

'Alberto' Publisher Sticks to Crusade

By John Dash

After being presented with evidence that Alberto Rivera is not, as he claims, either a priest or a Jesuit, the publisher of a comic book which makes him out to be a hero has written, "... it isn't surprising to read the latest news releases from Rome denying Dr. Rivera ever was a priest because there are no records."

In fact, evangelical publisher Jack T. Chick claims, an unnamed "European reporter" has

informed him that a "sweep (is) being made through Spain, destroying all evidence that Dr. Rivera ever existed."

"According to the reporter, the records 'have been systematically destroyed,'" Chick writes.

Chick's publication, "Alberto," one in the Crusader series of popular comic books aimed at the religious reading public, recounts the "true story" of a young Spaniard trained in

espionage and sabotage against Protestant groups. The young man's success in the field entitles him to ordination to both priesthood and the episcopacy. The comic recounts Rivera's conversion from such heinous activity and subsequent commitment to saving people from the Roman Catholic Church.

The comic is a salvo in Chick's self-proclaimed war against the Church.

Chick also reveals that "Dr. Rivera has for 14 years been preparing a court action to bring the Roman Catholic institution before an international tribunal to charge her for the crimes and suffering she has caused, and is causing, through her bloody history."

Although Rivera claims to have documents testifying to his ordination and mission, Chick says that they will not be revealed lest they "put many people in jeopardy. To divulge the names of the people he was associated with could cost them their lives."

Relief Fund Tops \$25G

Contributions to the Italian Earthquake Relief Appeal in the diocese have totaled more than \$25,750.45. That figure was announced last week by Father Joseph Reinhart, the diocesan director of the appeal who forwards contributions to Catholic Relief Services for distribution in Italy.

Father Reinhart noted that 23 parishes have so far taken part in the drive for the victims of the Nov. 23 earthquakes.

Persons wishing to give to the appeal are asked to send contributions to:

Italian Earthquake Relief Appeal
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Rochester, N.Y. 14604

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Healing Mass Planned

Mass of Healing has been scheduled for 8 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 13, at Holy Spirit Church, Plank and Scobner Roads, Webster.

The Mass will be celebrated by Fathers Thomas Schmidt, CSSR; Dennis Keeler, CSSR; Daniel Karl, and James Connolly, SJ. Refreshments will be served following the Mass.

Sarah Child



All in the Family

It All Adds Up To Bias

The battle (intellectual) of the sexes continues. Two Johns Hopkins psychologists have reached the questionable conclusion that males have superior math aptitude.

This is an ancient social attitude which has discriminated against women in the job market probably since history began. It crops up from time to time even in this modern age, its foundations flawed, its conclusions faulty.

It also happens to be a particular bugaboo of this writer who was frightened in the third grade by a fraction and a teacher who thought math instruction and rubber hoses were complementary.

After reading the latest reports regarding the so-called scientific study made by the aforementioned psychologists who as an afterthought conceded that some of their conclusions could possibly depend on the fact that male infants and youngsters are treated differently and given different kinds of toys than are female children, I consulted our house expert.

A high school sophomore, she reported that the number of students in her honors math class was about equally divided between male and female.

Further questioning determined that two of the three top students (all with 4.0 averages) are female.

In her biology honors section (science has traditionally been another male dominion) all three top students are female.

She does not purport to know which gender, if either, has superior ability in these two fields. The girls, she points out, simply work harder.

But, she added, "The boys in math all are convinced that they are smarter than the girls — in spite of the marks."

This is interesting when one realizes that somebody or a whole lot of somebodies over the years has drummed this into the boys' heads. Self-confidence is a wonderful thing except that in this case the girls have been getting the same message — in reverse.

It does not take a female liberator to understand that the fostering of this particular notion is not only unfair to bright young girls with high aptitudes in the fields of math and science but to all mankind as well.

The girl who is turned off math and science and changed into more traditional female academic

pursuits (languages, sociology, home economics, etc.) could well be the woman of tomorrow who might have found the cure for cancer or arthritis, devised new means of feeding the world population, discovered cheap, efficient ways of producing energy.

Many schools have awakened to the fact that females are every bit as capable in math and science as males and give the support that is needed. Unfortunately by the time a child has reached school age it may already be too late if both parents have not assured their girl child from infancy up that she has the potential and the capability of entering any field that interests her.

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