

THE OPEN WINDOW

Dear Father,

Recently my teenage daughter said, "Mom, why don't Catholics study the Bible the way Protestants do?" I couldn't answer that because my Catholic parents never owned a Bible.

Dear friend,

When the Reformation occurred, the reformers took a stand that the Bible was the only source of God's revelation to man. Others followed that up by saying that individual Christians were inspired by God when they read the Bible and so each person could discern its true meaning.

The Catholic Church insisted that God's revelation came from two sources — the Bible and the Tradition of the Church. Furthermore, the Catholic Church insisted that the Church itself was the only authentic interpreter of the Bible. The net result was that Protestants saw the reading of the Bible as essential to faith, and the Catholic Church saw itself as the immediate teacher of the faith. The Church would interpret the Bible for the people.

Some teachers began to see the individual reading of the Bible as a danger to faith because it could lead to false interpretation. So Protestants put great emphasis on Bible reading, which Catholics de-emphasized. (I have oversimplified this a bit, but you get the idea).

The answer, as in most of these situations involving organizational disputes, is somewhere in between. Private reading of the Bible is very valuable and important. Today we are putting a much greater emphasis on the reading of the Bible by individual Catholics. Please — buy a Bible and read it often. At the same time, we should not think that our private interpretation is the last word. We should approach the reading of the Bible with humility — and that does not exclude the Holy Spirit working in you while you read. Secondly, we still believe not all Divine Revelation is necessarily contained in the pages of the Bible. So it is still important to read the Church too. In our parish we are just beginning a Bible Study Program. I hope every member of the parish joins.

Dear Father,

Could you at some time list all the changes in the Church in the past ten years?

WOW! That's a tall order if you mean all the changes in form, discipline, attitude, practice and regulations. That would take a whole book all by itself. But if you are referring to substantial Christian doctrine, there haven't been any real changes. What changes there seem to be are changes in approach or attitude which do not really alter the basic truth.

CYO Hires Burgos

The Catholic Youth Organization of Rochester has announced the hiring of J. Roberto Burgos as a staff member for the new Youth Development Program of CYO to work in the inner-city with the Spanish community.

For the past five years, Burgos has been actively involved in leadership development programs for Puerto Rican youth in the Rochester area. Until recently, he served as executive director of the Puerto Rican Youth Development and Resource Center. Burgos lives with his wife and son at 121 Fifth St. in Rochester.

Many times in this column I am criticized for presenting doctrine which differs substantially from previous doctrine — as for example, Purgatory — but I personally do not believe that the essence of the doctrine is changed. If others see it that way, I can't prevent it. Some teachings not essential to Christian doctrine have been changed. The fact that many people saw them as essential does not make them so. Sorry about that list.

Deaths
Kathleen Hinz

After an extended illness, Kathleen Slattery Hinz of Danforth Crescent died Jan. 15, 1974, at Monroe Community Hospital. Mass and private burial services were conducted Jan. 17.

A memorial Mass of the Resurrection was concelebrated by Bishop Joseph L. Hogan and Father James F. Slattery, brother of the deceased, in the church of Our Lady Queen of Peace on Friday, Jan. 8. Present in the sanctuary were Auxiliary Bishop Dennis W. Hickey, Msgr. Leslie G. Whalen, and Fathers Michael Conboy, John McDonald, SJ, Richard Noonan, SJ, Matthew Wolfe and Paul Wohlrab.

Mrs. Hinz is survived by her husband, Henry C., and six children: Joann, Henry, David, Douglas, Mary Patricia and Kristen, and two grandchildren. Besides Father Slattery, she leaves also her mother, Margaret Slattery, and three sisters: Sister Jamesetta, Mrs. James (Anne) Chatterton and Mrs. Mark Tuohy Jr. (Jo) as well as several nieces and nephews.

Rose Falcone

Mass of the Resurrection for Rose Falcone was concelebrated last Saturday at Holy Cross Church. Mrs. Falcone, of Lake Avenue, died Jan. 22, 1974.

Her son is Father Sebastian Falcone, OFM Cap., of the St. Bernard's Seminary faculty.

Other survivors are her husband, Augustine Falcone; a daughter, Mrs. Anthony (Carolyn) Pecoraro, and three grandchildren.

Mrs. Falcone, who was retired, had worked at the Bond Clothing Company for 20 years. She was active in parish societies at both St. Anthony's and Holy Cross.

Veronica Weyand

Hornell — Mrs. Veronica L. Weyand, 72, of Crosby Street, widow of Ernst H. Weyand, died Jan. 18, 1974, at Rochester General Hospital, where she had been a patient for five weeks.

