

## 25 Years of Pain

The Courier-Journal has authenticated the following letter. We have not changed the wording for risk of diluting its simple yet forceful message. — The Editor.

Editor:

I would like to express and share my view on the new abortion law. I'll probably be called stupid.

About 25 years ago I was going to have my fifth child. All I heard was that I was crazy. What again!

Now my family is all grown up — and happy. But after all this time when I read about abortions I just stop and think of what I did.

I had younger members of my family that would have paid for it for me. Not my husband; he would not go along.

I thought it would be a lot cheaper having the baby for what some of them wanted — from \$400, \$500, \$600, \$700. That was out, but these good people got someone to do it for nothing.

What I went through I hate to think about. It sure was a lot different than all their cheap pep talk. I didn't like what I saw and till today God, for some reason, has been very, very good to me. I don't know why.

So I want to tell all the people, Catholics, Protestants or what have you, it does not change. If they could see it all like a new bird they would all feel like I do.

We have plenty of sickness, and abortion law we don't need. Our doctors and nurses—I don't think they like to take care of these jobs, they have plenty to do without this law.

If the young girls feel it's going to be so easy they can do things that they shouldn't, they should think twice before they go that far. I'm not a young person but not too old — near the 60 mark. A priest knows my name. He told me to write to the Courier. I'm a good, kind person always ready to help where I'm needed.

I hope you get the picture of what I went through and all they told me was—there won't be anything, you'll be okay. I was; God did take care of me.

But I suffered more by doing this than when I had my four children.

Just call me sorry, stupid. Wish I would have listened to my husband and not my friends and family.

Mrs. X

## The Word for It

Words are symbols of the society in which they are used. If one had no other means of studying or understanding a given age the language used would be highly indicative.

Words that have gained general acceptance in our language, such as atomic, thermonuclear or napalm all point to an age that is technological as well as explosive. The fact that they are most often used in tandem with such old words as warfare and bomb may mean that while man has progressed technically he is still the same old cave inhabitant who resorts to hitting people over the head to get his way.

Words are dogmatic. When you find the "right word for it" there is no escaping its meaning. In our society if you want to sell a distasteful idea you must come up with a different word for it. Thus in its sales campaigns Madison Avenue calls toilet paper "bathroom tissue."

Take "abortion" — it is a word as cruel as the act it signifies. There is no changing that.

So we have been waiting for the euphemism for it and it may have been turned up at a New York city hospital. When an NC News Service reporter, for the purpose of a story, called to find out the procedure for getting an abortion she was connected to "Pregnancy Interruption Service."

When the reporter had got over that one, she was asked "How pregnant are you?" That used to be a bad joke. It also signifies the distortion of another good word — pregnant.

So remember an abortion is an abortion and an abortion by any other name is murder.

—Carmen Viglucci

## Letters to the Editor

### Public Thanks For Fr. Shamon

Editor:

We the people of St. Patrick's church, Victor, would like to publicly thank Father Albert Shamon for his nine years with us.

From the day he came to us he was animated by the charity of Christ. He felt our needs, sufferings and joys as if they were his own. The Christ-like love he gave to us will never be truly known in this life.

We, his family in Victor, with deepest regret now give him back to the larger family of the Diocese of Rochester that he may work for God's glory among us all as Vicar of Education.

—St. Patrick's Parish Council

### Real Need Seen At Church

Editor:

Many years ago when I belonged to another parish, Our Lady of Good Counsel was known as "the little wooden church on Brooks Avenue."

I have been a member of the Lady of Good Counsel parish for 20 years now and I have attended "the little wooden church on Brooks Avenue" for the same number of years.

Through the kindness and consideration of Monsignor Leo V. Smith, former pastor, for the families with various incomes, exorbitant demands were never made on the parishioners, only the necessities of a comfortable small church were asked to be taken care of.

Father Paul Wohlrab, our present pastor, has come up with many new ideas, new thinking, foresight, and I don't think that we are about to become an obsolete church.

The parishioners were asked to give their opinions as to the merger discussions with St. Augustine's and St. Monica's.

Proper notice and explanations were given to the parishioners as to the costs of the repairs and improvements, which seem reasonable with other comparisons.

The Good Counsel parishioners chose to remain as is and have over-subscribed to the present project of \$125,000, enabling "the little wooden church on Brooks Avenue" to

be a self-supporting parish with "necessary repairs."

