

Editorials

Helpful Enemy

Those pro-lifers reluctant to support the Hatch Amendment because they view it as too weak might be persuaded to change their minds by contemplating some remarks made by the president of the national Planned Parenthood. Sort of a lesson reverse psychology.

When the amendment cleared the Senate Judiciary Committee, Fay Waddleton, national head of Planned Parenthood which may have become the largest pro-abortion organization in the nation, called a press

conference to denounce the Hatch proposal as "harsh and regressive."

Ms. Waddleton, who likely has hurt her own cause in the past by caustic bombast, goes on to declare: "It amounts to nothing less than a backdoor approach to banning all abortions by returning to the individual states and the Congress the right to deny private choice that is now guaranteed by the Constitution."

Perhaps Hatch supporters should send copies of Ms. Waddleton's remarks to all who exchew Hatch because they see it as a watered-down compromise.

Pro-lifers should rejoice at having such enemies as Ms. Waddleton.

Second Chance?

Sterility operation reversals are possible, at least in some cases.

Natural Family Planning of Rochester has reported that several men have reversed vasectomies.

And Religious News Service quotes a Duke University Medical Center gynecologist as saying the number of women seeking to have sterility operations reversed is increasing.

Unfortunately not all such surgical procedures are reversible. That is a fact that anyone considering such operations should consider, for at some future date they may sincerely wish to parent a child.

and Opinions

Redemptorist 'Hurray' Thanks Diocese For O'Malley

Editor:

While it is always pleasing to hear sincere words of praise and of appreciation, we Redemptorists at Our Lady of Victory-St. Joseph on Pleasant Street are somewhat embarrassed at being singled out recently in letters.

From the early days of Father Prout and Rochester's first Redemptorists, the fathers have been able to do whatever useful things they have done, because of the direction, the support and encouragement of the diocese's bishops. From the beginning of St. Joseph's, Franklin Street, to the present time, the brotherly spirit and friendship, the really good example of zeal, and the generous patience with our mistakes, on the part of the priests and religious of the diocese, have made being a part of the Church in Rochester a very happy experience. We would like them all to receive their share of praise, and our, perhaps belated, but sincere thanks.

St. Paul's chapter 3 of 1st Corinthians sets the tone of the music we would like to hear: "We are simply God's agents in bringing you to the faith. Each performed the task which the Lord allotted to him. One plants, one waters, but God makes things grow. We are God's fellow-workers, and you are God's garden, God's building. There can be no other foundation but Jesus Christ Himself."

Father Patrick Healy, CHC Our Lady of Victory/ St. Joseph Church 10 Pleasant St. Rochester, N.Y. 14604

Editor:

Just a small "hurray" for your interview with Father William O'Malley. If more teachers had his commitment to their students we wouldn't have to worry about our students losing their motivation. He's a really exceptional priest and person.

I attended a Mass that he celebrated one Sunday at Good Shepherd in 1962 or '63 and it will always remain a high point in my life. It was an extraordinary experience.

Mrs. Ellen Woerner 1482 N. Road Scottsville, 14546

Legionaries Are Praised

Editor:

It was with great interest that I read Father Cuddy's column, March 10, in which he spoke of the vibrant new religious order, the Legionaries of Christ. I was introduced to the order five years ago and have found great consolation in the energy and spirit which this group of devoted men displays. Their submission to the magisterium of the Church and dedication to the Holy Father is a source of encouragement at a time when intellectual pride and a spirit of disobedience have affected so many in the Church. While the infection of modernism is strangling the Church of vocations, the Legion is experiencing amazing growth with its unconditional adherence to vows of poverty, chastity and obedience.

The life of a Legionary is a

demanding one but attractive to anyone with a vocation to love and serve God with the entirety of his being. You might say that I'm an eyewitness to the hunger of a vocation and its fulfillment in the Legion, as three of my brothers are now seminarians in the order! While our family has been shrinking, the order is growing rapidly with 169 priests and more than 600 seminarians. The order was founded 40 years ago by Father Maciel who is a constant source of inspiration to the priests and seminarians he directs.