Mass of the Resurrection was concelebrated Jan. 22 at St. Ignatius by the pastor, Father Leo Mans, and Fathers L. John Hedges of Rochester, James Cuddy of Binghamton and John Weyand, Army chaplain now on study leave. Organist was Sister Raymond Joseph, formerly associated with St. Ann's, Hornell.

Mrs. Weyand was a native and lifelong resident of Hornell, a member of St. Ignatius Loyola Church and the Ladies of Columbus.

Survivors include a daughter, Sister Mary Barbara of the Sisters of Mercy in Rochester; five sons, Father John J. Weyand of Berkeley, Calif., Ernst H., James F., and Karl J. of this area and Thomas A. of Greece; three sisters, Sister Mary Eileen of Elmira, Mrs. Genevieve Cooper of Dansville and Mrs. Patrick P. Casey of Hornell; a brother, Raymond Fitzgibbon of Rochester, and 14 grandchildren.

Orphans Send Thanks To Holy Ghost Parish

The orphans of Minoli, Italy, and the sisters who take care of them will always think of America as "a place where they have friends and love," according to a thank-you letter received by the people of Holy Ghost parish.

"We have had a real Christmas here this year," John Diehl wrote in appreciation of the gifts parishioners sent.

Diehl, who is with the Air Force at a station near Minoli, worked up the Christmas windfall through his sister, Patricia Waldmiller, president of Holy Ghost's Sacred Heart Society.

"The Sisters of this orphanage were overwhelmed by the many clothes and toys," he wrote. "Needless to say, the children were even more surprised."

"All the warm clothes have been greatly needed, even though this is southern Italy." The weather up here in the mountains is quite cold and snowy this time of year. The building is far from comfortable — only one wood or oil heater for each large room.

"The art supplies are being used by future da Vincis and Michelangelos. Some of the children are even learning a little basic English from the coloring books."

The Christmas project was really a children-to-children affair. When it was reported at Holy Ghost that the 144 orphans had nothing to play with but a soccer ball, the local children brought in stuffed animals, and other toys, books and puzzles to fill the gap.

Coalition Asks County To Handle Voter Drive

The Monroe County Coalition for Voter Registration has asked the County Legislature to appropriate \$20,000 so that the Board of Elections can take over most of the work that the coalition's volunteers have done in the past two years.

The Board of Elections has agreed to handle the basic outreach voter registration program. All that is needed is approval from the legislature.

The coalition has provided volunteer registration in county high schools, nursing homes, and shopping centers for two years.

The group will continue its volunteer effort in low registration areas and special sites.

Since Spring of 1972, MCCVR has registered over 38,000 voters in its mobile registration program. Susan Dollinger, a spokesman for the group, said that it was the general feeling of the volunteers that voter registration should be primarily a function of the county government.

Also included in the proposal were recommendations that reportedly would save the city of

Rochester alone \$22,000 through consolidation of registration sites.

MCCVR met with the county Ways and Means Committee on Monday, Jan. 28, to discuss the proposal.

MOS Sport Night Features Patulski

Walt Patulski, defensive end of the Buffalo Bills of the National Football League, will be the main speaker at Family Sports Night at Mother of Sorrows Church Hall, 5000 Mt. Read Blvd., on Tuesday, Feb. 19, 6 p.m.

Guests include Bob Thomas, the Notre Dame place kicker, Jeff Weston, Cardinal Mooney High School's football All-American, and other local sports figures.

Father Eugene Weis, associate pastor of St. Salome's, will be the emcee. Tickets are \$5.50 for adults and \$3.75 for high school and elementary students.

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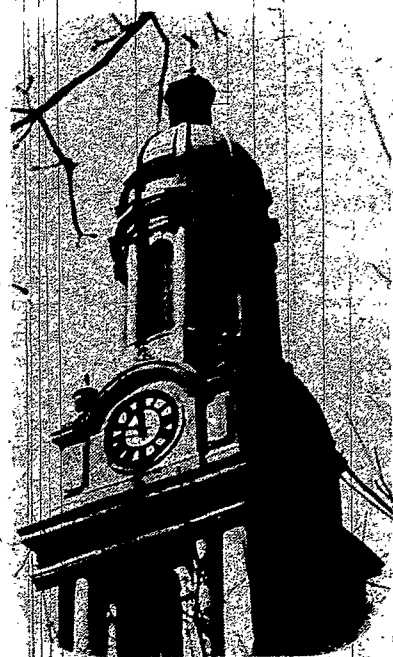
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Clarification

While Nevins and Jones were the original architects of St. Joseph's Church, Rochester, the present clocktower, pictured above, was designed by Rochester architect, Joseph H. Oberlies. The tower was erected in 1909. A cutline in the Courier-Journal (1/9/73) omitted Oberlies' name.

Hicks

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