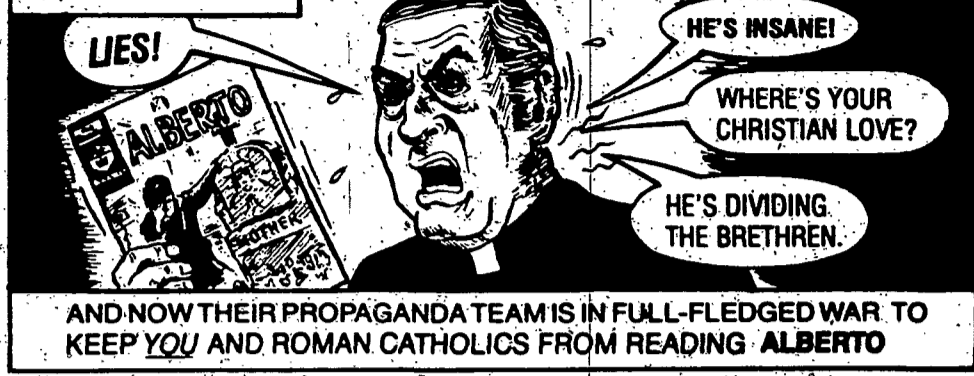


UNTOLD MILLIONS OF DOLLARS HAVE BEEN SPENT TO SET UP THE BIBLE-BELIEVING CHRISTIANS. THIS LITTLE BOOK, ALBERTO, EXPOSES THE DEADLY GAME. ROME MUST BLOCK THIS MESSAGE AT ALL COSTS.



AND NOW THEIR PROPAGANDA TEAM IS IN FULL-FLEDGED WAR TO KEEP YOU AND ROMAN CATHOLICS FROM READING ALBERTO

An illustration from the promotional booklet for Alberto.

## Alberto

Continued from Page 1

face a court of law to prove the events actually took place. I hereby challenge anyone who would refute or try to prove the facts and information in this book are untrue. I will defend every statement made regardless of the embarrassment it may cause any person or church."

Both the comic book and a promotional tract for it lay heavy stress on the horrors of the Inquisition, but in a peculiar fashion. Both treat the Inquisition as if it were a secret of the Church rather than an historical calamity.

The promotional tract even goes so far as to link the Inquisition and the Holocaust, cheapening the lessons to be learned from the one to bolster the propaganda effect of the other.

Now the comic has become something of a cause celebre for the publisher. After protests from Catholic newspapers and the Catholic League, and following the decision by Southern Baptist and Christian Reformed bookstores to stop carrying the comic, Chick has written booksellers letters. In one he states:

"You know we have taken a stand against the Roman Catholic Institution and its godless traditions. We had to. Someone must tell those

people that only Jesus is the way to heaven — without sacraments, saints, liturgy, popes or Mary."

In addition, the letter states: "Rome must block this message at all costs. And now their propaganda team is in full-fledged war to keep you and Roman Catholics from reading 'Alberto.'"

In addition Chick has published a little booklet to promote Alberto, entitled "My Name? ... In the Vatican?"

The booklet states:

"The name of every Protestant church member in the world is being recorded in the big computer in the Vatican.

"Untold millions of dollars have been spent to set up the Bible-believing Christians. This little book, Alberto, exposes the deadly game. Rome must block this message at all costs.

"The Vatican, in their very clever game to trick us, has taught Roman Catholics to use the same words and terms the Bible-believing Christians use. But the meanings are not at all what we think they are.

"Dr. Rivera has had 5 attempts made against his life while we were writing Alberto and is still undergoing tremendous persecution."

The booklet accuses the Church of attempts to quash distribution of the comic book through intimidation of and inducing guilt in the owners of Christian bookstores.

Several Protestant clergymen in this area, however, were unaware of any censorship of the comic, but also were unaware of the comic itself.

One cleric, Kenneth Knappen, pastor of West Side Baptist Church, said last week that the line of Chick publications had for a while been stocked in his religious reading racks; "but I thought that some were in poor taste at best, and so some years ago I stopped stocking the line."

However, not everyone has the same sentiment. For instance, in a letter to Father Lewis Brown, diocesan director of Religious Education, Klass Kleine, manager of Alpha and Omega Books and Records, stated: "Although this comic book has been available for about a year, this (Father Brown's) is the first complaint."

"We are non-denominational and allow authors to express their opinions and interpretations of Scripture, as they see it, often conflicting with each other. We leave it up to the People to make up their own mind, by reading these different views and comparing them to the only absolute Standard, the Word of God

"We feel, that Dr. Rivera should be allowed to express his opinion, until proven guilty of not telling the truth."

On the other hand, Logos Bookstore, "sent a stop order to them (Chick) before we were at all aware of the publications or the company.

"We are writing the Company today telling them our feelings and telling them that we will no longer accept orders for their books and do not wish to receive any more of their literature, plus a few other things," Mary Pierce wrote to Father Brown.

### Quiz on Page 10

PUZZLE ANSWERS FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 1981

I. 1. Herod 2. stair 3. east 4. brown 5. sting 6. Jewish 7. shirt 8. vest 9. week 10. swing 11. heifer 12. bone

Key Passages I. Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We observed his star at its rising.

II. Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance. Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you: Your sons come from afar, and your daughters in the arms of their nurses.

III: It is no less than this: In Christ Jesus the Gentiles are now co-heirs with the Jews, members of the same body and sharers of the promise through the preaching of the gospel.

## Area Poet Pens Special Verses

"Coming Another: More Poems for a Pregnant Lady," by Terry L.S. Werth; Creative Energies, unpaginated, \$2.95.

