

**Editorials**

**Death Dealers**

Societal death-dealing, whether in the antiseptic rooms of the abortionists or the equally inhuman chamber of the prison executioner, must be opposed by all who believe in the compassion of Jesus Christ. Not only a religious principle is involved but also the desperate need to erase killing as the solution to present-day problems.

Gov. Hugh Carey, to his credit, has led the fight in the political halls of this state against the death penalty. To now he has been Leonidas at the bridge, but he needs the support of all who oppose killing by the state. This is particularly true now that a new bill has been introduced to permit the death penalty in various circumstances.

We ask diocesans throughout our 12 counties who cannot condone legal murder to write your state senator and assemblyman, write your governor. Tell them that it is time for all responsible citizens to say "no" to death.

**Sen. Humphrey**

A letter on this page takes issue with Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey. Such criticism is to be expected. No man could serve in a national leadership role for more than three decades and expect everyone to agree with everything he does, especially in these turbulent and tumultuous times.

We had intended to editorialize on that great man from Minnesota last week but considered it unnecessary amid the welter of such comment elsewhere in the media.

Now, however, that the immediate reaction to his death has settled down we would like to go on record saying that while not everything Hubert Humphrey did was impeccable, it is not because he did not care. Hubert Humphrey cared. Few public figures have cared so much about so many for so long. Even what will perhaps go down as his biggest mistake, his failure to oppose the Johnsonian Vietnam policy, was done in the name of another virtue—loyalty to his commander in chief. The people who screamed, "Dump the Hump" had little perspective either historically or for the future. For the man elected in his stead turned out to be one of our greatest presidential failures.

No American should ever forget Humphrey's championing of civil rights way back in the 40s when it was almost tantamount to political suicide to do so. This kind of fortitude alone puts Humphrey a notch above most of us.

But as time was to reveal his greatest show of courage was to come in another field. His unflagging faith, his indefatigable spirit, his Humphreyesque humor, tried in the lesser arena of politics, were to reach their brightest when he faced his ultimate conqueror. All of us should have learned a lesson in hope from his final months on earth.

It is said that one of the saints while working in his garden was asked what he would do if he were to learn that he would die before the day was out. Continue to work in the garden was his reply. That, too, was Humphrey's style.

For our part we would like to say, well done. Well done, Hubert Horatio Humphrey.

**In Common**

Something to think about department:

What do the following have in common?

Louis Braille, Charles Darwin, William E. Gladstone, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Cyrus McCormick, Felix Mendelssohn, Edgar Allan Poe, Alfred Lord Tennyson, Abraham Lincoln.

They all were born in the same year—1809.

We're lucky that liberalized abortion was not the vogue.

**Opinion**

**Pro-Lifers Ignored**

Editor:

When an estimated seventy thousand people overcome trials of influenza outbreaks and severe winter weather to gather in the nation's capitol to lobby—not for themselves—but for unborn children and the principle that we are each endowed from creation with the inherent right to life, that's news. However, for the fifth year the media has again pulled their paper curtain on this persistent outpouring of pro-life sentiment.

However, we who were there to witness the throng of people from across this land who came to show support for the Human Life Amendment, funding of alternatives to abortion, as well as their revulsion to using their tax monies to pay the costs of abortion chambers, came away knowing that this emerging movement of people may be inhibited in every kind of way, but they will not be stopped.

Ignatius O'Connor never misses the national march. Neither has he missed a day for six years walking the streets of Boston wearing his dogeared placard that reads, "Adoption — not Abortion ... Life is from God ... Abortion is Murder ... God Save the World." (Except for a time in 1976 after his sign was taken away, he was thrown to the ground and suffered fractures of his thigh, arm and shoulder.) Ignatius O'Connor is 85 years old, and meeting him, made my efforts to get to Washington, D.C. all worthwhile.

Jeanne D. Sweeney  
135 Nob Hill  
Rochester, N.Y. 14617

**NFP Sends Thank You**

Editor:

We wish to thank Nancy Murphy for her series of columns on natural family planning. We have received several requests for information and instruction as a result.

We also wish to publicly thank Sister DeChantal LaRow of St. Mary's Hospital for her continuous support of natural family planning and our program (especially in the early 1970s when it was not so much in vogue).

**COURIER-JOURNAL**

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan  
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Anthony J. Costello  
Publisher &  
General Manager

Carmen J. Viglucci  
Editor

Rev. Louis J. Hohman  
episcopal Advisor

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Courier-Journal

Her latest contribution to our program and the people of our diocese was our new office located in the Kearney Educational Building. We are now better able to serve those seeking NFP information.