The people who attend this church will feel more comfortable with that which they have waited for, for so many years, and will still be able to help others who may be less fortunate.

I don't think that any selfish aspect enters into the rebuilding program and the attitude of the pastor and the people proves that the Christian thing to do is to appreciate that which we have and maintain the proper attitude in taking care of it.

—Thomas W. Mellen  
Brookdale Avenue  
Rochester

### Father Greeley Taken to Task

Editor:

Have Father Greeley and his brothers ever considered that they will be out of a job (to put it mildly) if they continue to help the Communists take over our country from within? Surely they know that there is no free press under communism. Would they not fight for their right to believe in God? Are they so full of "Love" that they can overlook the atrocities committed against their brothers? What about the thousands upon thousands of North Vietnamese who were slaughtered when the Communists took over North Vietnam in 1954? What about the million and a half Catholics who fled from the North into South Vietnam?

I am constantly amazed at the apparent naivete of some younger members of the clergy in regard to politics. They are allowed to dissertate from the pulpit or in the news column on world affairs with no more basis for fact than their strictly personal opinion. They are no more qualified to speak on the subject than Joe Blow or Tessie Trueheart, yet they use their position of high esteem to betray their responsibility and sway minds who do not question their authoritative-ness in regard to political affairs.

It is common knowledge now that the "peace" movement throughout our country has been Communist-inspired in order to attain "peace" for the Communists on their terms. It makes one wonder what Father Greeley has been reading in the past three months to speak as he did in his column last week on campus mistakes.

I would suggest for a start that he read the truth as it really is, written by two men who were educated before the Communists infiltrated the teaching staffs of our universities, colleges and, apparently, seminaries. "Left of Liberal," by Anthony Bouscaren and Daniel Lyons, S.J., gives facts, names names, cites history, speaks truth, based on facts, not personal opinion. This book can be obtained from Twin Circle Publishing Company, 86 Riverside Drive, New York, N.Y. 10024.

—Mrs. Nina McPhilly  
Foster Road  
Corning, New York 14830

### The Word for Sunday

## No Room For Compromise

By Father Albert Shamon



The readings next Sunday are all about shepherds — bad ones who "mislead and scatter the flock" and good ones who lay down their life for the sheep and "teach them at great length."

When Hitler was rising to power and promulgating immoral laws, Christian theologians tried every way to live with them. This we must never do in regard to the abortion law. It is a regressive law, iniquitous, wicked, horrendous — no less immoral than Herod's slaughter of the innocent babes of Bethlehem. There is no room here for compromise. If my watch and the sun do not agree, I do not change the sun. When civil law contravenes the law of God, the civil law must go.

Thus no Catholic physician, nurse or paramedical person should counsel, approve or command an abortifacient. Much less should he assist in the abortion itself. For instance it would be wrong for a nurse to inject the saline solution for abortion, even under a doctor's orders. However, a nurse may care for a patient before or after an abortion, provided she does not give her explicit or implicit approval to the evil action.

Catholic hospitals have a right to refuse patients who desire abortions. The fact that it is Catholic is general notice to the public that it will not perform abortions.

As to other hospitals, the Bishops of New York State stated: "We endorse the action of those hospitals which will not permit abortions to be performed or advised."

In response to those hospitals which permit abortions, the Bishops continued: "We plead that all hospitals and other employers maintain and develop policies to respect the conscience of their employees who refuse to participate in abortions." However, in fairness to these hospitals, personnel who object should make

this fact known to hospital administration.

The New York State Hospital Code has inserted a "conscience clause" to protect those not wishing to participate in the abortion process. It reads: "No hospital employee or member of a hospital medical staff shall be required by the hospital or a member of the hospital staff to participate in an elective justifiable abortifacient act who has informed the hospital of his or her decision not to participate in such act or acts."

When concrete problems arise regarding cooperation, it would be desirable if the Catholic personnel and Catholic chaplain discussed the problem together as a group. The communal aspect of the judgment would enhance its force. Also, it would emphasize the responsibility and maturity of the Catholic medical and paramedical personnel.

Like good shepherds, the Bishops of New York State have come out loud and clear: "We call upon all people of good will to join with us in a campaign to reverse the life-destroying trends in society which abortion and euthanasia represent. . . . In this hour of sadness we urge the people of New York State to have the courage and strength to reject abortion, and uphold the sanctity of human life."

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