

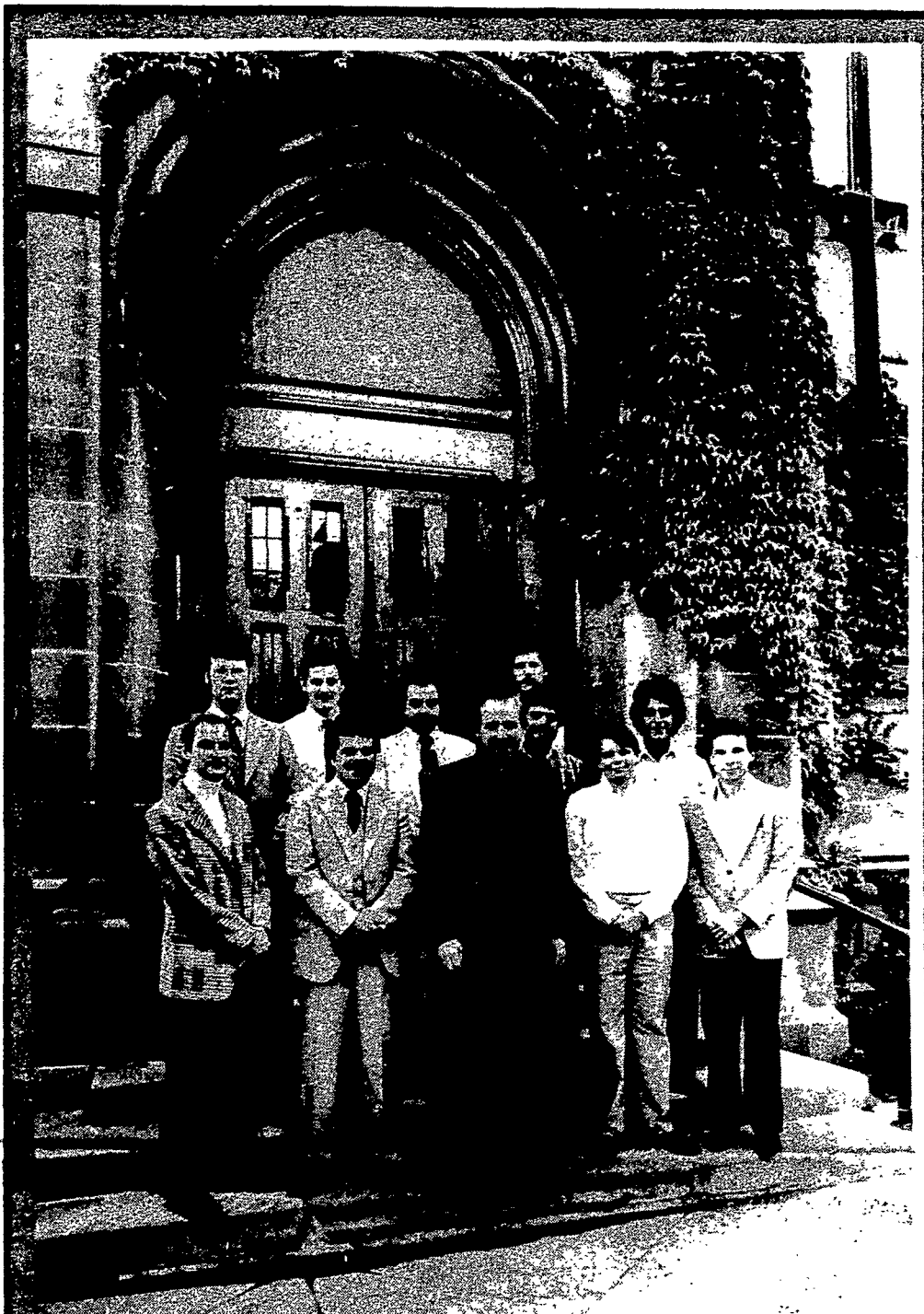
# COURIER-JOURNAL

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## Court Rules Fetus Legal Person

Jefferson City, Mo. (NC) — The Missouri Supreme Court has ruled that under Missouri law a living fetus is legally a person.

The court, in an interpretation of the state's wrongful death law, said a husband and wife have the right to sue for damages on behalf of their stillborn baby because of alleged negligence in medical care for the pregnant woman and her fetus.

"Parents clearly have an interest in being protected against or compensated for the loss of a child they wished to have," wrote Special Judge James A. Pudlowski for the court.

