More Opinions

Life' Listing : Draws Objection

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The Rochester Area Right to Life Committee has prepared a compilation of the area's candidates position on abortion 1 find this document to be offensive and feel it should not be distributed on properties belonging to the Diocese. of Rochester.

l believe that abortion is a serious moral problem that should be dealt with by the Church in-Rochester: However, I also believe that denying people an adequate supply of food, adequate housing, adequate medical care, capital punishment, and the use of contaminated defoliants are serious moral problems. I find it hard to understand why the life of a 5, 15, 45, 75 year old person in any country of the world is less valuable than the life of an unborn child

While I have not found major candidates who have positions on all these issues which I can accept, would rather vote for a candidate with solutions to the problems of world hunger, housing, medical care, the elimination of capital punishment, obtaining world peace and who also happens to be for abortion, I could not vote for a candidate who would restrict the production and distribution of food, vote against housing programs for the poor, eliminate welfare aid to the truly needy, advocate capital punishment, increase military spending and who is also against abortion:

The Rochester Area Right to Life Committee pretends to proclaim the dignity of human life and yet only informs us of the candidates stand on abortion of severy possible that a vote for a can-didate who supports a constitutional amendment protecting the unborn child may also be a vote against the Right to Life of many living persons. How ironic!

> Edward J. Gutman 663 Regina Drive Webster, New York 14580

Mass is a Celebration

Editor:

It's interesting to see how some of us react to traditions and changes in the church.

A recent letter appeared in the Catholic Courier in reference to the Papal Stand view that some priests "perform" at Mass, suggesting that it is for entertainment. How sad that some would prefer that our Mass be solemn and ceremonial, without a hint of personality to humanize it. We, personally, find it so much more meaningful to attend Mass and see that our priests are human and touchable and are attempting to create an atmosphere of

what's more joyous to√celebrate together, as one large united family, than the feast of all feasts the receiving of the Eucharist — the sharing of our Lord, hearing His recious words spoken to us and litting our voices together in song and praise Rather than 'acting', it seems to us that these celebrants are now doing just the opposite Their openness and warmth create that same atmosphere in the Mass rather than the mechanical, seemingly sterile rite that the Mass can sometimes be. These celebrants allow us to become a real and active part of the Mass, rather than just observing it. The privilege of being a lay reader or giving out communion enables us to be a part of our celebration and to minister to our family — our church — in no way presuming to take on the duties of our priests, but rather; to join with them, in whatever capacity we may to celebrate the beauty of our Lord;

celebration, for indeed, that's what the Mass is intended to be. And

Rather than having an isolated Mass once a week, our "ad-libbing" priests encourage us to be more sociable and loving towards one another and to go out and live our Mass seven days a week.

> Paul and Sylvia Nichols 50 Dorset Drive Canandaigua, N.Y. 14424

Likes Buckley On Abortion

It was gratifying to hear that St. Patrick's Cathedral (Sept. 26-1976), agrees—and—supports—Senator Buckley's position on an amend-ment to the abortion law ... This should be good news to all Catholics and particularly to those who thought the Church had given up on the issue

There are many political candidates that try to bypass the abortion issue and some speak double talk but Jim Buckley has been for an amendment to the issue for some time, in fact since the adoption of the prsent law. He will continue to fight for a law against abortion for all America.

We should pray that soon there will be enough Senator Buckleys in the Senate to bring about enough votes to abolish this sinful law.

> George Aiken 5 Mary Street, Auburn, N.Y. 13021.

Not Debatable

Episcopal: Bishop Robert R. Spears Jr's letter (C.J. 9-1-76) thrusts an image of the "chaos of Christianity" of incompatible fundamental views, of further

Capuano Honored in Retirement

former assistant postmaster.

A capacity crowd gathered to recognize the man who started as a substitute clerk at the post office in April 1943, and worked his way up.

Capuano served as a floor supervisor, tour head, accounting. assistant, and general superin-tendent of mails, before being appointed assistant postmaster in 1962

Speakers included Robert J. Messig, former resident postal inspector; John G. Bittner, postmaster of Rochester from 1962 to

A retirement party was held at 1969 and Joseph Fallon, postmaster Sweets Party House on Sunday, of Pittsford, and formerly an Sept. 26 for Joseph P. Capuano, employee of the Rochester office.

