

ON THE RIGHT SIDE



Fr. Paul J. Cuddy

Dear Father Hohman,

I have just re-read your muddled article on intercommunion (C-Dec. 3) and Sister Kircher's on the same subject (C-Nov. 17). My conclusion is that you and Sister K. are on the same wave length but you are broadcasting error.

Bishop Hogan's Pastoral Instruction on Intercommunion (Oct. 1, 1975) is clear, kind and faithful. He directs: "Intercommunion is not to be used indiscriminately as a means of restoring Christian unity nor on the other hand it is to be categorically ruled out."

He then quotes from the June 1972 Instruction from the Vatican Secretariat for Christian Unity. This declares that Catholic Eucharistic communion is confined to particular cases of those Christians who: 1) have belief in the Eucharist; 2) have a serious spiritual need for it; 3) cannot go to their own church; 4) are living worthy lives; and 5) ASK FOR THE SACRAMENT OF THEIR OWN ACCORD.

Sister K. quotes Bishop Hogan's directive accurately, saying: "It allows fairly wide discretionary power to the episcopal authority in judging whether the necessary conditions are present in exceptional cases." However, in its out-of-context setting, the quote is a good example of the sleaziness which insinuates a loose interpretation quite in opposition to the intention of the document. It gives innocent Catholics and non-Catholics wrong impressions. It gives Mod. priests misleading encouragement.

What does the Bishop say about "discretionary power"? I am directing that should an occasion arise that a non-Catholic Christian request Communion for a particular service and the conditions are present in the judgment of the priest, then permission must be asked of the Ordinary to grant intercommunion (Oct. 1, 1975).

To quote Cardinal Willebrands, with the Pope's approval, is encouraging. But Sister K.'s quote is an exquisite non-sequitur from the discussion. The quote is: "We express the hope that the ecumenical movement will lead to a common profession of faith among Christians, and so allow us to celebrate the Eucharist in ecclesial unity." Why, even the Wanderer would concur with this. A hope is something to strive to bring into being. It is not an existing condition.

Of Cardinal Willebrands, the Nov. 25 English language edition of "L'Osservatore Romano" reports: "The Dutch ecclesial community is interested these days in the Tubbergen affair." On 10 October last, Cardinal W. presided over a Eucharistic celebration in St. Pancras in Tubbergen on the fourth centenary of the parish.

Ten days before, the parish priest Stapelbroek had telephoned the Cardinal and consulted him on four points: whether Pastor Waardenburg of the local Dutch Reformed Church could take part in the procession of priests at the aforesaid ceremony; whether the same pastor could be present among the priests in the choir; 3) whether he could read out one of

the intentions in the prayer of the faithful; and 4) whether we could receive Holy Communion as was his desire.

Cardinal W. replied positively to the first three points, but negatively to the fourth.

A month later the Cardinal declared: "I have taken part in various Eucharistic meetings, and I have often celebrated the Eucharist in the presence of Christian brethren who do not belong to our Church: Orthodox, Anglicans, Protestants. In all these circumstances we have always stressed the bond that exists among Christians, but we have never fully participated in the celebrations to the extent of intercommunion. For the participants it would have been a contradiction if, in the phase of full research, we had at the same time already shared the totality of the faith of which the Eucharist is a sacramental expression."

So my dear Father Hohman, in responding so frankly I have no hope of changing the arbitrary practices of the High and Mighty Mod. priests. But in this writing, I do hope to give an assurance to the authentic Grass Roots Catholics, that there is really order and direction in the Church; and that their reverence for the Pope, the Holy See and our Bishop is not misplaced.

Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year!



60th ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. Peter M. Hadeed, 30 Foster Road, Greece, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Saturday, Dec. 11.

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan officiated at an anniversary Mass in their honor, which was followed by a reception and dinner at Monroe Golf Club, Pittsford. Attending the celebration, which was given by the Hadeed children, were some 60 family members and relatives. Mr. and Mrs. Hadeed immigrated to the United States from the Middle East at the turn of the century and have lived in Rochester since 1930. During his working career, Mr. Hadeed was an importer of Persian rugs. The Hadeeds have three sons, Kaleel P., Fred, Victor P. and three daughters, Miss Helen Hadeed, Mrs. Margaret Cooley, and Mrs. Violet Psak, 15 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. Mr. and Mrs. Hadeed also had a son, Henry, who was killed in the South Pacific during World War II.

Senior Citizens Holiday Fete

The Senior Citizens Action Council of Monroe County plans a holiday program from noon to 3 p.m. Dec. 20th, at the Drop-In Lounge, 3rd floor 40 N. Clinton Ave.

Barbara Jablonski of the Golden Links Folk Singers. Refreshments will be served.

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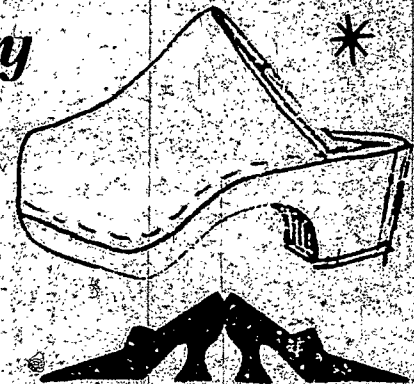
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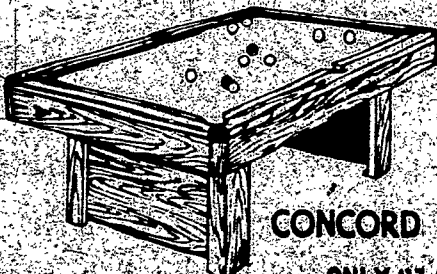
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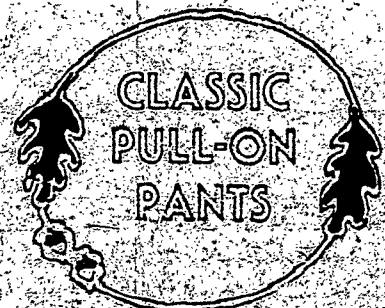
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