

City Council Condemns Anti-Catholic Posters

Santa Monica, Calif. (NC) -- The Santa Monica City Council voted unanimously March 27 to condemn placement of anti-Catholic posters on walls and utility poles throughout the city.

"I think it is important that when incidents such as this raise their ugly head public leaders immediately rise and take a stand," said Councilman David Epstein, who requested the action.

He said three types of anti-Catholic posters had begun to appear in the city on vacant and public property in March. Two, he said, "are fundamentalist in tone and the third levels scurrilous charges of Vatican control of the media."

The posters were first seen in mid-February and have spread to cities across the country.

Epstein denounced the posters as "rotten bigotry" and said "those who post them obviously operate in the dark of night without the courage to speak in the light of day."

Santa Monica's city attorney recommended that the council not order the signs

removed pending a U.S. Supreme Court ruling on the legality of such an action. Lower courts have ruled that unless a city enforces bans on all posters it cannot order posters removed because it disagrees with their contents.

Private citizens are free to remove the posters and notify police if they see the posters being hung, Epstein said.

He said the posters are "destructive" and he linked "the mentality behind anti-Catholicism with the mentality behind anti-Semitism."

"One hundred years ago the czar's police forged the 'Protocols of the Elders of Zion' that was used as a basis for anti-Semitism. These posters raise a similar bigotry," he said.

The protocols were false documents published in 1902 which grew out of material circulated by Russian officials at the end of the 19th century. They were put forth as an explanation of an alleged international Jewish conspiracy to subvert Christian civilization.

Baby Jane Doe Has Surgery, Goes Home

Stony Brook, N.Y. (NC) -- "Baby Jane Doe," whose real name is Keri-Lynn, received surgery in late March to help drain fluids from her brain and went home from University Hospital, Stony Brook, April 5, her parents announced.

Her parents, known only as Dan and Linda, said they agreed to the surgery, which they had originally denied to the handicapped infant, because she was doing so well on her own and there "was no reason to deny her" the surgery. The operation involved inserting a tube to

allow fluid to drain from her head to her abdomen.

A national controversy followed the parents' initial decision to withhold major surgery after Keri-Lynn was born last Oct. 11 with handicapping conditions, including the fluid problem and spina bifida, a congenital condition in which the spinal cord is exposed. Her father and mother, aged 30 and 23, respectively, when the baby was born, celebrated their first wedding anniversary the month after Keri-Lynn's birth. They also have said they are Catholic.

The Reagan administration went to court unsuccessfully to get the hospital to release the baby's medical records, and pro-lifers, led by attorney A. Lawrence Washburn, fought to have the surgery provided.

Washburn praised the couple's eventual decision to allow the surgery. He said they had "saved their child's life -- and I think they are wonderful people."

The baby's father said Keri-Lynn's spinal opening had healed naturally when skin grew over it.

Anti-Catholic Literature Stuffed in Missalettes

By NC News Service

Anti-Catholic literature was found stuffed in missalettes and song books in several Idaho and Oregon parishes in late March.

The professionally printed leaflets, which contained no indication of the individual or group sponsoring them, said Catholics place their hopes for salvation in the rosary, novenas, sacraments and other rites rather than in Christ.

Some of the pamphlets were found after one or two people asked at the church rectories if they could enter the churches to pray. There was no indication that the pamphlets were connected to a recent wave of anti-Catholic posters which have appeared in numerous U.S. cities.

The leaflets contain Biblical quotes, question the validity of purgatory and urge readers to free themselves from "futile" Catholic tradition and to personally invite Jesus into their lives.

Father Raymond Peplinski, pastor of St. Mark's parish in Boise, Idaho, found about 450 of the leaflets March 20.

He said "this sort of thing has come up from time to time," and that the leaflets may be part of an apparent nationwide

wave of anti-Catholicism.

Father Joseph Schmidt, pastor at Our Lady of Lourdes parish in Lewiston, Idaho, about 200 miles north of Boise, said the leaflets were found in the three Lewiston parishes the weekend of March 23, as well as three or four months ago.

Father Schmidt said his parishioners are "upset" about the anti-Catholic literature and feel it is "extremely rude" and an "intrusion."

The pamphlets also were found in Holy Rosary and Christ the King parishes in Idaho Falls, about 200 miles east of Boise.

Between Boise and Portland, Ore., about 350 miles west of Boise, at least 10 parishes reported that the pamphlets were inserted in missalettes.

Only one of the leaflets was found at St. John's Cathedral in Boise, but Ceci Hirschfeld, a cathedral staff member, said that several suspicious incidents have been reported at the cathedral.

Father Charles Foltz, pastor of Our Lady of the Rosary in Boise, said he opened the church for a young man in his mid-20s who said he wanted to pray. About 75 of the anti-Catholic leaflets were discovered in the church later that day.