> Capuano was flanked at the head table by his wife, Kay, members of his family, Father George S. Wood Walter J. Czarniak, himself a recent. retiree of the Rochester Post Office and member of National Association of Postal Supervisors

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autonomous divisions, and of an appetite, if not a hunger for a unity that is as nondescript as "Christianity," Under similar cir-cumstances, Our Lord was moved with compassion for the crowd because they were like sheep without a shepherd. He told His disciples to pray and advised that a man's enemies will be those in his own household (Matt. 9:36ff). He began to teach the crowd many things (Matt. 6:34) things (Mark 6:34) — and He continues teaching through His Vicar, the Holy Father.

Pope Paul VI, through the Decree on Ecumenism, teaches that Christ founded ONE Church (not denominations of autonomous democracies) with ONE Spirit (not contradictory Spirits of contentions and divisions) and ONE Baptism (one God, three divine non-pluralistic persons). The Decree states that the Roman Catholic Charles have the Roman Catholic Charles have the Roman Catholic Charles the Roman Charl Church shares in the responsibility for the divisions and consequent

Pope John XXIII declared that the Twenty-First Ecumenical Council wishes to transmit the Doctrine, without attenuation or distortion, the common patrimony of men. "Pope Paul VI's "Credo of the People of God" is central in this patrimony of truth.

Pope John XXIII insisted, "Prayer in fact is the first principal means for unity for the return of all to the one true faith." "The prayer from Christ's heart ["..."]

The most destructive forces against the Church's primary mark are not Protestants, non-Christians, nor believers in atheism, but those within the structure of the Church whose faith in their personal reasonings and pitiful pride leads them to judge to deny and over-rule the hierarchical role of the Church on their own authority. The Church's authority comes from Christ through the Apostles, not from consent of the people or from any earthly source." (Pope Paul VI; Aut. 1976)

Bishop Spears stated that he understands the "Papal stand" against the ordination of women into the priesthood, however, there may be some misunderstanding by the bishop and some readers. Since Catholic Faith accepts the Holy Father as Our Lord's Vicar, as His Visible Shepherd and Supreme Teacher, so-called positions" are Our-"Papal Lord's authoritative teachings which are accepted without dissent. Our Lord, through His Vicar, teaches with authority that is not subject to the approval of reasoned judgments of theologians or of democratic assemblies. He states explicitly "A wise man is one who hears My words and acts on them" (Matt 7:24) Markey Land

Joseph J. Murray 38 Wyndover Rd. Rochester, N.Y. 14616

Bigotry Charge Disputed

Editor:

I would like to respond to Father Andrew Greeley's column in the 8/25/76 issue of your newspaper, concerned with the supposed anti-Catholicism of both Jimmy Carter and Walter Mondale

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There are. I believe, a number of inconsistencies contained within the article. First off, although Carter does represent the tradition of southern populism it does not mean that like populists of the past he is anti-Catholic; in the same sense that Richard Nixon, a republican, does not represent the same values of another republican Abraham Lincoln.

A second discrepancy concerns Father Greeley's tying the liberal McGovern wing of the Democratic party to an inherent anti-Catholicism. If this were true, why did Senator McGovern align himself with Ted Kennedy in 1972, and why of all things did he choose a Catholic running mate in Sargent

A final inconsistency concerns Father's allusion to the fact that Carter comes from a state that voted against John Kennedy in 1960 because of his religion. If Father had researched into the 60 election, he would have found that Georgia cast more votes for J.F.K. then did the state of Massachusetts.

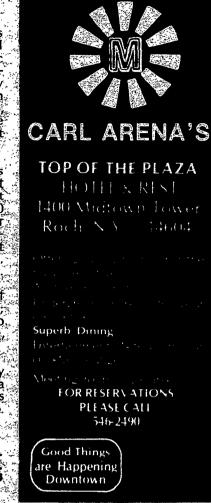
Jimmy Carter now has on his staff a number of prominent Catholics; he has also formed a committee to, deal with the Catholic vote, especially in the northeast.

I am shocked that Fr. Greeley. could take such a stance towards a man whose record indicates concern and justice for all people.

> Hugh Higgins Jr. 180 Viennawood Dr. Rochester, N.Y. 14618

Peter D. Mott, M.D., director of ambulatory care and community services, St. Mary's Hospital, has been named to the Council on Professional Practice and Patient Care of the Catholic Hospital Association (CHA). He will serve a three-year term. CHA represents 877 Catholic-sponsored hospitals and long-term care facilities throughout the U.S.

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