

# Further Opinions

## Must Work Against Satan

Editor:

The desecration of St. John the Baptist Church in Elmira should make us painfully aware of the influence of Satan in our world today. As members of Christ's mystical body, we are directly affected by this outrage against Him. We must do more than shake our heads in shock and pity.

Just as the Angel of Peace exhorted the three Fatima children to repair the sins of ungrateful men and console God, we must do so also. We must make reparation both through prayer by devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and the Rosary, and through sacrifice. This, in essence, is the Fatima message and especially now must not be ignored, for indifference to the outrages perpetrated against the Blessed Sacrament is silent condonation of them.

With the beginning of the Holy Year and with January designated as a Month of Prayer for Peace, many churches are offering holy hours and extra Masses. Attend as many as possible and offer your Communion in reparation for offenses committed against the Holy Eucharist. Make many spiritual communions. Make the nine First Fridays and five First Saturdays.

Renew your consecration to Our Blessed Mother and wear her brown scapular.

Pray the Rosary devoutly and with meditation on the mysteries.

Make everything you do a sacrifice by offering your prayers, duties in your vocation, joys, sufferings, etc. to the Sacred Heart of Jesus through the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Dress modestly, for Our Lady of Fatima said that certain fashions would offend her Divine Son. Avoiding mini skirts, body-hugging clothes, plunging necklines, etc. is a simple but pleasing sacrifice.

The more Our Lord is offended, the more we must do to repair the offenses and to pray for the offenders. To make reparation for the sins committed against His Sacred Body and Blood, there are two Fatima Eucharistic prayers which are most appropriate:

"Most Holy Trinity, I adore You! My God, My God, I love You in the Most Blessed Sacrament."

"O Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, I adore Thee profoundly. I offer Thee the Most Precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifference by which He is offended. By the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg the conversion of poor sinners."

(Mrs.) Jean M. Lloyd  
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## Don't Refute God's Plan

Editor:

Reference: JoAnn Grass-Opperman letter, "Sexism Seen in Liturgy," (Courier-Journal 1/16/74)

JoAnn objects to submission to husband in marriage, and feels that "sexism" as she puts it "be eliminated from our services," labelling it "archaic," meaning old-fashioned or outdated.

Firstly, the Bible is more up to date than tomorrow's newspaper. For the world's present and future dilemma read Revelations (Apocalypse in Catholic Bible) or perhaps Daniel or Ezekiel in the Old Testament. The laws of God are as applicable today as they were 2,000 years ago. Man was made first, and woman was created as a helpmate for man. So was it then, and so shall it be as long as we have our earthly bodies. We were all created in the image of God true, but our functions in life are much different.

Through the years, jealousy, discontent, and intellectuality crept into woman (much of this not God inspired). Discontent breeds more discontent, adding poison to many marriages. A man is a woman's cover, and when she moves from under this protection, trouble follows. I've proved this over and over in my own experience. Yielding self to the rightful head of the household reaps benefits you would not believe unless you have tried it! A husband becomes more loving and respectful and understanding of his wife's needs, than when he was put into an emasculating position. Don't refute God's plan. His ways are not our ways, nor His thoughts our thoughts. New Testament books to prove the laws of God in marriage are Ephesians 5:21-33, or Colossians 3:18, 19 and chapter 7 of Corinthians.

It is part of Satan's plan to undermine us, making us disobedient to the word of God. Unfortunately too many people are working for him. Turn to God. Have Him decide what you should do in your life.

Mrs. Raymond Puff  
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## Write Legislators Against Smut

Editor:

At the present time a joint legislative committee of New York State lawmakers is considering new laws against pornography, in line with the Supreme Court decision of June 1973.

I attended one of the public hearings held in New York City. Those in favor of pornography were there in force—politicians, teachers, librarians, novelists, and all who stand to make a fortune out of filth. They were articulate and rich. They do not want strict laws written against degeneracy and degradation and moral pollution.

It is imperative that the people of this state write to their state senators and assemblymen, urging that the toughest possible laws be enacted against the evil despoilers who make millions from the disgusting, harmful depravity that has flooded this state.

For the sake of their children, for their very souls, people must no longer remain passive in the face of a cancer whose results are worse than narcotics or abortion.

Edward Wiedekerh  
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Irvington, N.Y.

