

Opinion

St. Bernard's Alumni Lauded

Editor:

The role of the lay person in the Catholic Church is ever taking on new dimensions. This holds true for former seminarians and laicized clergy as well.

As a former seminarian from St. Bernard's Seminary, it felt good to hear that the priest alumni of the seminary have voted to allow lay alumni, those who attended the seminary for at least one year, to join their association and that the lay alumni will be approached by them in the near future to join the alumni association. I am further encouraged to see that the seminary has instituted an office of seminary relations with a full time person working on, in addition to recruitment for the seminary, alumni relations, including the seminaries interest in lay alumni. I am looking forward to attending the luncheon meeting which the seminary plans to have in late January '76 at the seminary for the lay alumni.

I feel more a member of the Church because the priest alumni of the seminary and the seminary itself is reaching out and encouraging its former students, lay members of the Church, to become involved in helping the seminary in what ever way possible with their resources as lay persons. To me this reflects the openness of the Church in the post Vatican II era.

I think that the priest alumni of St. Bernard's and the seminary itself is taking seriously, in a

special way, the following words of the fathers of Vatican Council II by expressing their interest in the lay alumni of the seminary. "The laity are gathered together in the People of God and make up the Body of Christ under one Head. Whoever they are, they are called upon, as living members, to expend all their energy for the growth of the Church and its continuous sanctification. For this very energy is a gift of the Creator and a blessing of the Redeemer." **The Documents of Vatican II, The Laity, 32.**

John J. Barnoski
50 Amherst St.
Rochester, N.Y. 14607

Woman Priest Idea Decried

Editor:

We read with interest the article "Women Ordination Topic of Conference" in the Nov. 26 issue of the Courier-Journal. However, of even more interest were the organizations listed as supportive of ordination of women into the priesthood. When looked at in depth we find them, also supportive of abortion, ERA, and all the other pseudo-religious movements that are thrust upon us today. But how deep does it really go?

According to the May, 1975 "The Mindszenty Report," the Leadership Conference of Women Religious is headed by Sister Francis Borgia Rothluebber, OSF, who also works with the "Institution on Women Today" which calls itself "the only church-related women's coalition organized to search for the religious roots of women's liberation." The Report goes on to say that the executive-director of LCWR, Sister Mary Daniel Turner, raised these profound questions on April 11 of this year — "To what extent is the man/women relationships, the myth of Adam and Eve, the pattern for Western social order."

The sister delegates to the National Assembly of Women Religious in a 1974 conference listened and applauded Joseph Holland, of Center for Concern, as he urged them "to study the socialism of Karl Marx as an alternative to capitalism," according to this same report. By some "coincidence" in the Dec. 10 Courier-Journal Pope Paul IV, for the second time in a matter of a few days, denounced Marxism in that "Christ would be succeeded by Marx."

The Mindszenty Report mentions Sister Margaret Traxler, SSND, as founder and head of the National Coalition of American Nuns. It views her as being considered "by many as the 'Betty Freidan of women religious' for her frequent outbursts of rage." As an example of her disloyalty to the Church the report mentions an article appearing in the Omaha World-Herald when she called Pope Paul VI "the old man" and the American Bishops "tools of the state." Also it mentions that in

How Would Christ Do?

Editor:

It is interesting to note that the Priest's Personnel Board will be commissioning a task force to "develop an updated and enlarged personality and aptitude profile for each priest" (COURIER-JOURNAL, December 10, page 2). One cannot help but speculate what such a personality profile of Christ would have contained:

—Is very outspoken and tends to "rock the boat"

—Is hard to control, and has "run-ins" with authorities

—Speaks out and causes disruptions in Temple.

—Works miracles on the Sabbath, against the advice of higher-ranking Pharisees

—Hangs around with lowly class of people: ex-prostitutes, tax collectors, fishermen and the like.

Undoubtedly, such entries in His permanent personnel file would have affected appropriate assignments for One so out of synch with His times!

Alan V. Purcell
83 Wheatstone Circle
Fairport, N.Y. 14450

Editorial

Viva Il Papa!

Overshadowed by the barrage of year-end news was perhaps the most significant event of all — Pope Paul's spontaneous and dramatic act of kneeling to kiss the feet of Eastern Orthodox Metropolitan Meliton at an ecumenical service in the Sistine Chapel.

The Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches have been estranged since the Great Schism of 1054 and only 10 years ago lifted mutual excommunications. At the service Dec. 14, Metropolitan Meliton, representing Patriarch Demetrios I of Constantinople had announced that his Church was establishing a joint commission to prepare for unification talks with the Church of Rome. At this point, the Pope knelt and kissed the feet of the startled Meliton.

The Orthodox later called the dramatic act "the gesture of a saint. Only a saint has the courage to do what the Pope did."

