

**Editorials**

**Leadership**

In describing the aims of the peace movement, this newspaper some months ago, printed some of the words of an old Negro spiritual -- "ain't goin' t' study war no more..."

And although it is not possible to "study" peace without touching on war, the diocese is definitely taking the advice of the bishops of the United States in their historic pastoral letter on the challenge of peace. "Parishes and dioceses should implement education programs that promote a better understanding of war and peace issues," the bishops said with the promulgation last May of "The Challenge of Peace: God's Promise and Our Response."

For sure, other dioceses and particularly some other bishops, have been keeping their flocks aware of the continuing importance of the pastoral. But it also seems safe to say that no diocese in the country has taken such a dynamic role in disseminating and vitalizing the message of the pastoral as has this diocese. In this respect, it has literally assumed a national leadership role among American dioceses.

Elsewhere on these pages are described just some of the plans and events scheduled. The list will be growing as the years go by until the quest for peace is

satisfied.

On Page 3, Bishop Matthew H. Clark explains why he has decided to speak at the peace rally Oct. 22 at the Seneca Army Depot. Along the way, he reiterates his support of the bishops' pastoral: "I am proud of it because it stands strongly behind moral principles which keep us human; it calls fearlessly and unequivocally for a halt to the madness of the nuclear arms race; and -- most important of all -- it proposes an alternative way to work for peace."

The bishop thus succinctly sums up the stance of the Rochester diocese: We're going to work for peace.

**Hyde Help Needed**

Extremely important legislation can often get lost or forgotten in the plethora of material being considered in the national legislative halls. Thus, though it has not been listed for debate, the Hyde Amendment, which has reduced dramatically the number of abortions paid for by the federal government since it went into effect in 1977, may be up for renewal any day.

The National Catholic News Service which stays on top of Washington happenings for the Courier-Journal reports no sign of action yet on the amendment, which must be renewed shortly. That does not mean the issue may suddenly arrive on the floors of Congress.

With that in mind, and with the possibility that pro-abortion forces may seek to abolish the amendment, all pro-life adherents should take the time to write their congressmen and senators now in order to effectively get their message across. Congressmen may be addressed at the House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 10515, and Sens. Moynihan and D'Amato at the Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510.

**Irish Right On**

At a time in history when the news from around the world concerning liberalized abortion is dismal, the people of Ireland have provided a refreshing change.

Abortion is already illegal in that nation, but nonetheless a Catholic-backed constitutional amendment was put up to referendum. It reads: "The state acknowledges the right to life of the unborn and, with regard to the equal right of the mother, guarantees in its laws to protect, and, as far as practicable, by its laws to defend and vindicate that right."

Supporters felt the referendum was necessary for additional protection and also to negate any possible maneuvering through the courts. Voters agreed, with 65 percent of the voters approving the amendment.

Thanks, Ireland, we needed that!

**Our Newest Missionaries**

**Editor:**

The people of the Diocese of Rochester can be truly proud of their first mission team to our sister Diocese in Tabasco, Mexico. They are a young, energetic, faith-filled group of individuals.

Each one is blessed with certain unique gifts that they will bring to the people of Oxolotan.

As they depart for their new and challenging work to bring Christ to these people, we the people of this diocese promise Father Neil Miller, Mark Kavanaugh, Yolanda Ramos and Valerie Smith our prayers and support.

Vaya Con Dios.

**Father Robert Bradler**  
Diocesan Director  
Propagation of the Faith

**How Much Went to Camp?**

**EDITOR:**

I feel compelled to comment on an item appearing in a recent Courier-Journal regarding funding for the Women's Peace Encampment in Romulus.

The article stated that the diocese provided money for, I believe it said, "educational purposes." Are you able to tell me how much money was channeled to the camp? As I find it difficult to reconcile funding for education at the peace encampment with the fact that De Sales High School was charged \$30,000 or more in interest on the \$50,000 borrowed from the diocese.

Are the above comments correct? How much did the diocese give the peace camp and how much was De Sales charged?

I suppose the amounts of dollars are immaterial when I consider the decision that we charge interest to a Catholic educational institution, while gratuitously funding "education" for such a questionable endeavor as the women's peace encampment, to be repugnant.

If these facts are correct, you are assured that my future Thanksgiving Appeal contributions will go to De-Sales High School and not to the women's peace encampment.

