



It is a safe bet that the people who lead the American Catholic church are not thinking much about the next vacancy on the Supreme Court. Every time there is a new vacancy on the bench the Church seems to be caught by surprise. Blacks, Jews, women and environmentalists quickly have a fix on where the potential appointees stand and take vigorous public positions on the candidates.

The Church manages to get itself organized a couple of days after the appointment has been approved by the Senate. Thus Mr. Justice Brennan, the holder of the alleged "Catholic seat" on the court was approved a long time ago, and the Church seems quite content that there is a justice with an Irish name, despite the fact that Brennan has voted against the Catholic position on every major issue that has come down the pike — abortion, Catholic schools, pornography, anti-Catholic quotas.

You will not catch Mr. Justice Marshall ever voting against the black position. He knows why he's on the court; and if he forgets it, the blacks of the country will let him know.

Another justice was well-known as an anti-Catholic in his home town. He refused to attend the wedding or reception when his daughter married a Catholic. This fact was known by the bishop of his diocese and by the

national leadership of the Church, but no attempt was made to challenge his appointment. He has since written some bitterly anti-Catholic opinions.

Can you imagine blacks sitting still for a justice who would not go to a wedding where the groom was black?

I am amazed that the hierarchy will go to the mat with presidential candidates on abortion when the president has little effect on either constitutional amendments or court decisions but will then pay no attention to court appointments when these appointments are of critical importance to the abortion issue.

When the "Catholic seat" becomes vacant, the

campaign against a Catholic justice will be very strong. The pro-abortion and anti-Catholic school pressure groups will probably demand veto power on a Catholic appointee. President Carter, who does not seem to like Catholics very much, will quickly argue that there is no such thing as a "Catholic seat" and that the vacancy should be filled by the "best qualified" person.

And they will get away with it. The bishops don't know how to fight.

So the "Catholic seat" will be lost without a fight, and the bishops will go right ahead with useless campaigns on October Sundays.

And Everyone will be happy.



The Godson

The eighth grade of St. Mary Our Mother, Horseheads, wrote their own rendition of "The Godfather", and presented it recently in the school. Titled "Godson," the comedy ended with the Godson and his group of thugs in prison. The play was directed by the eighth grade teacher, Miss Arline Carapella.

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