He also hailed the humble action as an example to "the Church and the entire world" of the "humility and sacrifice" needed to achieve reconciliation.

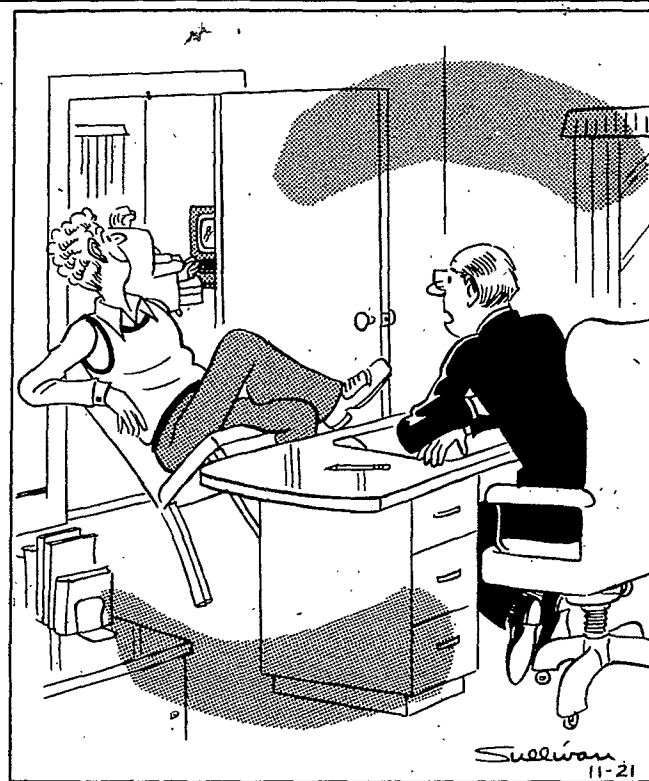
Sometimes the simple act of touching can accomplish what rounds and rounds of meeting and discussions cannot even approach.

January

Being two-faced has never been considered a virtue, but in the case of the Roman god Janus it has its values. This mythological character, the eponym of our first month, uses his two faces not to delude others but to size up at one time the past and the future.

Disregarding the pagan allusion and excluding from this frame of reference Satchel Paige's admonition about the folly of looking back, Jan. 1 is indeed a time for studying our past. This should be done not to rue days forever gone but to check the record to see our strengths and weaknesses, our successes and failures, our sins and virtues so that we do not continue to repeat our mistakes.

However, it will do us little good to see the cracks in the hull if we do not repair the vessel. And likewise it will accomplish nothing to mend the hull if do not continue the voyage.



February 1974 she took part in a NOW forum moderated by Betty Freidan on "Is God a Woman?" During which time Sister Traxler called the biblical women Esther and Judith "sex symbols" and demanded the bible be purged of "stories that didn't happen," said the report.

become worse as these "false teachers" continue to stumble on, blindly distorting the sight of many. But anyone knows there is no virtue in blindness.

Richard and Theresa Hussar
340 Jordan Ave.
Rochester, N.Y. 14606

Letters intended for publication must be addressed to Opinion, Courier-Journal, 67 Chestnut St., Rochester, N.Y. 14604.

They should be no longer than 1 1/2 pages, typed double-spaced, with names and addresses. The paper reserves the right to edit all letters.

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

- QUALITY STANDARDS
- DIGNITY IN SERVICE
- INTEGRITY IN BUSINESS



F. H. McELWEE

Funeral Home, Inc.

Phone 394-2220

Leo M. Bean
Francis H. McElwee

200 Buffalo St., Canandaigua, N.Y.
90 E. Main St., Victor, N.Y.

HARLOFF Funeral Home

586-5948

ST. JEROME'S
PARISH
E. ROCHESTER

BURNS - HANNA FUNERAL HOME

1795 Ridge Rd. E.

467-5745



Paul W. Harris

FUNERAL HOME INC.

570 Kings Highway South (corner Titus)

SPACIOUS PARKING

Private casket selection room. 544-2041

AIR CONDITIONED

Arndt Funeral Home

Air Conditioned

Parking for over 50 cars

Ronald John Arndt — Funeral Director

Parishioner at St. John the Evangelist

1118 Long Pond Road near Maiden Lane 621-2820

COURIER-JOURNAL

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, President

Anthony J. Costello
General Manager

Carmen J. Viglucci
Editor

Rev. Louis J. Hohman
Episcopal Advisor

Vol. 90 No. 35 December 31, 1975

Published weekly by the Rochester Catholic Press Association. Subscription rates: Single copy 20¢, 1 year subscription in U.S. \$7.50. Canada and Foreign, \$12.00. Offices, Richard Building, 67 Chestnut St., Rochester, N.Y. 14604. (716) 454-7050. Second class postage paid at Rochester, N.Y.