



It's A Gas

Prodded by Dr. Otto A. Olson, Jr., president of the Central Canada Synod and a member of the Lutheran Church in America's Executive Council, the policy-making body of the LCA will consider smoking restrictions during future meetings. To stress his point, Dr. Olson donned a gas mask — "a Christmas gift from my son who had heard me complain" — at a recent meeting and asked that "at least smoking be limited in proportion to the number of people who don't smoke." (RNS)

Guidelines Are Issued For Lenten Liturgy

Lenten Worship Letter on Page
By JOHN DASH

If the Diocesan Liturgy Commission has its way this Lent, parishes which follow some recently issued guidelines for liturgies and devotions will be doing some broad re-write and adaptation.

"The thrust of this year's booklet is to adapt according to circumstances," said Sister Mary Mattie, secretary of the commission.

She spoke of a thick, unpaginated booklet sent to all the parishes and crammed with suggestions on Lenten worship. "Don't take them as they are," she urged parishes.

It is the hope of the commission that most communities will ex-

press the ideas in the booklet in individual ways.

The booklet is divided into three parts, the first consisting of themes which may be developed as homilies. These themes include descriptions of liturgy as a bond between the worshiper and God, as a sign of the presence of Christ to his people, as a sign of reconciliation between God and man, as a call to and a response in Faith, and as a sign of the New Covenant pact between God and Man.

Penance services, Bible devotions and prayer services constitute the second part of the book.

The ceremonies of Holy Week and suggestions on their observance make up part three of the commission's guidelines.

Senator Urges Protection For Anti-Abortion Doctors

Washington, D.C. (RNS) — Physicians, hospitals and others would be protected "on the exercise of religious or philosophical beliefs which proscribe the performance of abortions or sterilization procedures" under a joint resolution introduced in the Senate.

Sen. Frank Church (D-Idaho), in commenting on the resolution after he submitted it, said the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision overturning abortion laws in most states raises a "serious question as to its possible impact upon the federal government's extensive involvement in medicine and medical care."

"For example," he said, "thousands of hospitals throughout the United States have been built, remodeled, enlarged, modernized or equipped under the provisions of the Hill-Burton Act.

Elmira Agency Names Board, New Director

Elmira — The board of the Catholic Family Service recently elected its officers for 1973-74. They are Cornelius J. Milliken, Jr., president; Edward Netski, vice president; Vernando Bon-signore, secretary; and John T. Gough, treasurer.

In addition, the board named Madeline F. Sullivan to the position of executive director of the agency. A native Elmiran, Miss Sullivan began working for Catholic Family Service as a social worker in 1949. She became interim director in February, 1972.

Elmira Mayor Edward Conley recently presented Catholic Family Service with a check for \$10,000 to be used to continue providing help for the citizens of Elmira who are still recovering from the floods of last June.

Courier Journal

Curia Changes Follow Reform Begun in 1968

Vatican City (RNS)—The Vatican has announced the resignations of three more cardinals from top posts in the Roman Curia, the Church's administrative center.

Resigning are Dutch-born Cardinal Maximilian De Furstenberg, 68, prefect of the Congregation for the Oriental Churches; Cardinal Paolo Bertoli, 65, prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints, and Cardinal Giuseppe Ferretto, 74, head of the Sacred Apostolic Penitentiary, a tribunal that deals with questions of conscience.

The resignations are in line with a plan introduced by Pope Paul, under which all top Vatican officials must have their positions confirmed by the Pontiff every five years. The reform came into effect March 1, 1968, so top officials in power at that time came to the end of their five-year mandate on March 1, 1973.

Earlier, the Vatican announced the resignations of Italian Cardinal Paolo Marella, 78, from his post as president of the Secretariat for Non-Christians and that of Italian Cardinal Luigi Traglia, 77, as Chancellor of the Holy Roman Church.

The department Cardinal Traglia headed, the Apostolic Chancery, was eliminated by papal decree on Feb. 27. Its functions, which consisted mainly in dispatching formal church documents, have been transferred to the Vatican Secretariat of State.

Pope Paul began a long-awaited shuffle in the Roman Curia on Feb. 26 when he named 59-year-old Cardinal Sebastiano Baggio of Sardinia prefect of the Sacred Congregation for Bishops. Cardinal Baggio succeeds Cardinal Carlo Confaloniere, 79.

The pontiff also named as secretaries of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, Archbishop Bernardin Gantin, who until 1971 was Archbishop of Cotonou, Dahomey, and Archbishop Duraisamy Simon Lourdasamy, a former Archbishop of Bangalore, India.