**John C. Andrews**  
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**Editor's Note:** The amount the Finger Lakes Office of Social Ministry donated to the camp was \$350. Its educa-

tional purpose was to assist those in the encampment in an outreach program to explain their presence to local communities and to describe the capabilities of nuclear weapons. The donation was the local decision of the Finger Lakes board. The diocesan loan to DeSales High was negotiated with the school's board in 1981. According to a diocesan official, the terms were better than the board could get at any other loaning institution and was interest-free the first couple of years. The school has a long time for payback which could produce interest over the years.

**Justice Begins At Conception**

**EDITOR:**

The common theme I've been hearing so much of recently is to strive for "peace and justice" in the world. Although I agree totally with the theme, I disagree with most of the solutions.

Mankind's quest for peace must begin with making peace with an angry God. Appeasing God's anger can only be done by doing His will. If His will is done, peace is His gift to us.

Justice should begin at the moment of each person's existence -- at conception. The double standard of justice that many proclaim today results in a prosperous life for some and death for others through abortion. This rationale of justice will eventually come back to haunt us all.

Those serious about a lasting peace should do a little more praying and a lot less killing.

**Stephen J. Fisher**  
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**Praying Only One Talent**

**EDITOR:**

Thanks for publishing the two "Perspectives" about the women at Romulus. I was impressed with Msgr. Shannon's explanation. Father Shamon seems to limit Catholic action to prayer yet his weekly column on Page 13 of the same edition seems to contradict this notion. It says: "What we are is what God has given us. What we become is what we give to God. What we become is determined by how we use our time, talent and treasures."

So I say if your talent is

prayer -- pray! But if your talents also include provoking others to think or act -- then use those talents even if they include talking, acting, singing, flag-waving and demonstration. And especially confrontation if it's for justice and equal rights.

**Thomas H. Shea**  
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**Must Keep Strong Defense**

**EDITOR:**

Several weeks ago the editor's note that appeared at the end of my letter on disarmament wisely advised readers to read the pastoral letter.

While that note stated the fact that the bishops did not urge unilateral disarmament, I wonder how many people received that impression?

Noting the support that a number of Catholics gave to the alleged peace encampment at Romulus, it would seem that unilateral disarmament was their theme.

Despite the tremendous Soviet arms buildup during the last 15 years, the invasion of Afghanistan, the repression of Poland and the recent murder of 269 people in a civilian airliner, the various peace groups persist in their criticism of U.S. defensive forces.

This one-sidedness lends credence to the charge that the Soviets have infiltrated the peace movement.

It is no secret that the Soviets are working for world conquest. Let us not help them in their goal by weakening our defensive forces.

**Robert Bart**  
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**Consideration For Summer**

**EDITOR:**

While many of us have our vacation pictures still in the camera and have barely managed to get the suitcases unpacked, memories of this summer's vacation are fresh in our minds.

If your vacation '83 was less than you expected, we would like to suggest you consider a week in the backwoods of Ontario, Canada. The Cana Colony, sponsored by Madonna House in Combermere, Diocese of Pembroke, offers a unique experience with other Catholic families from both the U.S. and Canada.

The week is unstructured giving the limited number of families a limitless opportunity to grow closer together and closer to God through choices of activities they make, whether it be through daily liturgy in the chapel of Our lady of the Woods, fishing on the lake lively with bass, hiking, mountain-climbing or singing around a campfire. (Granted, we know within our own diocese there are camping facilities for family vacations and retreats, but Ontario also fulfills that need to "get away".) For a brochure on this pay-what-you-can week write, Cana Colony, c/o Sandra Brewer, Madonna House, Combermere, Canada, KOJ ILO.

For those parishioners needing a more "resort" atmosphere (like Mom, maybe?) consider the newly opened Nazareth Catholic Family Life Center. This year-round facility -- also a pay-what-you-can arrangement -- offers prepared meals, hot showers, planned activities for the kids (St. Joseph's woodworking, skits, crafts, etc.) and most important, a community experience with other families. Write to Nazareth Catholic Family Centre, Combermere, Ont., KOJ ILO, or telephone (613) 756-2067 and ask for Don McPhee.

For a renewed sense of family unity and a fun-filled week, we hope you'll consider seriously our suggestion. Send for the brochure even if you think you'd rather be in Rochester next summer.

