



From Courier-Journal Services

The nation's best-known Catholic experimental, boundary-less parish — the eight-year-old Community of John XXIII — has "resigned" from the Oklahoma City archdiocese after a dispute with Archbishop John R. Quinn over jurisdiction and community religious activity. The pastor announced that the parish board of directors voted not to comply with directives from Archbishop Quinn to discontinue certain practices, including sharing of the Eucharist with non-Catholics and to abide by the archbishop's prerogative to appoint the pastor. Weekly Newsprint reports that legislatures in a number of states are considering proposals to legalize what is called "death with dignity." So far no state has enacted a death-with-dignity law.

West German's Catholic bishops have asked the nation's legislature to guarantee "unconditionally protection of the unborn child." The letter was a commentary on a recent ruling by the nation's highest court that struck down as unconstitutional a law permitting abortion on demand in the first three months of pregnancy. Cardinal Vincente Enrique y Taranco of Madrid reportedly has accused police of evicting some 300 student protesters from his cathedral without asking the Church's permission. Police claim they had such authorization. Despite recent ordinations of permanent deacons the Archdiocese of Toronto is experiencing a severe shortage of priests. The chancellor for spiritual affairs said 10 new priests are needed annually just to keep even and now there only three men in their graduation year at the diocesan seminary. The Italian Catholic Bishops Conference has condemned abortion as "morally unconscionable" even if permitted under civil law. And in Muslim Tunisia, the film The Exorcist has been barred as unjustified propaganda in favor of Christianity.

A coalition of civic and religious organizations has asked Minnesotans to take part in a statewide Shares for Hunger campaign by fasting or giving up one meal on March 9 and contributing \$1 to an agency involved in fighting hunger. Some \$4 million is the goal. And on the national scene, leaders of the nation's major religious agencies, including Bishop James S. Rausch of the U.S. Catholic Conference, have urged the building of a "community of conscience" among Americans to support a U.S. food policy that will meet the just demands of the world food crisis.

**PEOPLE** — Mrs. Genevieve Sullivan Davidson, sister of the five Sullivan brothers who died when their ship was sunk during World War II, died of cancer at 57 in Waterloo, Iowa. She was the last surviving member of the Sullivan family. Madalyn Murray O'Hair, a widely known atheist, has been dropped from the board of the American Humanist Association. "Marxist influence," she claims. Board says she was dropped automatically for absence from three consecutive meetings.

### Disappointed with Regents, Catholic Spokesman Says

Albany — "We are very disappointed," said Catholic school spokesman J. Alan Davitt, commenting on the legislative proposals of the State Regents for the 1975 session.

"While nonpublic school educators, administrators and parents made several positive proposals, the Regents did not even consider one of them in their presentation of educational priorities to the legislature," Davitt said.

In particular, Davitt singled out the proposal for a state physical education program for all students proposed by the Catholic School Superintendents and a proposal for increasing textbook aid for all students from its present \$10 level "just to catch up with inflation."

"We believe, these proposals, presented in the best of interest of all students in the state, should not be bypassed and ignored," he said.

During the pre-legislative hearing conducted by the State Board of Regents, the top policy body in the field of education in the state, the Council of Catholic School Superintendents, the Association of Catholic School Administrators and the State Federation of Catholic School Parents jointly proposed several ways to help implement the responsibility the State Board of Regents has to nonpublic and public schools. (The Regents have

responsibility for all education on the elementary and secondary level in the State).

Among the proposals:

- Physical education personnel and materials be provided for all children in grades kindergarten through grade-12 no matter what school they attend.

- Including field trips for all students as part of state-funded bus transportation.

- Increasing textbook aid from \$10 to \$20 for all students.

- Authorizing all students to use public school facilities under proper supervision.

- Authorizing all students to use school district audiovisual aids (film strips, etc.) purchased out of district-state funds.

- Establishing a Regents Committee to review the released time program which provides for religious education of children in public schools.

"Not one of these proposals was even commented on by the Regents in their legislative proposals, and yet our proposals are primarily directed at every child in every school," Davitt concluded.



### 'Lifer' Is Ordained a Deacon

Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzo Booker stand behind their son, Vaughan Booker, as he is ordained an Episcopal deacon in the chapel of Graterford, Pa., State Prison, where he is serving a life sentence for murdering his wife. Bishop Lyman C. Ogilby of the Diocese of Pennsylvania conferred the lower order of the clergy on the 32-year-old inmate in what was believed to be the first ordination held within prison walls in Pennsylvania. Deacon Booker pleaded guilty eight years ago to the murder of his wife, Annabelle, by bow-and-arrow following an argument. He told a reporter at the time of ordination that nothing good he may ever achieve can erase his crime. The new deacon studied for four years to qualify for ordination. His program was planned and supervised by several priests of the Pennsylvania diocese. (RNS)

### "Non-Fair" Focuses on World Hunger

Albany (RNS) — A "World Hunger Non-Fair" exhibit was presented by Christians here to call attention to the ethical dimensions of poverty and hunger.

The multi-media display on world hunger was presented at a suburban shopping center mall, sponsored by the World Hunger Committee of the Department of International Affairs, Capital (Albany) Area Council of Churches.

While the Catholic Church is not officially affiliated with the area council, Catholics assisted in the media project and were represented on the exhibit's sponsoring committee.

The exhibit featured booths showing population statistics regarding local hunger, alternatives for individual life styles, natural foods, and organic farming. It included an audio-visual slide presentation, using two screens and juxtaposing pictures of affluent America with those of the Third World.

"Hopefully, the Non-Fair will stimulate people to take action, especially by way of trimming down their life styles," said Sister Catherine Thomas McNane.

### Fr. Drinan Urges Gun Control Laws

Washington, D.C. (RNS) — Congress should enact "tough" gun control laws to reduce the number of deaths and injuries caused by firearms each year, Rep. Robert D. Drinan (D-Mass.) told the House Subcommittee on Crime.

The Jesuit priest said: "Our claim to be a civilized nation cannot be sustained until effective and enforceable gun control laws are passed. We are a people who have become habituated to violence in our daily lives. Nothing demonstrates this fact better than the 210 million privately-owned firearms in the United States and the 25,000 gun deaths that occur each year."

Father Drinan said the record of "gun-related" carnage is a national disgrace, and we can no longer allow this unchecked availability of firearms to continue.

C.S.J. of the College of St. Rose here, a member of the exhibit's sponsoring Committee on International Affairs.

Among guests participating in ceremonies opening the Non-Fair were Albany Mayor Erastus

Corning, Father John Bertolucci, vice chancellor of the Albany Catholic diocese; the Rev. Robert Thomas, president of the Capital Area Council of Churches and Dr. Vladimir Hartman, executive director of the Council.

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