

Fr. Schillebeeckx In New Conflict With the Vatican

By Robert Nowell

London (NC) — Father Edward Schillebeeckx says that the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith misrepresented some of his views in its latest round of questions regarding his writings.

On a visit to London Feb. 23, the Belgian Dominican theologian told reporters that he replied in December to the Vatican agency's most recent inquiries. These concerned his views on the priesthood in "Ministry: A Case for Change," which was published in Dutch in 1980 and in English in 1981.

The Vatican dossier, said Father Schillebeeckx, accused him of upholding two theses that he did not advocate, saying he opposed ordination and held that any lay member of the Christian community could preside at the Eucharist.

In fact, he said, he specifically stated in his book: "However, on the basis of the whole history of the Church's theology, I am opposed to a view which appears here and there, that any believer at all can preside at the Eucharist even when leaders of the community (priests) are present."

Father Schillebeeckx, who recently retired from his professorship at the University of Nijmegen, Netherlands, also said he turned the question back to the doctrinal congregation when it asked him to explain a conflict between a leading father of the Church and later Church teachings.

In discussing how the Church in the past coped with emergency situations in which the local community had no priest, he quoted the Third Century theologian Tertullian, who wrote: "But where no college of ministers has been appointed, you, the laity, must celebrate the Eucharist and baptize; in that case you are your own priests, for where two or three are gathered together,

there is the Church, even if these three are lay people."

Father Schillebeeckx said the doctrinal congregation asked him how he reconciled this with doctrinal statements of the last three ecumenical councils — Trent, Vatican I and Vatican II. His reply, he said, was that they should ask Tertullian.

Father Schillebeeckx was in London for the publication in paperback of an earlier book of his, "Jesus: An Experiment in Christology." That book, too, was the subject of a doctrinal congregation inquiry into his views. In 1979 he appeared before a three member panel of the congregation to answer questions about his published views on nine points of doctrine. The congregation subsequently expressed its satisfaction with his orthodoxy on those points.

Sarah Child



All in the Family

Youngest Knows All The Questions

There are two kinds of mothers. The ones who won't let go and the ones who do. I am trying hard to become one of the latter. After so much practice in the other direction it is not easy.

One of the girls decides to take a walk around the tract which forms an oval a half mile in length.

"Be careful," I say. "Watch out for strangers. Better wear a jacket with a hood. Do you think you should take a sandwich with you in case you get hungry?"

Her brother gets an invitation to sleep over with a friend. I get out the telephone book to look up the family's number. My son looks on aghast. "What are you doing?"

"Just checking."
"Checking what?"

"Lots of things. Whether they have smoke detectors in the basement as well as the two upper floors. Has their dog had its rabies shot? What kind of chemicals they kill their crabgrass with. Do they eat non-sugared cereals? What about a lock on their cable channel?"

The youngest walks into the room. She has been well coached by her older brother and sister.

She begins: "Judy's dad is picking us up to go to the movies. It is rated PG. I do not have on my tight jeans. Judy's dad never drinks when he has to drive. Susie is also going with us. She doesn't use vulgar language. Ditto Amy. Ditto Debbie. Judy's mother has invited us back to the house afterward for hotdogs — the kind without nitrites. Luv ya."

"Luv ya," I echo weakly.

Some kids take all the fun out of parenting.

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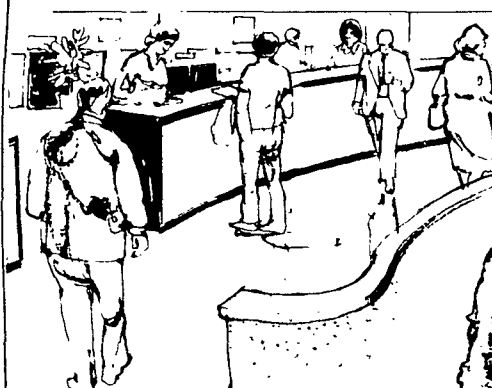
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"It's nice to see them go out - not happy all the time, but understanding."



Dennis Rose, Customer Service Representative

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Lilac Chief

Deacon Stanley T. Zawacki has been named chairman of the 1983 Lilac Festival. The member of Holy Trinity Parish in Webster also serves as manager of community relations for Xerox Corp.'s Business Systems Group, works with the prison and jail ministry at Auburn, Attica, Groveland and the Monroe County Jail, and periodically preaches at Old St. Mary's Church.

Lecture

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Sunday Answer

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