


Special Feature

One of the special features of this year's Country Fair at St. Pius Tenth parish is this hand-sewn bicentennial quilt. More than 1,000 hours of labor went into creating the piece. The fair also will feature other hand-made items, a Ham Supper, and amusements for children. The fair is slated for Saturday and Sunday Aug. 28 and 29 on the Chili Avenue church grounds. Holding the quilt are Mesdames Betty Kelly, Joanne Sousa, Joyce Conolly, Rita Mollon, Ozzie Schwab, Sonia Cimino and Mary Faraone. More than 50 women worked on the item.

The Church 1976



Fr. Andrew Greeley

Should Catholics be afraid of the Jimmy Carter — Walter Mondale ticket?

You bet your sweet life they should.

Carter represents the old tradition of Southern populism, which was fundamentally and often viciously anti-Catholic. Mondale represents the knee-jerk "liberal" or "progressive" strain of American political life, which is more subtle and latent in its anti-Catholic animus. Both represent a new "unity" in the Democratic party from which Catholics are excluded. A victory for such a ticket would ratify a political solution in which one quarter of the country and two fifths of the Democratic party are written off as politically unimportant pariahs.

Mondale undoubtedly is not personally anti-Catholic, but he is on the ticket as a concession to the McGovern liberal wing of the party, which is probably one fifth of the size of the Catholic partner in the coalition and the wing which has always been motivated by a latent shame over having to depend on Catholic votes to win an election.

Carter is much more problematic. There are (at this writing) no Catholics on his staff. He yielded to other pressure at the convention — blacks, women, liberals, Jews, labor — but he ignored the pleas of many of his advisers to do something, anything, to overcome Catholic fears. His resolute refusal to say a single good word about Catholic schools, for example — again, in the face of strong pressure from various advisers — has about it the smell of hard-backed bigotry.

It is obvious that Carter thinks he does not need the usual Catholic

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Democratic votes to win the election. A decision so dumb would mean that either he is a stupid politician or blinded by prejudice. No one has said that Jimmy Carter is stupid.

My guess is that his lead will waste away and by the last week in October, both the Gallup and Harris organizations will say that the election is too close to call. By that time Mr. Carter will regret that he couldn't pronounce the word "Italian" correctly. But by then it will be too late.

Catholics have only themselves to blame for being thrown out of the Democratic coalition. We have no articulate spokesmen. Catholic politicians are not interested, by and large, in specifically Catholic issues, our religious leaders can think of nothing but abortion, and we have no effective and articulate lay intelligentsia.

So one of Carter's staff can ridicule Archbishop Bernardin and insist that the Catholic laity don't follow their bishops on the abortion issue. You have to be real dumb to misunderstand so badly. Catholics may not be willing to impose their religious convictions on others, but they find abortion abhorrent. While they may not bestow much credibility on their hierarchy just now, they are infuriated when that leadership is made fun of by a representative of a man whose state voted overwhelmingly against John Kennedy because of his religion.

I have been a Democrat all my life and would not vote for a Republican for president. But I stayed home in 1972 and will find no trouble doing it again in 1976 unless Carter and his new Democratic coalition purify themselves of their anti-Catholic prejudices.

My guess is that a lot of other Catholics will do the same thing — or cast a protest vote for Eugene McCarthy.

A country presided over by Jimmy Carter and Walter Mondale — at the present reading — would be a very difficult country for the Catholic church and the Catholic people.

Auburn Man Named By National AOH

At the recent national convention of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in Newport, Rhode Island, Thomas D. McNabb of Auburn was elected the national vice president.

McNabb, present New York State president, was a local president for seven terms and has served as organizer, director, secretary and vice president on the state level.

Deaths

Sister M. Kathleen, Mission Helper

Baltimore — Sister Mary Kathleen Barrett, MSHS, died Aug. 9, 1976, at the motherhouse of the Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart after an illness of several months at age 58.

Sister Kathleen taught in the Assumption School of Religion in Fairport in the late 50s and early 70s. She is also well known by Mission Helper friends and benefactors all over the country through her extensive correspondence with Co-missioners of the Congregation.

Born in New York City in 1918 as Catherine M. Barrett, she began her religious life in Baltimore in 1941 at the Congregation's motherhouse. There on Aug. 11, Father Leonard A. Kelly, pastor emeritus of the Church of the Assumption in Fairport, was one of the concelebrants of a Mass of the Resurrection for Sister Kathleen.

She was a religion teacher and pastoral minister in Brooklyn, Boston, Detroit and Dayton as well as in Fairport and Baltimore and on several military bases.

She is survived by a sister, Mrs. Genevieve Pilger of Brooklyn, one niece and three nephews.

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