Letters to the editor should be addressed to the editor, Courier-Journal, Richford Building, 67 Chestnut St., Rochester, N.Y. 14604. They should be no longer than 1½ pages, typed double-spaced. Names and addresses should be included. The paper reserves the right to edit all letters.

Bishops Should Lead Parade

Editor:

So much has been written against the evils of abortion by lawyers, theologians, doctors, philosophers and politicians, individuals more learned and more gifted in a journalistic sense than I. People have been encouraged to write to their legislators urging the repeal of the abortion bill in New York State. Yet, having written my share of those letters, I wonder if all of this letter writing is making one tiny dent in the overwhelming problem that faces us.

I encourage a real celebration of life, a show of numbers, which force legislators and others who support anti-life measures to recognize the power of those who believe in the sanctity of life. If the bishops of New York State, as shepherds of their people, would lead a May Day demonstration in our state capital in support of the right to life, I really believe that we would be able to exert a positive influence on our environment. The fact that our bishops would be taking such a definite stand. would encourage those people to come forth, who were wondering just what they as individuals could really do.

I write this because it is my community, my New York State, which is responsible for the

"Show us the father. That will

Then, like the rending of the

temple veil on Good Friday, Jesus answered, "Who sees Me sees the Father. He and I are

one." Jesus is the revelation of

the Father! In Him we can see

God. Through Him we can see

what God does for us. Jesus

loved sinners; the Father loves

sinners. Jesus showed concern

for the poor; the Father is con-

cerned about the poor. Jesus died for us; the Father is totally

committed to us. Jesus loved

His followers; the Father loves

the followers of Jesus. No wonder Jesus could say, "I am the

What Jesus was, we and the

Christian community are meant

to be. He revealed the Father to

the disciples; we must reveal the Father to the world. Of course this is a big idea and big

talk. We must therefore guard

The first danger can be to con-

fuse big talk and big ideas with

action and goodness. If talk is

substituted for action and

thought for goodness, then the profession of loftiest faith is

worthless. The second danger is

to be so overwhelmned by the

magnitude of our vocation as

to do nothing at all. To be "a cho-

sen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation." What a calling!

Chosen, therefore called to be

different. Royal, therefore called

to serve a king; holy, therefore

called to love what is good stead-

fastly. How can we fill this bill?

The first reading shows us how

the early Christians went about

translating high ideas and ideals

into everyday language. When they were confronted with the

same economic problem that is

always with us, they did some-

thing about it. The haves helped

the have-nots. The rich saw to

it that the poor were not needy

and the charity to the poor sup-

When discord - even then -

broke out in the Christian com-

unity, the Apostles did not hesi-

tate to institute new offices to

As for the Apostles themselves,

they let neither economics nor

dissension distract them from

their essential vocation: to pray

and to be ministers of the word.

too much talk and nothing else!

Or maybe it is too much busy-

ness about marginal things to-

gether with unconcern for the

things that really matter.

Perhaps the trouble today is

plied the needs of the rich.

meet the crisis. They acted.

against two dangers.

be enough.'

murder of so many innocent infants, and because I know how

Sharon Tette

Editor:

Churchill was quoted as saying 'I did not become the King's first minister to aid in the dismemberment of the British Empire." Where is the British Empire today? The parallel to that statement is applicable today in our own Empire State. Gov. Rockefeller sloganized his purpose during the last gubernatorial election in New York. "He has done a lot, he can do more.' Where is the Empire State to-

The highest taxed state in the Union, the highest sales tax in the nation and it appears in both these fields we shall continue to break our own records.

has voiced concern which goes unheeded and is presently in the process of locating outside the boundaries of our state.

tion. Marriage is mocked and ridiculed. Race suicide is encouraged. Divorce, birth control and abortion have been legalized and are most liberal and in-

The poor are being intimidated and stigmatized as though they were guilty of this tragic happening of fiscal irresponsi-bility and state bankruptcy. The aged and the fixed income group are being pauperized. The opportunities of youth to secure higher education are being curtailed. The discouraged and frustrated employed citizenry are helplessly overburdened with fees, assessments and taxes with no relief in sight. Our cities are collapsing; our farms are rapidly decreasing. Our elected "representatives" ignore the warning voices and increasing signs of concern and despair but continue to patronize and support the whims and wishes of the established political power struc-

The day may well come, in the not too distant future, when a venturesome soul, from a far away place, shall stand on the pinnacle of an empty and crumbling Empire State Building, a tombstone to the surrounding abomination and desolation, viewing the remains of what was once known as a thriving, vi-

And upon scanning the distant horizon, discerning dimly the ruins, that were once Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, Utica, and finally Albany. All dilapidated, devastated, gone.

Scottsville

Protect All Life

the innocent to live and the dedestroy the human life.

The homily moved everyone in the church and so it proved to

Wednesday, April 26, 1972

FR. ALBERT SHAMON Word For

Sunday Readings: (R1) Acts 6: 1-7. (R2) 1 Pt. 2: 4-9. (R3) Jn. 14: 1-12.

Sunday

The gospels for the remaining Sundays of Easter will be drawn from Chapters 14 to 17 of St. John's Gospel. These chapters offer inspired insight into the meaning of the death and resurrection of Jesus.