We offer NFP information sessions, group and couple-to-couple instruction and speakers for high school classes and other organizations. Our address is Natural Family Planning of Rochester, 89 Genesee St., Rochester, N.Y. 14611; and our telephone number is (716) 464-8705. The office is open on Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please let us know if we can help.

Therese Hill Petracca,  
director,  
NFP of Rochester  
89 Genesee St.  
Rochester, N.Y. 14611

**Thank You Fr. Faddoul**

Editor:

In regards to Father Salem Faddoul's letter (Courier-Journal, 1/18/78): Thank you, Father! It certainly expresses, in a most eloquent way the total picture of today's moral problems and the only way they can possibly be solved. I sincerely hope and pray, parents, educators, priests and nuns can work together and convey the message in Father's letter to our young people. I plan on having the letter copied and sending it to friends and relatives who live out of town.

Thanks to you, the Courier-Journal, for publishing such a fine letter.

Rosaleen Smith  
20 Lookout View  
Fairport, N.Y. 14450

**Eulogist Gave Nod to Hill**

Editor:

Toward the close of the Hubert Humphrey funeral services in Minneapolis, a clergyman revealed that Senator Humphrey and his close friend Walter Reuther had idolized Joe Hill. The reverend gentleman did not explain that Hill had been a Marxist anarchist who was executed in Utah many years ago for murdering a grocer.

His organization, the IWW, had aimed to form "One Big Union" which would run the nation through a Congress in which members represented not States, but workers in the various industries.

Mr. Humphrey had a right to worship Joe Hill. The public also had a right to know about it. Where were our fearless investigative reporters during Humphrey's career?

God bless the preacher who spoke up and gave us the facts about Mr. Humphrey and Mr. Hill. God forgive him for having shown more enthusiasm when speaking of Joe Hill than he did when mentioning God.

H. A. James  
24 Birch Cres.  
Rochester, N.Y. 14607

**Glad Crown Went Back**

Editor:

To have sent the beautiful symbolic Crown of St.



"ANOTHER THING. DO WHAT HE TELLS YOU!"

Stephen back home to Hungary was indeed a rare privilege. experience a change of ideologies through this "happening."

The resistance to its return by so many, especially Hungarian-Americans, was indeed understandable but somewhat short-sighted.

We in the U.S.A. are blessed with religious freedom in peace. The return of this crown where it truly belongs may well provide the spark of hope and faith much needed by the Hungarian people still in their homeland.

Their leaders may even

According to Our Sunday Visitor, the Vatican was contacted by our government before making the announcement of the possible return. Also, bishops of Hungary approved, urging recognition of the "sacred character" of the crown, which we trust will be honored accordingly. God bless the dedicated Hungarians. A part of their heritage has been returned.

Kay Sullivan  
1 Lilace Drive  
Rochester, N.Y. 14620



Dear Father Hohman,

I read recently in the paper that an Anglican Roman Catholic Theological Commission made the declaration that there was nothing to prevent the union of the two Churches. This surprised me very much because I also realize that not too long ago the Anglican Church (Episcopalian) decided to ordain women and actually did. This certainly is not a practice which will be easily accepted by the Roman Catholic Church especially in light of the Pope's statement of recent months. What does the Commission mean when it says there is nothing standing in the way of union between the two Churches? Also how soon do you think the two Churches might come together and become one?

(signed) C.D.

Dear C.D.,

The Anglican Roman Catholic body you refer to was commissioned by the authorities of the respective Churches to explore the theological likenesses and differences between the two communions. They did so over a period of several years and gradually worked toward a kind of agreement. It was not an absolute agreement but one which theologians felt both

communions could live with.

The first thing to remember is that the leadership of neither Church has opted for total reunion. Some day in the future they might. Your second question asks when, I can only say that it would require a seer to determine when that might be. But when I realize how far we have come toward union in a mere 16 years, 1962-78, then certainly it is possible that it would be in the not too distant future. I would make a guess at 10 or 15 years.

As a matter of fact the most troublesome areas in the reunion of the two Churches are not theological but rather pastoral. The one referring to the ordination of women is a case in point. While the Roman Catholic Church tries to make a theological case against the ordination of women many fine theologians have indicated that they do not see any scriptural or other case against ordination of women. The matter would therefore be a pastoral one. That is true in many other areas especially in the area of the exercise of authority in the two Churches.

I would assume that the next step to be taken is to examine the pastoral implications of reunion and try to resolve them.

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.