

More Opinions

Will Miss Column

Editor:

Shame on you for dropping Nancy Murphy from your paper. Seems people who have the guts to tell it like it is always get it in the neck. You need writers like Nancy. That is why people take Catholic papers, to get the correct answers. I sincerely hope you bring her back.

Mary Millicent Pease
24 Riverside St.
Rochester, N.Y. 14613

Editor:

Please add my name to the list of those requesting the return of Nancy Murphy's column.

In your editorial you warn us against the latest efforts of Planned Parenthood regarding abortion. You tell us that we should support the work of all those who have long labored against liberalized abortion.

The Courier-Journal had only one columnist who continually kept us informed of the latest tactics of the anti-life groups. Nancy Murphy always gave us updated, researched information.

The Courier-Journal says one thing (Editorial, 2/15/78) and then does the complete opposite.

I always enjoyed Pat Costa's column. If Father Cuddy hadn't mentioned her in his column I would still be wondering what had happened to her. I had assumed that Nancy Murphy was ill or on vacation.

Melba H. Nye
1555 Elmira Rd.
Elmira, N.Y. 14867

Editor:

This letter expresses my dismay concerning the omission of Nancy Murphy's excellent column in the last two issues of the Courier-Journal. If this column is not going to be published from now on, I'm sure that many readers are going to miss it, if one can judge by the number of letters which have praised Nancy Murphy's writings.

Her columns have been consistently exposing many evils in modern times. Her loyalty to Rome and her dedication to pro-life endeavors have been proclaimed clearly and effectively, in a way some other columnists haven't been able to match.

Teresea Vallone
1 School St.
Livonia, N.Y. 14487

Editor:

Since the shocking news of your "editorial decision" to drop Nancy Murphy's column, I have been trying to figure out the reasoning behind your move. If her fully documented columns were not truthfully factual in presenting the teachings of the Catholic Church, then the leaders of the diocese had the obligation to prove her wrong. Since that was not done, I must assume that Mrs. Murphy's findings, as a result of her thorough research, must indeed be the truth. Now my common sense tells me that, if the information in her articles is true, it would be imperative for the diocese to uphold the official teachings of the church and to denounce all the affirmed ongoing activities which are in opposition to those teachings. Sometimes the truth becomes so painful that we choose to ignore or eliminate it rather than face it!

Mary L. Griesen
6283 Pittsford-Palmyra Road
Fairport, N.Y. 14450

Editor:

John the Baptist was a prophet who spoke the truth in such a way that his enemies hated him. John the Baptist was effectively silenced by being beheaded.

Nancy Murphy is a modern-day prophet who speaks the truth through a modern-day vehicle - a newspaper. Do we have a modern-day beheading in the removal of Nancy Murphy from our own Catholic Courier?

Gloria Jenner
415 Fox Meadow Road
Rochester, N.Y. 14626

Editor:

Why in the world did you drop Life, Liberty and Law? Of course, we are glad you decided to carry the Pope's article every week but Ms. Murphy's column presented his views on SPECIFIC matters which are either ignored or sometimes actually misrepresented, in Rochester, views that are not included or covered in your weekly Vatican articles. It was in her column that we could learn where the Pope stood on sex education, on sterilization and the principle of totality, on Values Clarification and on UNICEF. Also some time ago she mentioned receiving a letter of support from the Vatican so she does "tell it like it is."

A close reading of some of the Sadlier series and of Education in Love shows that neither one remains fully faithful to the Magisterium. Mrs. Murphy saw that and reported it. Also, she recognized the abortion mentality in Planned Parenthood and Threshold. Her series on Natural Family Planning was appreciated for its information which, by the way, is almost completely ignored in most Catholic schools. She did a whole

history of St. Mary's Hospital and helped rally support for them. Her series on the Communist actions in Poland was most educational.

Her column never attacked an error without offering a moral alternative. She offered free booklets from the Vatican. She sent documentation to any reader who asked for it. She wrote dozens of intercessions for the unborn to be used during Mass. She has been one of the main sources for free Vatican information on the whole range of human life issues such as abortion, sterilization, euthanasia, fetal experimentation and others.

We think you are wrong to drop her column.

Nick and Rita Kooman
253 Cloverland Drive
Rochester, N.Y. 14610

Editor:

The past two issues of the Courier-Journal have been a big disappointment to us when we did not find the weekly article by Nancy Murphy. But that disappointment was nothing to the way we felt after calling the office of your paper and learned that the column has been dropped.

When the Diocese of Rochester is fortunate enough to have a person with the capabilities of Mrs. Murphy to research and write on matters of the Catholic faith that are so vitally important in these times, we would assume she would be accorded all the encouragement, and help, financial and otherwise, that she needs to keep her articles appearing every week.

Those involved in making the decision to stop the column have surely done a disservice to the many readers of Mrs. Murphy's work. We wonder why this

particular writer was chosen to be dropped rather than others who regularly are published in your paper. The fact that new items have been added doesn't justify the omission of a dedicated layman's fine work.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Rinehart
76 Eastland Ave.
Rochester, N.Y. 14618

Editor:

Rochester Times-Union, Feb. 8, 1978, Peter B. Taub's column.

"The Courier-Journal has

dropped Nancy Murphy's 'Life, Liberty and Law' column after four years. It was an editorial decision," says editor Carmen Viglucci.

Well, I say, with all due respects to your wisdom, you owe the reader of this paper an explanation as to the reasons behind this "editorial decision." Mrs. Murphy's column was one of the few redeeming features of this Catholic paper.

Frank Lahr
319 Whitney Road
Penfield, N.Y. 14526

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