**Kay Aman, Ed Aman and children Andy (14), Eric (13), Julie (5) and Jerry (2)**  
2694 Daansen Road  
Palmyra, N.Y. 14522

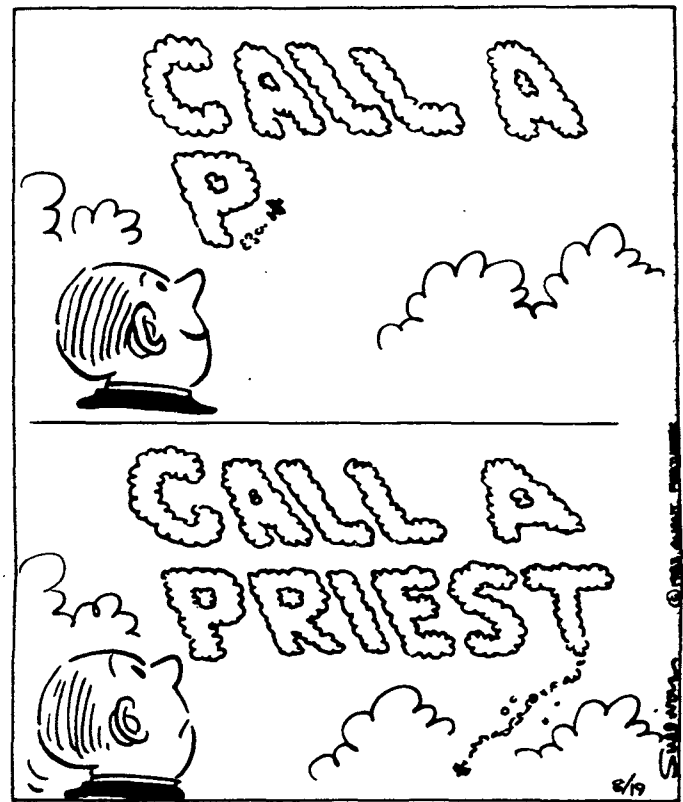
**Editor's Note:** Mr. and Mrs. Aman did not provide their ages.

**Constructive Encounter**

**EDITOR:**

Dramatic, compelling, caring and sharing, confrontive, harshly realistic, sad, intense, emotional, worthwhile, vibrantly alive.

These words describe my reaction to an encounter I recently observed between youths from a juvenile residential center and Auburn prison inmates who try to educate young people to the realities of imprisonment and to deter them from lives of crime. Sitting in a circle, inmates and youths related to each other and to their own life situations. At the end of the session a youth counselor



noted on his evaluation form: "What an amazing session! This is the kind of session that should be able to last as long as the energy is there. These are some of the kids who need it the most. They would definitely benefit from a return visit."

Words of wisdom from the prisoners to the teenagers: "A friend is someone who leads you away from trouble, not into trouble" ... "You don't go anywhere but into the gutter with drugs" ...

"Booze gives you false courage" ... "How would you feel if that old lady you mugged was your grandmother and I mugged her" ... Nobody plans to come to prison. It happens because people have attitudes like yours" ... "Think for yourselves instead of trying to impress each other." The youths also observed a re-enactment of a prisoner burning alive after being "torched" by another inmate. They listened to other accounts of "the way life is" in prison.

It was a heavy session and the men on the Youth Assistance Panel really put their hearts and souls into it. The jovial attitudes and wisecracks by the youths, observable prior to our tour of E Block and the encounter session in the prison chapel, were not evident at the end of the day. "It was different from any other experience I've had," one of the teenagers told me.

I believe that programs such as Auburn's are beneficial to youth participants. They also give incar-

cerated people an opportunity to help others -- which intensifies their own personal growth. And the community benefits because such programs are an innovative response to crime and violence in our society.

**Joel Freedman**  
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**English Still Misuse Courts**

**EDITOR:**

When the British captured Joan of Arc, they could have executed her as a rebel. However, in their self-righteousness, they decided to accuse her of heresy rather than French nationalism. They tried her in an ecclesiastical court and kept records of the trial. Like Nixon and his tapes, they convicted themselves by recording their own trickery.

During the process for her canonization, the court documents exposed their hypocrisy and proved St. Joan both innocent and saintly.

The British now war against Irish nationalism. They still cling to a pretense of legal procedure although their courts in Ireland are without juries or due process. The trials are farces devoid of justice. However, the records are kept which will show their bigotry and brutality in their treatment of the unfortunate victims that they railroad to Long Kesh for being what they are -- Irish.

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