Compromise Ends Crucifix Dispute

Mietno, Poland (NC) -- Polish students protesting the removal of crucifixes from a state agricultural school have reached a compromise with authorities that allows one cross to be hung in the school library.

The agreement, announced by the school's director April 6, ended a bitter month-long dispute that had placed Pope John Paul II and the Polish church in conflict with the Communist government.

The compromise also allowed students at the school in Mietno, 40 miles southeast of Warsaw, to return to the school April 9 without signing pledges of obedience to school rules. Previously, authorities had insisted on the pledges and had threatened to cut short the academic careers of several hundred of the school's students.

The agreement was worked out by Polish officials and Bishop Jan Mazur of Siedlce, whose diocese includes Mietno. Bishop Mazur had announced March 27 that he was beginning a bread-and-water fast to support the students in their protest.

At a Mass April 6 in Garwolin, near Mietno, Bishop Mazur praised the students for defending the

crucifix and asked them to show forgiveness. He advised the students to "get back to work and make up for lost time."

The school's director, Ryszard Domanski, announced the agreement in a meeting with students. He said students would be able to wear crucifixes to class, and promised to make sure special exam classes do not conflict with local religious services.

The compromise appeared to weaken the Polish government's insistence that all crucifixes will gradually be

Prop Raises \$40 Million

New York (NC) -- U.S. Catholics contributed more than \$40 million in 1983 to the worldwide general fund of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, the organization's national council announced in New York.

At its annual meeting March 28 the national council also said that U.S. Catholics in 1983 provided \$2.5 million for the support of mission seminarians and Religious novices through the Society of St. Peter Apostle.

The contributions are the highest ever recorded for the two organizations, the

removed from schools and other public buildings, where they have long been a fixture.

The government contends that the display of religious symbols in state-run institutions -- such as schools, factories and hospitals -- violates the constitutional separation of church and state.

The 1983 directive against the display of crucifixes has been largely ignored in Poland, but crucifixes were removed at the Mietno school in December in preparation for a Communist Party meeting.

council said.

The Propagation of the Faith works to develop and fund mission churches worldwide. The Society of St. Peter Apostle provides support for priests and Religious in missionary dioceses.

Parish Deadline

Parish correspondents are advised that the deadline for submissions to At Your Parish is noon on Thursday, preceding Wednesday publication. The Courier-Journal address is 114 S. Union St., Rochester, N.Y. 14607.



Blessed by Pope Paul VI 1967 for the people of the United States of America.

Welcome
The Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima
Visiting the Rochester Diocese during April 1984

Schedule of visits

PLACE	DATE	TIME
St. Mary's, Waterloo	April 18 to April 22	Wed. Thurs. Fri Sat. Sun.
Holy Cross, Rochester	April 23	Mon. 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM
St. Patrick's, Owego	April 24	Tues. 1:30 PM to 5:30 PM
Immaculate Conception, Ithaca	April 24	Tues. 8:00 PM to 10:00 PM
St. Leo's, Hilton	April 25	Wed. 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM
St. Theodore's, Rochester	April 25	Wed. 8:00 PM to 10:30 PM

Rev. Albert J. Shamon

315-539-2944

EASTER ATTRACTIONS

TODAY thru SATURDAY, APRIL 21

KIDS! Visit the EASTER BUNNY

Daily: 11:00 A.M.-4:30 PM/5:30 PM-8:30 PM

Sun. 12:00-5:00 PM

Instant Photos Available

RIDE the MINIATURE TRAIN--Daily--Tickets: 50c each & 3/\$1.00

CHILDREN'S THEATER

Friday & Saturday -- APRIL 20 & 21

"MOPPINS" (The Double Faced Rag Doll)

Songs -- Games -- Audience Participation

Performances: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

3:00 PM - 7:00 PM



Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday - APRIL 23-24-25

"MOTHER GOOSE" brings to life the magical excitement of STORY TELLING!

"The Wizard in Mother Goose Land" - Performances: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM, 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Audience participation - Children can dress as one of their favorite storybook characters and join the fun!

COMING

Wednesday - Sunday - APRIL 25-29

2nd ANNUAL BUILDERAMA SHOW featuring a Great Exhibition of Home Product Displays

SPECIAL ATTRACTION: From the studio of Don Herbert -- "Watch Mr. Wizard of TV FAME"

"WORLD OF ENERGY" -- Showtimes: 11 AM, 1 PM, 3 PM, 7 PM

Monday - APRIL 30

KODAK CONCERT BAND - 7:30 PM
LONG RIDGE MALL



LONG RIDGE MALL

Ridge Rd. W. & Long Pond Rd. in Greece

YOUR SHOPPING SHOWPLACE