This Sunday's gospel narrates an incident which occurred right after the Last Supper. Our Lord had announced to the disciples that He was soon going to leave them. Panic resulted. Our Lord tried to pour oil on troubled water. As always He arrowed to the source of the truth — the heart within, not the problems without. "Let not your hearts," He said, "be troubled." As a remedy, He urged faith. Have faith in God and — like One who is really God's equal — He exhorted them to have faith in Himself. "Have faith in God and faith in Me.

Words are poor comforters. The disciples became only more perplexed. "Where was He going?" "Where is this father's house?" Worse still, "Who is this father?" Jesus seemed "hung up" on His Father. As a child in danger calls for his mother repeatedly, Jesus mentioned "Father" forty times on the way to Gethsemane; twelve times in this short talk. Almost petulantly, Philip burst out,

COURIER-JOURNAL

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April 26, 1972 Vol. 87, No. 1

Published weekly by the Rochester Catholic Press Association. Subscription rates: Single copy 15c: 1 year subscription in U.S. \$6.00; Canada and South America, \$8.50 other foreign countries, \$9.50. Offices, Richford Building, 67 Chestnut St., Rochester, NY, 14604, (716) 454-7050. Second class postage paid at Rochester, N.Y.



Courier-Journal

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precious life is.

Geneva

State on Way To Ruin

During World War II Winston

Essential and vital industry

We have lost to California our long held first place in popula-

brant, alive metropolis.

Harold L. McCadden

Editor:

I heard a homily this Sunday on the right to life, the right of nouncement of those who would

こうとういろいれるなららも見るられい

QUIRP "MY SON, HEAR THE INSTRUCTION OF

THY FATHER AND FORSAKE NOT THE

LAW OF THY MOTHER" (PROVERBS 1:18)

REMEMBER, THEY PAY THE TUITION

me that our priests can be ef-

fective from the pulpit on a po-

litical issue when it becomes a

moral issue, but they must be

consistent in speaking out about

all the moral issues even though

The right to life includes all

innocent people - the unborn

person in the mother's womb,

the unfed, neglected, misused

rejected person wherever he may

be whether in the ghetto, our jails, institutions or unwanted

homes, and it must include the

innocent victims of a torrent of

bombs from our American bomb-

ers flying over Vietnam, Laos or wherever they choose.

As Father said Sunday, just be-

cause we don't know the person

involved, does it give us any less

responsibility to that person's

Those of us who believe and

preach this fact must be just as

concerned about the life of a

Vietnamese peasant or soldier

as we are about an American

farmer or soldier. We must be

just as concerned about the child born out of wedlock as one

born in a loving marriage. We

must be just as concerned about

a hungry father in the ghetto as

we are about our hungry hus-bands when they come home for

supper. We must be just as con-

cerned about the young man in

jail as we are about our own son

who might be there if God had

not given us the grace to steer

him away from the evils of the

world that might have put him

There are those who would

say that we can't solve the prob-

lems of the world, so what can

we do about it? We can stand

for what we believe, and if we

believe in the right to human

life, we can demand that the kill-

ing of innocent people be

stopped. We can shout from the

pulpits to stop the bombing

and killing in Vietnam the same

as was shouted Sunday from the

puplits to stop killing unborn

Amd to those of us who pro-

test the inhuman war in Vietnam,

we must be consistent too. We

must protest the abortion laws in New York State allowing abor-

Abortion is murder! War is

Rochester

(Mrs.) Mary C. Pierce

Alderwood Lane

children.

murder!

tion on demand.

right to live?

they are also political ones.

Be Consistent On Murder

Editor:

There appears to be an inconsistency in the minds of the hierarchy who are waging an all out effort to repeal the Abortion Law - I cannot help but wonder why all this energy is not fol-lowed through with the following two inconsistencies:

1. Killing in wars is evil what about stopping the "nosense" war in Vietnam. One way to do this would be for each in dividual to withhold a third of his income tax (this is how much is used for war) and turning this money over to charitable organizations. At income tax time you would present your receipts to the government with the notation that you wish to go on record as being a conscientious objector to war and, therefore, cannot help in supporting

2. The second inconsistency lies in the fact that books such as the "Exorcist" and "Clockwork Orange" (there may be many more that I am not aware of) are on the required reading list of some of our Catholic high schools. I am told that students are mature enough today to derive "an alleged message" that is somewhere in all that garbage. We should not attack the reading matter but we must make sure the student is mature enough (morally) to be ready for such "literature".

Now, back to the repeal of the Abortion Law — it seem to me that if the individual feels that murder is wrong — then they would be against abortion and have nothing to do with it - if. however, the individual is not of this mind (and if the law is repealed) we would be back to the 'kitchen table" surgery which could also lead to unnecessary murder and is another part of the picture. The inconsistencies lie in that if we do not favor censoring plays, movies, books and leave this to the individual conscience — and if we do not speak out against war — then why are we in such an uproar over the repeal of abortion - why not be consistent and leave this to the conscience of the individ-ual? Before the "Right to Life" Committee starts writing letters to me — let me go on record as stating I am not for Abortion but I am for consistency — if 2 and 2 make 4, you cannot say that 3 and 1 make 5.

Anne B. Christoff

Rochester

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