

tion

I will comfort in Third Isaiah is within this f God as the srael that Jesus pspel of Luke self calling to his g people Jerusalem. ave I longed to children, as a her brood under s, and you i:34).

cal witness, with ure of masculine nine symbol ent to obey the ent to make no jes (Ex. 20.4). We Scripture God Mother and creating and giving birth to ting Israel. Yet male or female all symbols, that we can use the way God us.

er's Day, then, it that we should reflect on the evelation of God God taught ilk, lavished love ole and fed them 4). In our human it is often our to perform such s for us. Why s exclude this uality from our tanding of God?

ere are those of ing to know a tender God who our joys and us in our suf-

ORN'S 20TH

Paul Wohrab, ur Lady of Good rch, will be host onghorn District 20th annual he dinner is for 6:45 p.m. in i school. Leo eneral chairman. rt Gaelens, CSB, the nominating and a former irman, will pre- lates for office. be made to the oy Scout leaders

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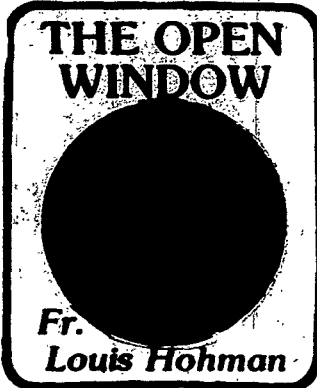
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Dear Father Hohman,

My daughter told me: You won't get anywhere with Father Hohman, he's way out and a liberal — he writes a column in the Courier but I don't read it any more.

I didn't pay much attention to her until I read your letter in the paper. After reading Bishop Hogan's letter I know why so many people are leaving the Catholic Church. What has happened to the Church is unbelievable.

The first thing they did was change the Mass from Latin to English — take the altar rail away from the altar — take the black habit away from the Nuns — and put them in the shortest dresses they could find. Well they have lost a lot of respect and let them drive cars all over. I can remember when the girls would walk their Nuns one half a block to see them home.

I've seen them in the Spring House having a cocktail. Well you might say "they are human" — I didn't say they weren't but no one broke their arm to become a Nun — if they don't like the rules of poverty and other

rules — they should get out. They are not a very good example to the youth.

St. John's Church on Humboldt Street is a disgrace — no altar, crucifix or statues — it's far worse than a Protestant Church. I thank the Lord every day for being able to belong to old St. Mary's.

When you walk into St. Mary's you know you are in a Catholic Church. I hope you forgive me for writing this letter but I am very concerned and saddened by the future of the faith of the Catholics.

Most Sincerely, (Signed) M.M.

Dear M.M.,

I hope you believe that I am saying this in all charity, but there is little reason to believe that I or anyone else could have any effect on the way you think. And that is the way it should be since we really are not called upon to influence one another in non-essential matters.

The things you are talking about in your letter and the things which you decry are by no stretch of the imagination essential to our Christian belief. I would suggest that you read the Apostles Creed or the Nicene Creed and say to yourself, these are the things which are essential to my faith. These are the things which really matter. Everything else is accidental and therefore changeable depending upon the times the place and the circumstances.

I realize that you and

thousands more like you are unable to do this. Neither I nor anyone else can sit in judgment upon where you are. I would equally hope that you will not sit in judgment upon the sisters whom you talk about. There is no reason in the world to believe that a cocktail for a lay person is any more or less immoral than a cocktail for a nun. There is consistently a lack of appreciation of what the sisters and the priests do in terms of promoting the cause of Christ and the mission of Christ. I assure you, it has nothing to do with a cocktail before or after dinner. Nor does it have to do with the kind of clothes one wears. It has to do with a love for Jesus Christ and a love for humanity and I don't think that either you or I are in a position to decide who has that love and who doesn't. Each of us has to search into our own soul and decide whether or not we have said yes to Christ in what He calls us to do. That is the very best we can do and the very most we can do.

Again I do not presume to judge you or the thousands who are in the same boat as you. But I must necessarily speak from whence I come. If you are only comfortable with a Church which existed 20 years ago but no longer exists then I think that you are in for a great deal of suffering. I am sorry about that. The times have changed and people have changed. If your daughter thinks that I am not one worth listening to then that is her privilege. I do not demand that people listen to me. I only hope and pray that you will not demand that people listen to you.

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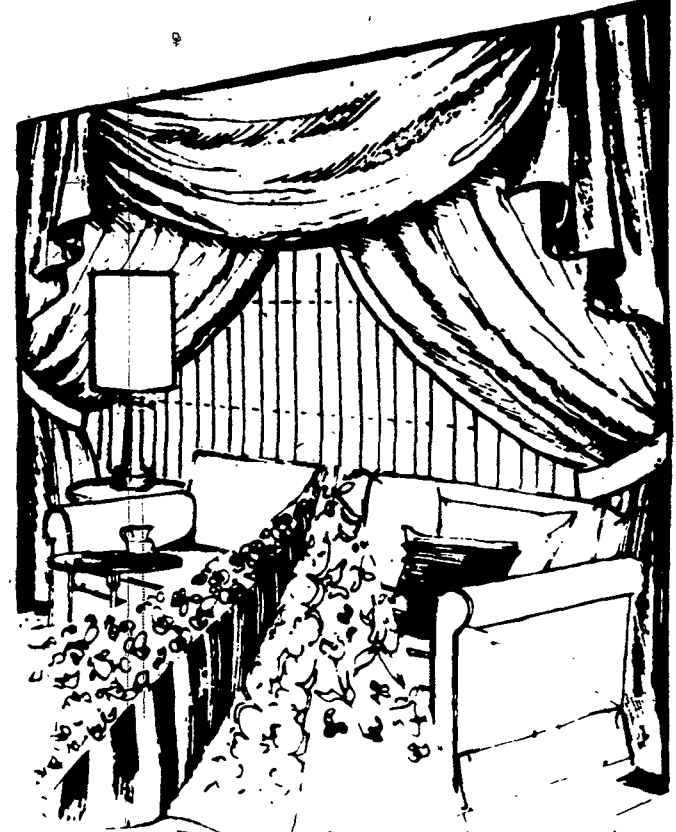
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