

**Editorial**

**Filter Campaign**

The campaign to raise funds for the purchase of water filters for impoverished families in Brazil could have taken on many forms. We happen to think that the people-to-people approach is the best way, though in this case it is a family-to-family proposition.

The idea is for 1,800 families in our diocese to contribute \$10 each, the cost of one filter to be given directly to 1,800 families in the Vila Bella settlement in Brazil.

As there are many ways of conducting such a campaign so, too, are there many ways for a family to raise the \$10. Many will want to have as many members of the family as possible contributing. One family has informed us that each of the children plans to do odd jobs for pay and then turn over the money for a family contribution.

Garage sales as a family project is another method of getting the participation of all members for this cause.

We don't think it is impossible to come up with 1,800 families who are willing counterparts in Brazil, particularly after seeing the photos of children, stomachs distended, suffering from worms infestation. We think such a direct way of contributing, family to family, makes the campaign attractive. The fact that the distribution will be conducted by our own Sisters in Brazil continues the personal approach.

We ask as many families as possible to join in this worthwhile. Make yourself feel better. Do it for the children. Yours and theirs.

**Death by Statute**

For all we know it may be an oversimplification but still it is a statement worth pondering. When more than 100 persons representing religious groups opposed to the restoration of the death penalty in this state recently converged on the State Capitol, Norman Redlich, dean of New York University Law School, said that he has never seen a "hired gun" on death row — only the poor and friendless.

Though this was only the personal observation of one person, we are sure there is a great deal of truth in it. What may be more important about the Albany meeting is the scope of the groups who sponsored it — American Friends Service Committee, State Council of Churches, State Coalition for Criminal Justice, Genesee Ecumenical Ministries and the Quaker Information Center on Criminal Justice.

The opposition to the restoration of the death penalty by these groups is supportive of the stated positions of U.S. Bishops Conference, which was endorsed by the Papal Commission for Justice and Peace, the State Catholic Committee representing all of the bishops of New York, and Gov. Hugh Carey.

The argumentation has been long and exhaustive and difficult. In our opinion it comes down to one basic truth — death as a solution to society's problems must be opposed. We should every opportunity in every sphere to support the dignity of life.

**RapAround**

Awards are only tangential to good journalism. Still it is pleasant to learn that a newspaper's judgment is confirmed by others.

Such was the case for the Courier-Journal two weeks ago when the national Catholic Press Association judges deemed RapAround "the best youth coverage" among Catholic papers in the country.

At the convention where the award was announced, pollster George Gallup fortified the judgment by saying that too many newspapers ignore young readers and added that this is particularly serious among Catholic newspapers because young adults make up nearly a third of the total Catholic population.

We hope those Catholic newspapers who have not directed efforts towards youth will heed the advice and join in the enterprise.

**Opinion**

**Adoration  
A Privilege**

Editor:

We are so fortunate to have the Blessed Sacrament reserved in our churches always, and at all times available to us. What love He has for us! It is heartening to know that others also realize the tremendous benefit of such a privilege: e.g., the Blessed Sacrament is in residence at Oral Roberts University and at the Protestant community at Taizé.

Witness the Eucharistic Congress as an expression of unity and devotion. Many who reside in countries controlled by Communist regimes are denied the opportunities we have to show our appreciation for such a Sacrament. It is our Lord himself waiting and inviting us to come and be with Him on the altar, as He wants our love, too, and to bless us and the parish.

We have this privilege at Blessed Sacrament Church, Monroe Avenue and Oxford Street, every First Thursday, with exposition from noon until 5 p.m. and Benediction before the regular 5:15 p.m. Mass.

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**Well Done,  
Fr. Murphy**

Editor:

Somewhat like the "Paragon" of many years ago, he came as a humble priest to the century old church on the ridge with the little known saint's name, St. Feehan, contending with a lack of amenities that would try even the most pioneering individual. All in obedient response to his bishop's request that man's need for roots, his Faith, be restored and enriched in the establishment of a new parish.

Father Donald J. Murphy has brought about the establishment of the strong and deep roots of our Faith

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in this community. "Restore All Things in Christ" has been the motto. After almost 25 years, the tangible results of his priestly example and energetic dedication are in evidence. The intangibles are immeasurable.

On Palm Sunday, our pastor, Father Murphy, announced his retirement and relinquishing of his pastoral responsibilities, effective June 28. His retirement will not become the caboose of a life long freight he has been pulling so mightily, but rather, will be the engine of enthusiasm that powers him toward life's newest and most attractive way stations. Although retirement may come toward the end of his working days, and it is difficult to discern his almost 70 years in his physical appearance, it will no doubt be the beginning of a new and exciting time table.

Father Murphy has often reiterated, give credit where credit is due. One must witness the fact that his impact, influence, efficacious prompting and prodding was the greatest of anyone in strengthening, enriching, and maintaining my spiritual equilibrium as well as that of many others in our community. Without it, we would no doubt have remained the lukewarm, spectator type Christian, passive members of the Mystical Body of Christ.

It has been said that life's last great gift to most of us is the freedom to live anew that releasing reward which comes with our retirement. Permit yourself freedom from those concerns. Live a little of that loafing you have often yearned for on your life's busy days. Enjoy this promising and heavenly time of your life. Go out there and enjoy your own promised land of the good retirement rewards. You have done your life's works duties and earned your reward. Enjoy it in good health and may years be long enough to pack in all the plans you may have put together.

