

Editorials

From King To Shah

Editorials in brief... Disappointment: Congress again fails to establish Jan. 15 as a national holiday to honor Dr. Martin Luther King...

Change for the Better: Bernard H. Nathanson, former head of the world's largest abortion clinic where 75,000 abortions were performed...

Leadership: Mother Teresa of Calcutta used the occasion of her receiving the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize to denounce abortion, calling it "the greatest destroyer of peace..."

Lighter Side? Alternatives: an organization promoting an end to holiday commercialism, has made its best and worst awards for Christmas gifts.

champagne sent by "a friend" to a recovering alcoholic.

Honest Question Department: A priest "nominated" by a computer has become the third Episcopal bishop to be so chosen.

Not to forget: Back in 1977, Ardeshir Zahedi, the Iranian ambassador to the United States, entered a building in Washington, D.C. where members of a Muslim sect were holding hostages...

Along the same lines: Iranians invented chess and "checkmate" comes from "shah-mat — the shah is helpless."

Time to Pray

The type of tragedy that has struck the family of Mrs. Gertrude McFarland defies understanding and tests Christian patience. Our only response can be prayer.

and Opinions

Church Needs Theologians

Editor:

In the splendid address he gave to educators at the Catholic University of America during his visit to the United States, Pope John Paul II said, "The Church needs her theologians, particularly in this time and age so profoundly marked by deep changes in all areas of life and society..."

The Roman "trial" of Edward Schillebeeckx is a travesty of freedom and justice. One of his three "inquisitors," Jean Galot, has written a book condemning Schillebeeckx's Christology.

The one bright spot in this otherwise somber picture is the courageous defense of Schillebeeckx by a high-placed Churchman, Cardinal Jan Willebrands, primate of Holland and chancellor of the Catholic University of Nijmegen where Schillebeeckx is professor.

Obviously all theology must be rooted in the Sacred Scriptures and responsive to the presence of God in the community of the Church.

between two differing approaches to theology: the one a scholastic theology that is a-historical and therefore refuses in its theologizing to consider "the deep changes in all areas of life and society" that the Pope spoke of in his Catholic University address...

The "trial" of Edward Schillebeeckx and the "censure" of Hans Kung bring to mind the statement:

"Every manifestation in the Church of lack of freedom, however harmless, however much under cover, whatever religious trimmings it may have, contributes toward making the Church less believable in the eyes of the world and of men in general, and that is a miserable disaster."

The statement is as true today as it was in 1966 when it was written — by Roman Catholic theologian, Hans Kung.

Msgr. William H. Shannon Nazareth College of Rochester

Rock Singers False Gods

Editor:

It is a sad day for America when so many of her youth (who worship rock singers as their god, rather than Christ the true God) and who'll gladly stand for three hours in the freezing cold (but will not attend their Church liturgy for less than an hour on Sunday)...

when the god of Baal was worshipped, can never fill the need that these poor souls are hungering for.

Anne B. Christoff 154 Crittenden Way, No. 3 Rochester, N.Y.

DSC Seen Irreverent

Editor:

Public news commentators described Sister Theresa Kane's platform as a "demand" and a "protest" against the Church Magisterium. The Church declaration and theological teaching against the possibility of ordaining women to the priesthood was promulgated in 1977.

By "unanimously" voting for a letter of commendation to Sister Kane (CJ 10-17-79), the Diocesan Sisters Council unanimously rejected Christ's authority to empower Pope John Paul II to reaffirm His Magisterium teachings.

The DSC (which does not speak for all diocesan sisters) is an example of severe casualties of the unrestrained Crises of Truth which has polluted the

Church during the past 15 years. The DSC has repeatedly shown its incapacity for, openness, reverence, truth and love for the (unenlightened) Catholic faith and its faithful whom they scourge.

Can the DSC give witness to openness that Jesus is the acting Head of His Church rather than putting their trust in the primacy of their contemplations? Can the DSC dialogue in truth while rejecting the Truth of Our Lord, "He who hears you hears Me?"

"Pope Quoted on Dress" by Sister St. Bernard, SSI, which immediately follows the DSC's 11-7-79 letter is but one example that the DSC is a source of division, confusion of truth and torment in the Church.

While in the U.S.A., Pope John Paul II asked the bishops to authenticate their apostolate by giving leadership in witnessing faithfulness to their commission in unity with Him. Authentic leadership by the bishops means teaching, sanctifying and leading the people in the Truth through the Holy Spirit of Truth.

further study. Quick, active leadership for Our Lord in His Church is charitable to Our Lord and to those who withhold their trust in Him as Head of His Church.

Joseph J. Murray 38 Wyndover Road Rochester, N.Y. 14616

Politicians Won't Act

Editor:

Referring to the letter on inflation by Edward A. Veith (11-28-79), I remember the late Father Coughlin telling the American people these same facts back in the 30s. The escalation of the income tax by Franklin Roosevelt expanded the inflation to hurt many more people.

I would add to this that his next move might be to go to church to ask forgiveness, then attend a political gathering at his favorite pub to divide "the spoils." In nine months, it starts all over.

The letter by Phil Langan, same issue, was very good. He made the mistake of calling the wicked Communist animals. Animals are the only living friends we humans have.

George Aiken 5 Mary St. Auburn, N.Y. 13021

Brazil Sisters Send Thanks

Editor:

The Feast of the Incarnation is an opportunity to remember the Lord's continual presence among persons today, especially among the "least of our brothers and sisters."

We thank all of you in the Rochester diocese who have reached out in love and compassion to the needs of "the least" in mission lands, and especially in behalf of our Mission here in Brazil.

May this Christmas season bring peace and blessings to each of you. The Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester in Brazil Irmãs de Sao Jose, CP 542, Uberlandia, Minas Gerais, Brazil

Guidelines

Letters intended for publication must be addressed to Opinion, Courier-Journal, 67 Chestnut St., Rochester, N.Y. 14604. Expressions of opinions should be brief, no longer than 1 1/2 pages, typed, double-spaced, with names and addresses.

COURIER-JOURNAL

Bishop Matthew Clark President Anthony J. Costello Publisher & General Manager Carmen J. Viglucci Editor Rev. Louis J. Hohman Episcopal Advisor

Vol. 96 No. 36 January 2, 1980 Courier-Journal (USPS 135-580) Published weekly by the Rochester Catholic Press Association...

