

Rome to Air Criticism Of 'Christ Among Us'

Vatican City (NC) -- A list of the Vatican's objections to Anthony J. Wilhelm's book, "Christ Among Us," is forthcoming, an official at the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith told National Catholic News Service Dec. 3.

But it has not been decided who will state the objections, said congregation official Father Thomas Herron, an American from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Father Herron said it still has to be decided if it would be "better for someone in the States to do it," instead of the Vatican. He cited the need to consult with officials in the United States.

Among those who could

issue objections, he acknowledged, are Archbishop Peter Gerety of Newark, N.J. Archbishop Gerety removed his imprimatur from the book last spring after the doctrinal congregation told him to ask the Paulist Press, which had been publishing the book, not to consider future reprints. Objections also could come from the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, he said.

Father Herron declined to specify the objections.

"It's not an exhaustive list," he said, "but there are a substantial number."

Father Herron said that the publication of the objections is not connected to the decision by the Harper and

Row publishing company to release a new edition of Wilhelm's book, without imprimatur. The book had sold more than 1.6 million copies between 1967 and 1984 while it still had an imprimatur.

"The congregation has had these objections for a long time," said Father Herron. "It was because of them that it intervened" last spring.

He said that it is "ridiculous" that the objections have not been made public by now and cited the people's "right to know."

"The objections are not just ours," Father Herron said. "A lot of people had them, not just CUF (Catholics United for the Faith). We want to make sure this is understood by everybody."

Should U.S. Church Divest in S. Africa?

Washington (NC) -- Auxiliary Bishop Emerson J. Moore of New York urged the U.S. bishops to develop a position on divesting church funds "from institutions that are exploiting the apartheid situation" in South Africa.

Bishop Moore made his request at the National Conference of Catholic Bishops' meeting in Washington Nov. 14.

Bishop Moore said Americans concerned about racism in South Africa are asking U.S. corporations, institutions and the U.S. government "to use their economic clout to encourage the South African regime to eliminate its apartheid laws and institute a democratic form of government."

Apartheid, which means "apartness" in the Afrikaans language developed by the early white settlers of South Africa, is a pervasive system of racial segregation. Members of the black majority are united by tribes and each tribe is assigned to a small area known as a homeland.

But Archbishop Thomas C. Kelly of Louisville, who headed a delegation of bishops to South Africa in August, told the bishops in response that divestiture is a complex issue and "our visit did not reveal a solution."

Archbishop Kelly called on the bishops' Committee on Social Development and World Peace to study the question.

Bishop Cletus F. O'Donnell of Madison, Wis.,

said Archbishop Denis E. Hurley of Durban, South Africa, an opponent of his country's policies, "is reserved about taking a swipe at multinational corporations because if it were not for the multinational corporations things would be worse off" for blacks in South Africa.

Archbishop Kelly called apartheid "one of the worst social evils of our century and a blight on us all," while Bishop Moore called the policy "a violation of our basic Christian doctrine concerning God's one human family and the dignity of the human person."

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DEATHS

Father Peter Duggan OCD

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at Dec. 3 for Father Peter Duggan, a Discalced Carmelite who once served as novice master of his order's novitiate in Waverly. Father Duggan died of pneumonia at the age of 53, Nov. 25, 1984.

The final rites were held at

Holy Hill, Wisc., where he was also buried.

A Native of Jamaica Plains, Mass., Father Duggan entered the Carmelites in 1948 and was ordained in 1956.

He taught at his order's former minor seminary in New Hampshire and eventually became its rector. He

later served as pastor of St. Florian's Parish in Milwaukee, Wisc., and as vicar provincial for his order.

His last post was to the monastery in Washington, D.C., where he gave retreats and directed the Discalced Carmelite Secular Order in the area.

Sister Mercedes O'Rourke RSM

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Dec. 6 for Sister Mary Mercedes O'Rourke of the Sisters of Mercy who died Dec. 4, 1984 at the age of 87.

Sister Mercedes had been in religious life for 71 years.

Presiding at the Mass in the congregation's motherhouse was Father Richard Thibeau SVD, motherhouse chaplain.

Sister Mercedes entered the

convent in 1914, at the age of 16.

She was a teacher and taught grades 1-8 in diocesan grammar schools, and high school subjects at Aquinas Institute.

Among her assignments were St. Vincent, Corning; St. Mary, Corning; St. Ann, Hornell; Holy Family, Auburn; Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Old St. Mary, St. Andrew, St. Charles and St.

John the Evangelist, Rochester; and St. Patrick, Elmira.

She retired teaching in 1962, and took on the Spiritual Apostolate of Prayer, a ministry engaged in by the retired and ill Sisters.

She was admitted to the congregation's infirmary in 1972.

Sister Mercedes is survived by her niece, Mrs. Thomasine Cheevers of Binghamton.

Maj. Thomas C. Guerinot

Maj. Thomas C. Guerinot, 37, son of Walter and Mary Louise Guerinot, formerly of Glenmont Drive, Rochester, died Friday, Nov. 16, in a plane crash at the Marine Corps Air Facility at Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Maj. Guerinot was graduated from St. Thomas the Apostle grammar school, Aquinas Institute (1965) and the University of St. Thomas, Houston, Tex., with a bachelors degree in Economics in 1969.

He enlisted in the Marine Corps and was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1969. He attended flight training at Pensacola, Fla. and served in the Vietnam War, piloting UH1 helicopters in some 36 combat operations.

Upon his return to the States, he served three years as a flight instructor at Pensacola and was named Flight Instructor of the Year in 1975. He then served as quality assurance officer, maintenance officer and logistics officer with Marine Observation Squadron 1, both at New River, N. C., and Okinawa, Japan. He was promoted to major while serving as selection officer in Annapolis, Md.

Returning to Okinawa, he became executive officer for the Marine Airbase Squadron 36. Transferred to Camp Pendleton, Maj. Guerinot was assigned to Marine Observation Squadron 2, where he most recently served as operations officer.

He received the Air Medal

with Strike Flight 1, the Navy Commendation Medal and the Navy Achievement Medal.

He is survived by his wife, Marilyn Gammalva-Guerinot; sons, Timothy and Jonathan; parents Walter and Mary Louise Sullivan-Guerinot of LaCosta-Carlsbad, Calif.; sisters, Donna Guerinot-Wetherell and Eileen Guerinot-Moen; brothers, Gerard and Joseph, and his aunt, Sister Rita Sullivan, RSM of Rochester; several nieces and nephews.

A memorial Mass was celebrated Nov. 19 at Camp Pendleton's Main Chapel with a full military funeral and Mass at St. Annie's Catholic Church in Houston, Tex., Nov. 21.

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