Dr. Schwandt To Conduct Mass Music

The first Sunday of Lent will be solemnly observed with a Latin High Mass at the Cenacle Chapel. The Mass, set for 4 p.m. Sunday, March 11, will be celebrated by Fr. Paul McCabe, associate pastor of St. Augustine's Church and Newman Chaplain for the Eastman School of Music. Music for the Mass will be provided by the Gregorian Chant Choir, under the direction of Erich Schwandt, assistant professor of Musicology.

The monthly Latin High Masses are sponsored by the Eastman School Newman Club, and are open to the public.

Wednesday, March 7, 1973

High Court Refuses Abortion Re-Hearing

Washington, D.D. (RNS) — The U.S. Supreme Court has unanimously refused to reconsider its Jan. 22 ruling allowing abortion during the first six months of pregnancy and also sent cases involving anti-abortion laws in 11 states back to lower federal courts.

The decision not to re-hear the Texas and Georgia cases brought an immediate protest from Msgr. James McHugh, who heads the U.S. Catholic Conference's Family Life Division. He called the court's action "a further display of its obstinate refusal to recognize the existence of human life during the first six months of pregnancy."

He said that the court's decision will "encourage a life-style of abortion on request throughout the country."

Msgr. McHugh focused on one of the cases sent back to lower court for reconsideration in light of the Jan. 22 ruling — wherein a Fordham University law professor challenged New

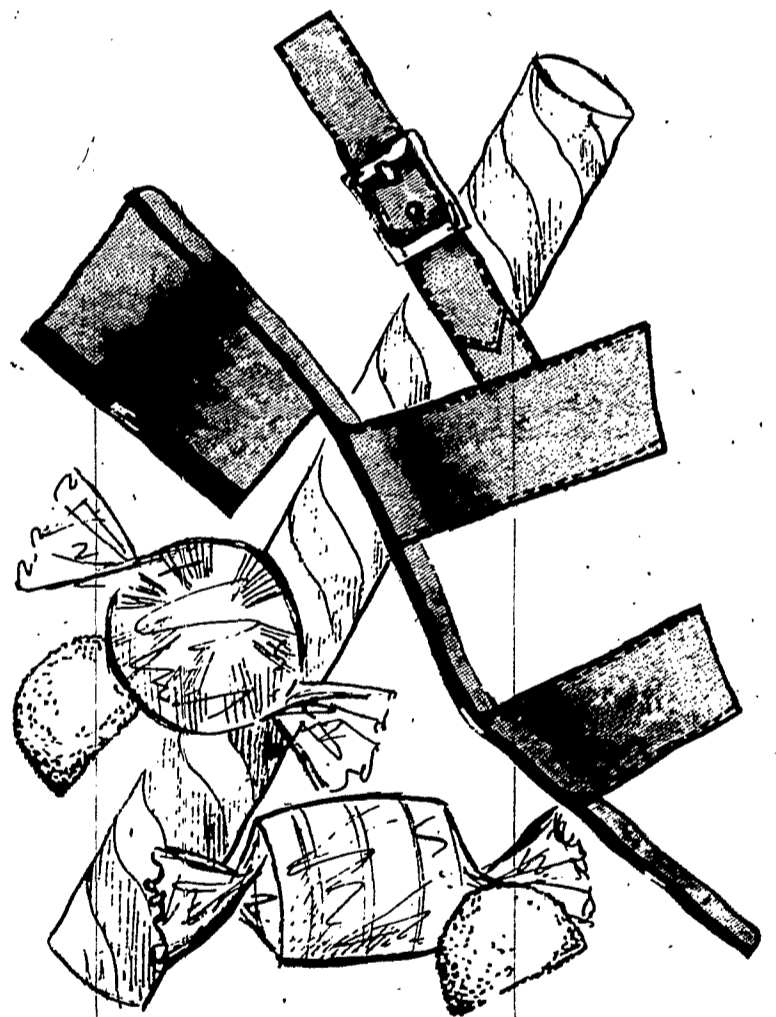
York's liberalized abortion law. He had charged that the New York law refused equal protection of the law to the unborn, a right guaranteed by the First and 14th Amendments.

Msgr. McHugh said that by refusing to consider the rights of the unborn in the New York case, the court "reaffirmed the opinion that the child is not entitled to any legal protection prior to birth."

He declared that there is no scientific evidence to support the court's view and, in fact, "the sciences of genetics and fetology document the continuity of human development from conception on."

"At a time . . . when there is widespread sensitivity to the rights of minorities and of those who are unable to defend themselves," said Msgr. McHugh, "the court has invoked the narrowest legal understanding of the 14th Amendment to deny the protection of the Constitution to children prior to birth."

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