

**Life, Liberty
and Law**



Nancy Murphy

[Eighth in a series]

Basic Catholic truths: Some will tell us that modern technology has changed them. That there are no absolutes. That evil and sin are old-fashioned. That all religions are equal, and morality is a matter of personal choice. They will tell us that all aspects of sex, including masturbation and homo-sexuality, must be taught like mathematics, without the "interference" of morality, and furthermore that clinical sex must be taught during the pre-pubertal years of the latency period surrounding the fourth and fifth grades (the period many psychologists warn is the most damaging time to concentrate on sex). Have Catholic truths changed?

Pope John XXIII (Near the Chair of Peter, 1959): "The source of all evils which affect individuals, peoples and nations with a kind of poison — and confusing the minds of many — is this: ignorance of the truth and not only ignorance but at times a contempt for it and a turning away from it. Those who deliberately and wantonly attack the truth (in order to) mold the impressionable minds of the young (are) engaging in a practice wholly to be condemned." He scored as well those who, although they do not deliberately attack the truth, yet, by neglect and extreme carelessness, work against it. This depraved manner of action leads by the easy path to the ridiculous opinion that there is no difference

**Dinner Planned
For School Staff**

Elmira — The staff of Ss. Peter and Paul School will be honored by the parish at a dinner scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 2. The 78-year-old school will go out of business at the end of this semester.

On Sunday morning, June 6, men and boys of the parish at a communion breakfast after the 9 o'clock Mass, will hear Father Cyril Guise, OCD, on the subject of the Karen Quinlan case. Father Guise is chaplain at St. Joseph's Hospital.

The women of Ss. Peter and Paul will hold their annual pot luck supper at 6 p.m. Monday, June 7. Father Robert Tyrrell of Grace Episcopal Church will talk to them about ecumenism and cooperation among churches.

between true and false, and that all religions are equal. We quote the words of Our predecessor Leo XIII (Humanum Genus 1884): "This kind of reasoning is aimed at the destruction of all religions, particularly the Roman Catholic since she alone is true and cannot without serious injustice, be placed on a level with the others."

Pope John went on to decry the blatant misuse of modern communications technology as a tool to encourage obscenity. It can be the source of enticement to loose morals, to a disorderly life and the snares of error and treacherous vices, especially in the minds of the young.

Pope Pius XI (Christian Education of Youth 1929): "Every method of education founded wholly or in part on the denial or forgetfulness of Original Sin and Graces and relying solely on the powers of human nature, is unsound. Far too common is the error of those who falsely imagine that they can forearm youth against the dangers of sensuality by purely natural means such as a foolhardy initiation and precautionary instructions for all — in public, and worse still, by exposing children at an early age to the occasions in order to harden them against such dangers. Such persons err grievously in refusing to recognize the inborn weaknesses of human nature. In this extremely delicate matter, every precaution must be taken. Such precautions are well known in traditional Catholic education (where) Antoniano said, "Such is our misery and inclination to sin that often in the very things considered to be remedies against it, we find occasions for inducement to (the) sin itself." Speaking generally, during the period of childhood, it is sufficient to employ those remedies which produce the double effect of opening the door to the virtue of purity while closing the door to vice."

Vatican II advises that children and young people be helped to "develop harmoniously their physical, moral and intellectual qualities" first, and then "as they grow older they should receive a positive and prudent education in matters relating to sex." They do not say sex should be taught in the schools at the fourth grade level or before. They do not advise sex without morality.

Basic Catholic truths. They have not changed. They are to be found in every home, school and pulpit which follows the ample leadership of the Vatican. But they cannot be taught by those who follow in whole or in part the leadership of Planned Parenthood and SIECUS (a professional, humanistically inspired sex education organization spun off from Planned Parenthood in the mid-sixties). Sin is not old fashioned; it is in fact very much in vogue. And concupiscence (a word not even found in most Catholic sex education courses) is still a part of our weak human nature.

NEXT WEEK: Sex education as it could be taught.

Local Sisters Attend Conference

The Sisters of Our Lady of Charity met for their annual Conference of Representatives (COR) at Green Bay, Wis. April 21-25. All Houses of the North American Federation were represented.

The Order of Our Lady of Charity was founded by St. John Eudes in 1641 at Caen, France. Distressed and challenged by the conditions of his times, he acted with determination and perseverance to attack the root causes of suffering.

The conference opened with a panel discussion on the conflicts — political, moral, social, physical — encountered in the Order's efforts

to function according to its philosophy.

Much time during the conference was spent in re-affirming the philosophy and strengthening policies and standards in the apostolic works of the order. In recognizing the dignity of the persons who come into the sphere of their care the Sisters subscribe to the spiritual, moral, psychological, social and physical well-being of all.

Helpful suggestions on community living were made by Father

Bill Zimmer and comments on administration techniques by Msgr. M. Schommer. The Sisters themselves represent a background of nurses, social workers, administrators, educators and child care workers.

The conference was hosted by the Green Bay Community, Sister Augustine Grabiak, superior. Attending from Holy Angels Convent, 1326 North Winton Road, Rochester, were Sister Mary Helen Garrity and Sister Charity Gocshar.

**Business in
the Diocese**



Daniel Cummings, a parishioner at Our Lady of the Lake Church in King Ferry, has been named a newsmen at WEZO (FM 101) and WNYR (680 AM) in Rochester. Cummings graduated from the State University College at Geneseo this month with a degree in Speech Communications. He had been working with the two Rochester stations in a part-time news capacity. Before joining WEZO and WNYR, Cummings had worked at radio stations in Ithaca, Elmira, and Geneseo. He had also been a student intern with WXXI-TV and WXXI-FM in Rochester.

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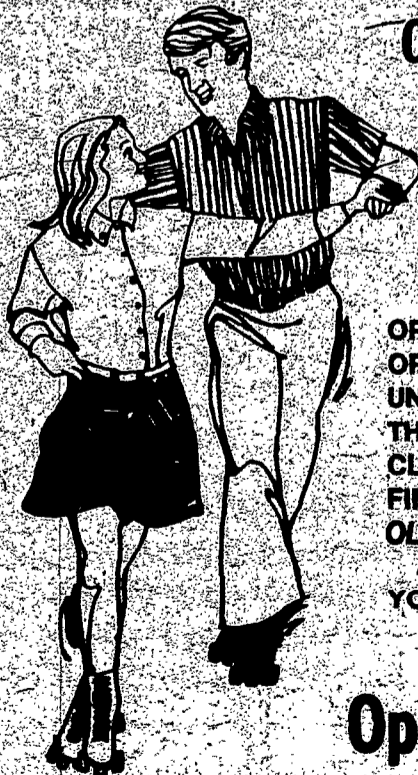
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