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**Must Keep  
Panama Canal**

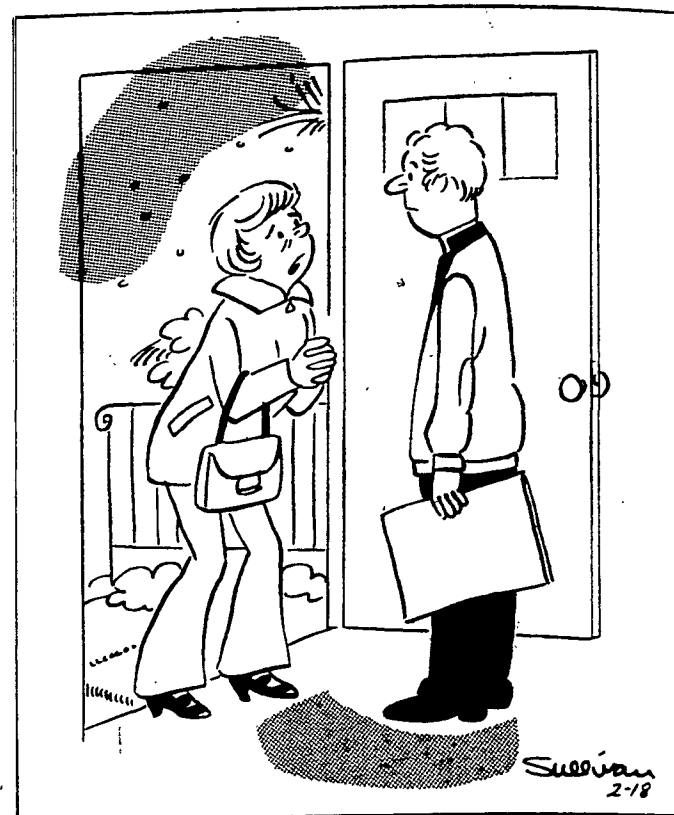
Editor:

In an article on the front page of the Courier-Journal (April 27), Panama's Archbishop Marcos G. McGrath stated that a new Panama Canal treaty would be in the "best interests" of the United States.

The December '76 issue of the Mindszenty Report states just the opposite and tells us why we should keep the old treaty.

The most important reason for not giving up control of the Panama Canal is that Panama is ruled by a leftwing dictator who is friendly with Cuba's Fidel Castro.

This in itself should indicate what would happen if we turned over control of the canal to Panama's Omar Torrijos.



"I WANT FORGIVENESS FORGIVENESS AND ABSOLUTION ABSOLUTION FOR WATCHING MARY HARTMAN, MARY HARTMAN!"

In the interest of national security it is vital for the United States and the rest of the free world to retain control of the Panama Canal. What is really disturbing is that a Roman Catholic bishop in a Marxist nation would pressure the U.S. to give in to Communist demands.

Communism and Catholicism are really not compatible.

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**'Loyal Dissent'  
False Teaching**

Editor:

Father Henry Atwell's correct recognition of Father John Courtney Murray's contributions (Courier-Journal 5-4-77) to Vatican Council II teachings on Religious Liberty (Dignitatis Humanae Personae) was surprising and possibly unique because the phrase "freedom of conscience" was not even mentioned. So many priests of various ranks and public esteem have erroneously attributed Father Murray with forging a doctrine of "freedom of conscience" into the Declaration, that many faithful Catholics and those of other faiths have been misled into accepting scandalous disobediences, false ecumenism, and perverted, illusory teachings such as "loyal dissent."

The Declaration on Religious Freedom is directed to nations, and invites greater confidence in ecumenical relationships and the relationships between the Church and the temporal world. It is straightforward in teaching (1) that the Catholic Church is the one true religion, and (2) the right to religious freedom is based on human nature, not on the supremacy of individual conscience:

1) "First, this Sacred Synod professes its belief that God Himself has made known to mankind the way in which men are to serve Him, and thus be saved in Christ, and come into blessedness. We believe that this one true religion consists in the Catholic and Apostolic Church, to which the Lord Jesus committed the duty of spreading it abroad among all men... On their part, all men are bound to seek the truth, especially in what concerns God and his Church... Therefore it

(the Synod) leaves untouched the traditional Catholic doctrines on the moral duty of men and societies toward the true religion and toward the one Church of Christ."

2) "... Therefore the right to religious freedom has its foundation, not in the subjective disposition of the person, but in his very nature. In consequence, the right to this immunity continues to exist in those who do not live up to their obligation of seeking the truth and adhering to it."

Both "loyal dissent" and "freedom of conscience" are false teachings which are incompatible with, and which reject the Church Teachings promulgated in the Vatican Council II documents. The phrases "loyal dissent" and "freedom of conscience" do not exist in those documents nor should they be associated with the Catholic Faith of Father John Courtney Murray, S.J. Those who seek the truth will find it, and also that faiths in the above-noted false teachings are the roots of the pervasiveness of moral anarchy and subversion within the structure of the Church today.

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**WAXC Stand  
Commended**

Editor:

I recently heard an editorial on WAXC vividly portray the massive destruction of innocent life in the act of abortion, and call for alternatives as answers to the nation's problems.

I wish to publicly applaud the insight and courage of John Sayer for taking such a stand.

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Letters intended for publication must be addressed to Opinion, Courier-Journal, 67 Chestnut St., Rochester, N.Y. 14604.

They should be no longer than 1 1/2 pages, typed double-spaced, with names and addresses. The paper reserves the right to edit all letters.