The Legionaries of Christ Seminary is in Orange, Conn., 393 Derby Ave., 06477; telephone (203) 795-6709, where 32 seminarians are now in formation. After two years in the novitiate, they will be sent to Salamanca, Spain, for a year of humanistic studies and then to Rome where they will study philosophy and theology.

Father Anthony Bannon, U.S. superior of the order, speaks of an important ingredient in the composition of a Legionary. He writes: "No sketch of our congregation would be complete without mentioning our devotion to the Blessed Virgin. Each Legionary dedicates his priesthood to Mary for her to mould it unto her Son's likeness: a perfect fulfillment of the Father's holy will and a fruitful instrument of salvation."

Just as in prior ages of crisis when the Church was given saints or when orders were founded to preserve civilization, I believe God has given us in this present age great priests such as Father Cuddy, and others such as the Legionaries of Christ.

Marian Hopkins Nazareth College, Box 473 4245 East Ave. Rochester, N.Y. 14610

Church Right On Salvador

Editor:

Re Helen Cunningham's letter (3-17-82) expressing her disappointment with the Catholic Church's stand on El Salvador. I have three points. First, she affirms the Reagan administration's position that the problem is essentially inspired by Communist agitation and infiltration but this Communist presence is more an effect than a cause. The real causes are based in El Salvador's own history and the failure of the ruling class to practice distributive justice among its own people. The conditions are such that there would be a revolution today even if Russia, Cuba and Nicaragua didn't exist.

The real reason for our involvement is expressed in the frequently heard statement: "El Salvador is in our own backyard." This statement

implies El Salvador has no value of its own but is merely a buffer zone for us. We need a policy that treats each nation with dignity and respect, not as a pawn in an East-West struggle, in service to our own vested interests.

Second, she asks, "If we trust in God, shouldn't we trust our president?" That just doesn't follow, even for the best of presidents. Besides, there is a large credibility gap whenever this administration speaks about Central America. I'll never forget Alexander Haig saying on national television that there was evidence the four religious women were running a roadblock when they were martyred Dec. 2, 1981. I would have liked to ask Mr. Haig if that was before or after they were raped.

Third, I believe the Church's stand on El Salvador flows from its belief in the Mystical Body of Christ — that Christ in His people is being crucified again in El Salvador, and our government, at least in part, is supplying the nails, the hammer and the cross. The Church must stand with her people, prepared to die with them as Archbishop Romero, martyred just two years ago, said, "As a pastor, I am obliged, by divine command, to give my life for those whom I love — and that is for all Salvadorans, even for those who may assassinate me. If the threats should come to pass, I offer God, from this very moment, my blood for the redemption and resurrection of El Salvador... if God accepts the sacrifice of my life, may my blood be the seed of freedom and the sign that hope will soon become a reality." Amen!

Emmett Neary 209 Bakerdale Road Rochester, N.Y. 14616

Mass Is A Sacrifice

Editor:

The author of "She Prefers Bare Cross" (CJ 3-3-82) expressed eternal gratitude to the Glorified Christ the King for His love in having undergone His passion, death and glorious resurrection, and for His presence in our lives to guide us. However, to believe that "Christ the King is no longer the suffering Christ... because His body is glorified is a most regrettable, growing misunderstanding of Catholic faith in its fundamental authoritative Church teachings.

Catholics believe that Christ, the perfect High Priest, offered up Himself once for all as sacrifice in reparation for our sins (St. Paul: Heb. 8:26ff). Additionally, we believe that now as in the time of St. Paul's conversion the glorified body of Our Savior suffers not



DO ALL THE GOOD YOU CAN BY ALL THE MEANS YOU CAN, IN ALL THE PLACES YOU CAN, AT ALL THE TIMES YOU CAN, TO ALL THE PEOPLE YOU CAN, AS LONG AS EVER YOU CAN.



only persecutions but our daily offenses against Him who is our God and Savior. His divine, glorified human heart responds to our daily sins, contempts, injuries, indifferences, forgetfulness and, especially, ungratefulness by our refusal to let Him reign as King of our will through His continuous offering of love and mercy. These sufferings our glorified Lord bears and offers with His Mystical Body for our salvation through the fruits of His passion and death.