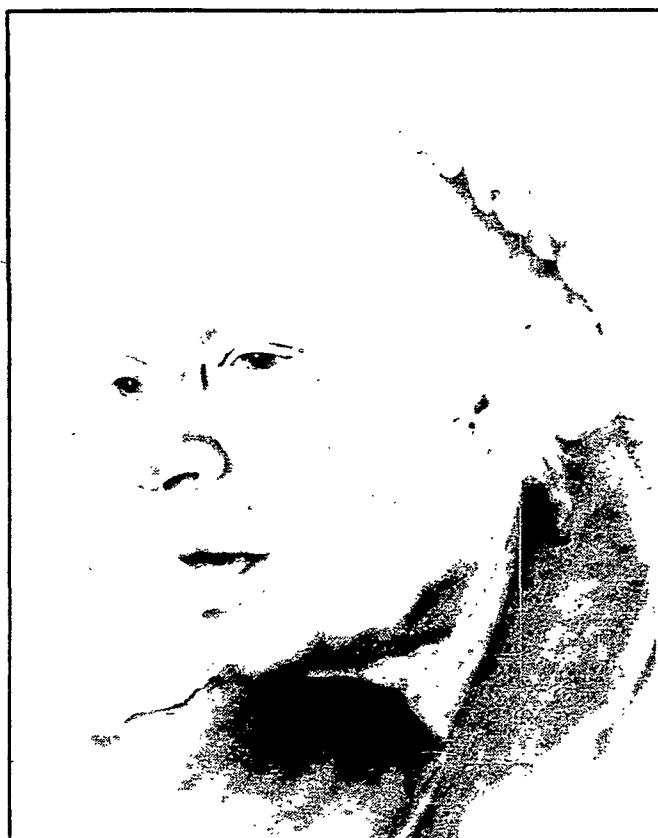
"The fetus itself has an interest in being protected from injury before birth," he added.

The case arose after a Kansas City, Kan., couple, Terry and Kevin O'Grady, sued St. Joseph Hospital in Kansas City, Mo., two doctors and a nurse. The couple alleged that negligence in treating Mrs. O'Grady's ruptured uterus in 1979 caused the baby to be stillborn.

The judge noted that the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark abortion decision of 1973 recognized that while a woman has a right to abortion the state also has an interest in providing legal protection to the fetus.

James Bartimus, attorney for the parents, said the ruling was one of the most significant in Missouri in 10 years. Under previous interpretations, he said, the fetus had to be born alive to be party to a lawsuit.

Bartimus also said the decision had no bearing on abortion because most abortions are performed before viability and because the case before the Missouri court involved medical negligence rather than the intentional act of abortion.



## Should It Be Saint Dorothy?

Chicago (NC) — The Catholic Worker Movement's co-founder, Dorothy Day, should be canonized, urged an editorial in Salt, the Claretian Fathers' and Brothers' magazine on social justice issues.

Miss Day, known for years of social justice activities, died Nov. 29, 1980, at 83.

She was a pacifist, supported workers' rights, established homes for the needy, spent time in jail

for various causes, and lived her life among the poor.

Miss Day is "certainly a saint for our time and place," wrote Father Henry Fehren in an editorial in the September 1983 issue of Salt. "So let's canonize her now."

The magazine said it will serve as a clearinghouse for information on Miss Day as part of the canonization effort and asked people to submit

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## Rochester Seminarians for Upcoming Year

The following seminarians will be studying at the Holy Heart Seminary in Rochester for the upcoming year. They are: [illegible names]

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[illegible text]

[illegible text]

## PEACE: Church Continues Pursuit Despite Divided Opinions

By Terrance J. Brennan  
And John Dash

The Church continues to play a role in the Women's Encampment for a Future of Peace and Justice and in the issues the camp is raising.

The camp, abutting the Seneca Army Depot, was established to bring national attention to the deployment in Europe this Fall of the Cruise and Pershing missiles, and to the possibility of the depot being the storage place for nuclear weapons.

Monday a delegation of Rochester Sisters of Mercy led a prayer service at the depot gates, joined by women from the encampment. The prayer service was endorsed by a majority vote of a session of their Chapter of Affairs. At the same time as the Romulus event, the Sisters also held a prayer service for peace and disarmament at their motherhouse.

Also, Sunday and Monday, St. Mary's Church in Waterloo housed the United States "Pilgrim Virgin Statue," an object of devotion for members of the Blue Army of Our Lady of Fatima.

During the two days of the statue's presence, Father Albert Shamon, pastor, led the parish through a consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, a requirement for world peace, according to the 1917 Fatima revelations.

Last week, 35 priests and staff members of about 10 area parishes gathered at St. Patrick's Church in Seneca Falls to discuss the camp and the Church's response to it and to the question of peace.

According to Father William Spilly of the Finger Lakes Office of Social Ministry, Church sentiment toward the encampment and its activities for peace is not unanimous, ranging from antipathy to endorsement.

The Seneca Falls meeting was chaired by Giovina Caroscio, head of the Finger Lakes office, which has given the camp a grant to pursue educational activities.

The meeting agenda included a talk by Msgr. William [illegible name]

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