of Camden, and Bishop Michael J. Dudick of the Byzantine Eparchy of Passaic.

Taking note of the controversy over sex education in New Jersey, the bishops said they wished to make their position clear and "in doing so, we repeat the affirmation of our fellow American bishops in the pastoral letter, 'Human Life in Our Day,' regarding... the value and necessity of wisely planned education of children in human sexuality, adapted to the maturity and background of our young people."

"Let there be no misunderstanding," the bishops said, "Parents are the primary educators of their children in sexual matters. They should fulfill this role from the earliest years of childhood by helping their children to form proper attitudes by their own personal example, their home life and the natural bond that exists with their children."

"We appreciate the concern which parents express over any outside source usurping their parental role," the bishops declared. But they added:

"Nevertheless, experience shows that many parents feel unable or are unwilling to provide adequate education in human sexuality. Further, the continuous overemphasis on false sexual concepts in our culture demands a cooperative effort of parents and teachers to reinforce proper moral values."

"Therefore, as shepherds of souls and concerned collaborators with parents, we recognize our obligation to assist the family in its efforts to provide sound sex education."

The bishops announced the formation of an Inter-Diocesan Sex Education Committee. The committee is to develop diocesan-wide programs of adult education, establish training programs for teachers and develop "in cooperation with Catholic parents effective programs in the Catholic schools and Confraternity of Christian Doctrine classes."

In their introductory remarks the bishops said that families "face serious challenges in fulfilling their essential role." Social changes and scientific progress, they said, have produced some "unfortunate by-products, such as excessive secularization, abuse of and disrespect for authority and a loss of some basic moral values."

None of the dioceses has offered a full-scale sex education program to date. A pilot program in a handful of schools was launched in the Newark archdiocese two years ago but was suspended this year by Archbishop Boland pending an evaluation by family life, CCD and school personnel.

Prince Philip

Science, Religion

Must Unite

Clarksburg, Ont. — (RNS) — There must be a working alliance between science and religion if mankind is to survive, Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, told 150 industrial scientists here.

His remarks were made during a discussion of nuclear weapons and pollution by scientists from 10 Canadian, British and American industries.

On a private tour of Canada, Prince Philip used air and water pollution as examples of problems that must be met.

He said that "under the present system, there is no motivation for this sort of research... politicians and economists don't seem to care."

"Who feels even remotely responsible for the quality of our existence except as a means of gaining votes? Indeed, how many feel that it really matters in comparison with the pressing problems of finding somewhere to work, somewhere to live, and somewhere to enjoy ourselves...?"

Prince Philip called on the churches to balance such attitudes with their traditional concern for the human situation, and perhaps establish research organizations.

However, a working alliance between religion and science was cited as the best solution. He said if they continued to be divided and suspicious of each other, "it will result only in a growing mass schizophrenia and the gradual erosion of the natural world as we know it."

"An alliance, on the other hand, could well give a new and encouraging sense of direction to the bewildered civilization in which we are living."

"The high priests of science have an immensely more important and far-reaching responsibility than simply discovering facts and exploiting them in the short-term human interest. What they discovered and how they exploit it has a profound influence on the quality of existence..."

National Autonomy Advocated for Bishops

Rome — (RNS) — A famed Dutch theologian advocates a new relationship between Pope and bishops "founded on a healthy theology of local (national) Church autonomy."

"The role of the Pope would be to guarantee unity and communion between his own Church (at Rome) and the others."

Interviewed in Rome following a special meeting of the Vatican's doctrinal congregation and the heads of 10 episcopal conferences, Father Edward Schillebeeckx, O.P., said the relationship of the Pope to his bishops "must be changed."

"The Pope can exercise his rights fully and freely and at his discretion but only within the college of the bishops around him," he added.

But he also observed that the principle of subsidiarity cannot solve every issue because it is a political principle, not an ecclesiastical or theological principle.

Father Schillebeeckx, one of the most progressive of Catholic theologians, is in Rome as an adviser to

Bernard Cardinal Alfrink of Utrecht, attending study sessions on reform of the Sacred Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith.

Asked if collegial forms in structure can be achieved without doctrinal clarification, Father Schillebeeckx said he believed it could be done.

"Even if it's stated (that) the Pope alone can govern the Church, there are possibilities of collegial forms in fact. One can create collegial structures without a theology of collegiality. This is true because, in fact, the Pope cannot do everything himself."

He noted that Pope Paul's opening address to the Synod, criticized by many "to me... signified a great evolution... towards the concept of collegiality... compared with previous addresses."

With regard to the accomplishments of the Synod, the Dutch priest said, "With almost every intervention it became clear that the concept of collegiality had penetrated the whole episcopal college, though hardly in the documents of the Roman Curia and in the mentality of the bishops."



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