Catholics cannot condone the teachings of some contemporary priests, religious and Church teachers who are blindly led by inordinate in human reasonings. However, unhesitating confidence can be placed in the teachings of Our Lord's vicar and the canonized saints through whom God manifests His glory.

The saints in Heaven are not in the settings of "Green Pastures." They are infused with the infinite love of God and continue as more fruitful servants and humble children of Our Heavenly Father. As perfected members of the Mystical Body of our Savior, they share the love of His Sacred Heart for us along with our responses of love, indifference, ingratitude and scandalous offenses. How many of us are indifferent to His gift of the Sacrament of Penance through which we are graced to see more clearly God's love and our sins?

The Catholic Church teaches that the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the unbloody Sacrifice of the Cross, in which Our Savior is both Priest and Victim. "And it was His Will that the daily sacrifices of the Church which, being the body of Him, her Head learns to offer itself through Him." (St. Augustine)

Joseph J. Murray 38 Wyndover Road Rochester, N.Y. 14612

Donation Suggestion

Editor:

Every year an increasing number of people have problems with their consciences about some of the agencies which participate in the United Way Fund Drive. This year its Board of Directors approved allowing contributors to select the agency that would receive their donations — even if it isn't one of the 160 organizations that are officially served by United Way in the Rochester area, but as long as it is an approved, non-profit health and social service agency.

However, there are "conditions" under which the donation would be handled. Only one agency can be designated by the contributor and the contribution must be a minimum of \$25. At a time when we are trying to remove bureaucracy from our lives, this is hardly the way to go! Why wouldn't it be more advantageous to have the freedom to give directly to the agencies of our choice without any added expenses, constricting regulations, or unnecessary pressures?

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

Literature Needed

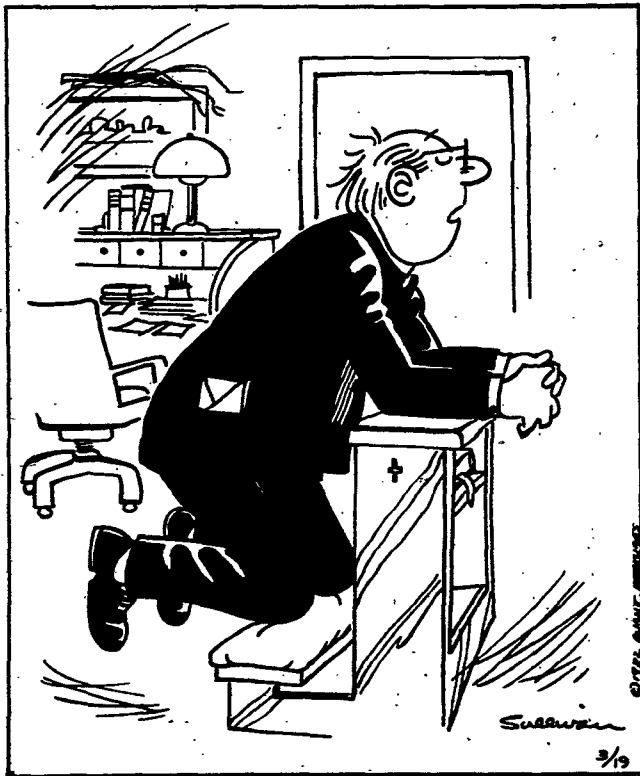
Editor:

Readers may like to mail their used Catholic pamphlets and magazines directly to the Foreign Missions.

If those who wish to do so will please send me self-addressed envelopes, I will give them the addresses of Missionary priests and nuns who need Catholic literature.

Write to me at the address below.

Mary Conway 114 Castle St. Cork, Ireland



"IF WE CAN'T HAVE A BIG FINANCIAL MIRACLE, HOW ABOUT LETTING US GET SOME OF THE FUNDING THAT USUALLY GOES FOR THE DICK CAVETT SHOW!"

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