Note — The above letter was written by a police officer who recently retired from the police force of New York City. In his post at the Times Square section of that once great city he was in a position to observe the most loathsome traffic in obscenity. His descriptions of the results of iniquity are a call most compelling, to strengthen our state laws.

It would indeed be a tremendous crime of omission if the good people of the state could not at least equal the obscenity lobby and write six-cent post cards [time three minutes] to their state senators.

Mrs. I. B. Newberry  
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## Congratulates Holy Trinity

Editor:

Hats off to the parishioners of Holy Trinity Church in Webster! Last September, Father William Hart, pastor, announced that the parish was in severe financial difficulty. He did not see how the parish could be operated at its present level without a tremendous increase in revenue.

He suggested that everyone increase his offerings by 25 per cent. The people tried and at the end of about two months, the weekly collection was up by 14 per cent. In addition, the people got to work on extra projects, like a parish-wide garage sale, a corn sale, and a "beggars' ball."

The first week of Advent was designated "Share a Prayer" week and attendance at daily Mass went up.

Another suggestion was made — that every family give \$25 in its Christmas Day envelope. Since Father Hart's arrival at Holy Trinity, the Christmas Day collection has been used exclusively to reduce the principal of the parish debt. After all the other money-raising events, the final effort was the biggest. The Christmas Offertory collection came to \$12,913.

So, congratulations to Father Hart and the parishioners. Your accomplishment shows what a little extra effort and a little extra prayer can do.

Mrs. Richard Urban  
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## Wives Should Submit

Editor:

I would like to respond to the letter which appeared in last week's Courier-Journal in regard to the second reading of the Mass for Family Sunday, Colossians 3:12, 21.

No one has the right to delete "undesirable" passages from the Word of God. It is not up to man to decide what his Creator should have said. There are far too many "Christians" today who claim to be following the Word of God when, in reality, they merely choose those passages which fit their own desires. Saint Paul tells us that "All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work." (Tim. 3:16-17)

It is indeed true that everyone is created in the image and likeness of God. But — it then behooves us to live as His own Son lived. Have you not read Philippians, Chapter two, describing the submission of Jesus who "emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave"? We are all called to carry the cross, and, as an old Gospel chorus says, "If you can't bear the cross, then you can't wear the crown."

The reading from Colossians was most appropriate for Family Sunday. I know several people who will testify that this Word, when put into practice, is indeed healing and perfecting their marriage and their family. Husbands are "won over, without a word spoken, by the way their wives behave" (1 Peter 3:1). This works whenever the wife submits to her husband, regardless of whether he is a good one or not.

Husbands, too, have been given a responsibility, and I think that it is far more difficult than that given to the wife. "Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy" (Ephesians 5:25) Just as Jesus is head of His body, the Church, so the husband is head of his wife. Unfortunately, this

authority is all too often interpreted as being vertical rather than horizontal. Even though Jesus is head of the Church, he is still our brother, and though the husband is head of his wife, they are still equally heirs to the life of grace, (1 Peter 3:7).

"Accept and submit to the Word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the Word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves. To listen to the Word and not obey is like looking at your own features in a mirror and then, after a quick look, going off and immediately forgetting what you looked like. But the man who looks steadily at the perfect law of freedom and makes that his habit — not listening and then forgetting, but actively putting it into practice — will be happy in all that he does," (James 1:21-25).

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## Plea from Archivist

The archivist of the Sisters of Mercy is in search of material to fill in missing sections of the historic data of the Congregation's story in the Rochester Diocese.

If readers have any old newspaper clippings [even yellow with age] referring to any Mercy Sister in Rochester or the diocese, any photos, old programs of school activities, obituary notices or even anecdotes they would like to share with the archivist for the Congregation's historic files, please contact Sister Mary Florence at the Motherhouse at 1437 Blossom Rd., 482-5442.

## BISHOP DEMPSEY DIES

Chicago. [RNS] — Auxiliary Bishop Michael R. Dempsey of the Chicago Roman Catholic archdiocese and former national director of the U.S. bishops' Campaign for Human Development, died Jan. 8 at St. Anthony Hospital here. He was 55. The prelate, who was also pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes parish on Chicago's West Side, had been suffering from a heart condition for more than a year.

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