By John Dash

Four years ago a slim booklet of poetry, "Poems for a Pregnant Lady," by a Spencerport housewife, was hailed in these pages as whetting the appetite for further work by Terry L.S. Werth.

This year, Mrs. Werth has published another collection of her verse on somewhat the same themes. She has

however, developed her scope beyond wonder at the state of pregnancy to include celebration of nurturing a family.

Much of the same care for language evident in the earlier volume, then described as "ordinary, shot with little ironies, very feminine," and, when tuned to the mystical, clear as a bell," appears in the present booklet; the themes Mrs. Werth has taken on, however, tend to be grander than their execution.

A potentially magnificent

piece on the naming of the wind, moon and stars is uncomfortably tagged with ten lines which should have been rewritten and set apart as a separate poem.

And yet, "The same thing/ that causes/ a seed/ to become/ a flower/ causes/ a child/ to love," displays such precise economy on awesome events that this book lives up to the promise of the earlier volume, and again creates an appetite for further reading.

The booklet is available in several area gift, book, and children's shops.

## Course Aims For Better Communication

Dr. Karl A. Johnson, former teacher at St. John Fisher College, will lead two courses in family communication at the Mountain Rise United Church of Christ, designed to teach communication skills to adults and to improve the quality of familial relationships.

Johnson is a minister with doctoral work in the relationship of psychology to theology.

The course dates are Thursday, Jan. 15 to Feb. 19; and Saturday, Feb. 28 to March 7. The Saturday sessions run from 9:30 a.m. to noon; and the Thursday sessions from 7:30 to 10 p.m.

According to Fritz and Carolyn Hollembeck, organizers of the program, participants must have a "commitment to bring the course back to the parish and teach it."

Further information on the sessions is available by calling the Hollembecks at (716) 621-6115; or Sally Palumbos, (716) 637-5448.



## Blessing the Baskets

Father Daniel Holland, St. Patrick's, Elmira, pastor, blesses the Christmas baskets and those who will distribute them to the needy of Elmira. The workers met at the home of Sharon and Howard Reid, who organized the effort, on Dec. 20.

## Busy Life

Father Robert Collins, the new rector of Becket Hall, and Sister Betty Rogers, RC, will conduct a weekend for Christian women Jan. 23-25 at the Cenacle. Entitled "Prayer in a Busy Life," the program will treat such questions as "Why can't I pray like everyone else?" and will include time for reflection and opportunities for sharing. Further information and reservations are available by contacting the Cenacle, 693 East Ave. Rochester, N.Y. 14607; (716) 271-8755.

## COURIER-JOURNAL

Bishop Matthew H. Clark  
President

Anthony J. Costello  
Publisher &  
General Manager

Carmen J. Viglucci  
Editor

Rev. Louis J. Hohman  
Episcopal Advisor

Vol. 97 No. 36. December 31, 1980

Courier-Journal (USPS-135-580)  
Published weekly by the Rochester Catholic Press Association. Subscription rates: Single copy 25¢. 1 year subscription in U.S. \$10. Canada and Foreign \$15. Offices: 114 South Union St., Rochester, N.Y. 14607 (716) 454-7050. Second Class Postage paid at Rochester, N.Y.

Courier-Journal

## Tax Credit

Continued from page 1

tuition. But in fact a tuition tax credit of \$500 does very little to help parents with students in church-related colleges.

If passage of the college tuition tax credit is used as an excuse to cut back on federal scholarships and grants, then the net effect may be worse than what we have now.

In addition, separate passage of a college tuition tax credit would make it more difficult to pass a tax credit for non-college tuition later. Since church-related colleges can get federal money, it is more important to pass a tax credit for primary and secondary schools which the Supreme Court does not allow to receive much federal or state money.

Another and more important argument that will be used to postpone consideration of a tuition tax credit will be that Congress's primary concern early next year should be with the economy. Opponents of the credit will argue that its consideration would delay passage of a tax cut to stimulate the economy. But this argument has been used too many times in the past to kill the tuition tax credit. Once the tax cut is enacted into law, the tuition tax credit is forgotten.

Many special interests, who would like as much of the tax cut as possible for themselves, will give behind-the-scenes support to postponing consideration of the tuition tax credit. Whether Congress and the Reagan Administration listen to the special interests or to parents of children in private and church-related schools will soon be evident. For if the tuition tax credit is not in the tax package, then it is not very high on their agendas.

Thomas J. Reese, SJ, is an associate editor of the Jesuit weekly, America.

### Sale

# 20% Off

## all stock

cookware • knives • flatware • mugs  
porcelain • table linens • food processors & accessories  
coffee grinders • gadgets • cookbooks • & more  
through the month of January  
sale excludes coffee and tea

at the Parkleigh - Park Avenue and Goodman

244-4842  
Mon.-Fri. 8-9  
Sat. 8-6  
Sun. 8-1

By Relig

Mixing politics development during 19 between government in other co

Triumph the past world of r elevation bishop denomina assassinati Catholic a America.

The per Paul II vis the world which was world syno Vatican cyclical. Zimbabwe occupied t resettlem Cuba and

Among the atten groups in year were prayer in government family, an the Ku Kl

The pr triumph and th Republica Democrat represent religio-pol Moral Ma Voice, whi what they issues an efforts ar incumbents.

In addit of fundam like the R the politi Catholics in election pope's dire from hol office led retirement Drinan ( Cardinal of Boston he urged against a Massachu favored ab

A deno a lively co the Lu Missouri Jacob A.C that he w election, a Weber, fr Dr. Preus the denot schism in

Wa Fa

College — Brea Father Pe says he sabbatica president Center University

The an 60, said th Benedicti cannot fig Benedicti

But h would priesthoo

Father involunta by the b which he made int