

SSJs

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themselves, she cautioned, "are means, not ends in our lives."

Sister Quinlan also cautioned, "not to think of vows in terms of canonical limitations... but as public affirmations of lived reality."

Sister DiFuccia described them not as marks of separation between "people in the world and religious," but as potential means for everyone, "for living the Gospel... for following Christ," the common vocation for all Christians.

The uniqueness of the Sisters of St. Joseph, both said, lies in the character of the spirituality which the congregation possesses, a spirituality based on the principle of "total double union" of both the Created Trinity and the Uncreated Trinity and the values they represent.

The sisters described the

qualities thus: God the Father, the Goal and Perfection; God the Son, humility; God the Holy Spirit, the movement toward Perfection; Jesus, zealotness for souls; Mary, fidelity to grace; Joseph, model of the manner of loving.

The six points appear four times in the earliest documents, Sister Quinlan said.

Both sisters agreed that pursuit of that spirituality results in "the Spirit of the More," a constant attention to giving more of oneself than is called for. That spirit, they said is also characteristic of Ignatian, or Jesuit, spirituality.

Sister Byrne said recently that the congregation is finding itself caught in the "great struggle (in which) the American Catholic Church is changing, in a shift from an immigrant Church to an integrated Church."



Sisters Byrne (left) and Moslander discuss the future of religious life.

Sister Moslander described the American Catholic as upwardly mobile and that religious communities have generally tended to assume the same posture.

"But religious must go back down that ladder," she said, "back down to the alienated and marginalized. The challenge is to rediscover the people for whom we came into being."

She said that it is necessary for the sisters to assume the "freedom to lay aside the accoutrements of success and upward mobility."

Sister Byrne said that the church as a whole, clerical, religious and lay, must assume what she termed, "the responsibility of all for their own faith."

Shamon

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life. The area clergy, including Father Robert Doell, Father Michael Bausch, Father Michael Conboy, Father Edwin Wedow and I have agreed on a moral statement of six points, together with clergy of other faith-persuasions. The six points released to the press are as follows:

- Human life is a gracious, unique and unrepeatable gift of God.
- The human life process begins at conception.
- The taking of human life is incompatible with the will of God.
- God in his mysterious

wisdom has appointed each person as a steward of life.

• To deliberately interrupt this life process is in defiance of the divine creator of life.

• Therefore, abortion is a moral evil!

And we might further add, that if abortion is a moral evil, then it is never an option, a matter of choice — for no one has a right to choose evil! Christian liberation is always from moral evil, never from the moral law!

On Aug. 10 we shall ask our people to petition

the Board of Directors at Taylor-Brown Hospital to terminate its policy of abortion. We commend George Souhan who courageously resigned from the board in an effort to shock it out of a horrendous policy that is making Taylor-Brown an abortion mill. Imagine 4008 babies (almost the entire population of Waterloo) have been aborted at Taylor-Brown in the last decade!

Next we have founded a Birthright Office at 100 Fall St. in Seneca Falls, headed by Ladonna Truax. If a pregnant girl needs help or

counseling, it is as near as 568-8904.

Finally, we are launching a prayer crusade, especially to the great Mother of God, crusher of all heresies. One of the reasons I am writing this article is to enlist your prayer-support. Political action is essential, but it can bear only limited fruit. While continuing to educate and lobby, we ought to pray in earnest to the Mother of God — a rosary a day, as she requested at Fatima.

Abortions

Continued from Page 1
"on request." He related that three or four of the clergy who had been working with the group had concluded that they were unable to sign the completed statement.

The group also announced scheduling of a "Sanctity of Life" Sunday for Aug. 10. In addition to observances in the respective churches, a prayer service will be conducted at 3 p.m. that day at the Calvary Assembly of God Church, which adjoins the hospital property on Chapel Street in Waterloo.

They also distributed statistics on abortions at the hospital, which indicated that in 1979, 360 abortions were performed, all but 20 of them on patients from outside Seneca County. The largest number of patients, 104, came from Onondaga County (Syracuse). The second largest

group came from Cayuga County, 39.

The 1979 total of 360 was down from a high of 604 abortions, performed in 1973. The 10-year total, 1970 through the end of 1979, was 4,008.

In response to other questions the clergy defended their position on abortion, and re-stated their contention that the hospital's abortion policy is damaging the hospital financially by driving away patients who oppose abortion.

Signing the statement were: Father Albert Shamon and Father Robert Doell, St. Mary's, Waterloo; Rev. Sidney Rowland, First Baptist, Seneca Falls; Sister Christine Lloyd, SSI, Father Michael Conboy and Father Michael Bausch, St. Patrick's, Seneca Falls; Rev. Kenneth Crowe, Assembly of God, Seneca Falls; Rev. Alvin Hezlep, Assembly of God, Waterloo; Rev. Herbert Schumm, Calvary Lutheran; Rev. Gail VonWald, Church of God, Waterloo; and Father Edwin Wedow, Holy Cross, Ovid.

In addition to a six-point statement concluding that abortion is a "moral evil," a "Christian Alternative" was included:

"It is our intention to make public that being anti-abortion on request is part of the whole Christian stance of respect for all human life. We commit ourselves to leadership in the care of the mothers of the unborn, as well as in the care of the babies carried and

protected within their wombs. We will do all that we can by supportive Christian agencies like Birthright to make the safe delivery of babies the one healing answer to the spiritual, emotional, psychological, medical and social needs of those mothers.

"We invite any woman who is tempted to kill the baby inside her womb by abortion to come first to one of us for help or to call Birthright. Respecting your confidence and your need, we will put you in touch with loving people who can best help you to do the right thing for yourself and for the child you carry."

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Courier Journal

Pilgrimage

A bus pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, Pa., is being planned by Mrs. M. Szlag of St. Stanislaus Parish. Pilgrims will leave on Aug. 23 and return the evening of the following day. Further information is available by contacting Mrs. Szlag, 476-9039 or Mrs. G. Lyzwa, 467-4521.

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To help spread Our Lady's message via this series of Her quotations, please send contributions to: Mary Kelly, c/o Blue Army, P.O. Box 172, East Rochester, N.Y. 14445.

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