

Toronto Cardinal Backs Picketing of Clinic

Toronto(NC) -- Cardinal G. Emmet Carter of Toronto has backed a pro-life organization's call for mass picketing Feb. 18-21 in a campaign to close down the clinic of Dr. Henry Morgenthaler, a controversial abortionist.

"This is a strategically important time to let officials know that there is support for applying the law to prevent abortion on demand," the cardinal said in a newsletter. "The closing of the clinic is a necessary first step," he said.

The newsletter urged

pastors to call on parishioners to join the protest at Morgenthaler's clinic. An estimated 3,000 picketers from Toronto and other parts of Ontario joined the protest. Six people were charged with minor offenses Feb. 21 after they sat in the street and obstructed traffic.

Morgenthaler is an outspoken advocate of liberalizing Canada's abortion laws. He has been acquitted in recent court cases on charges of operating illegal abortion clinics. He reopened his Toronto clinic after being

acquitted in his most recent trial last December.

Morgenthaler faces further charges for operating an illegal clinic, but as of Feb. 22 his Toronto facility was still operating.

Dreikurs Schedules Workshop

The Dreikurs Association of Rochester is offering a six-week study group for parents and teachers of teenagers, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Thursdays beginning March 21 at the Westridge Community Center, 200 Alcott Road in Greece.

The focus of the program, a release stated, is "Loving, understanding and letting go... we can learn to cope positively with the challenges of the teen years."

The workshop will be presented by Veronica Piano, popular local lecturer and educational consultant.

The release noted Mrs. Piano will present "practical, effective techniques for dealing with this demanding period in our parenting career. Encouragement, the improvement of communication between teen and adult, and the development of skills for decision making and problem solving will be focal points of the study group."

The fee for the program is \$15 per person, \$20 per couple. Further information and enrollment is obtained by calling 248-8854.

Fellowship Lunch

Sylvia Evans, founder and director of Creative Word Ministries of Georgia will address—a JOY Fellowship Luncheon, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., March 12 at the Green Lantern Inn in Fairport. Tickets are \$6 and baby sitting is available. The luncheon is for Christian women. Further information is available by calling Carol DePierro, 223-7838.

Fr. Paul J. Cuddy



On the Right Side

Enriching A Life Of Prayer

Recently, while working in Elmira, I went to Conklin's Religious Goods store and bought "Behind Closed Doors: A Handbook of How to Pray," by Father Joseph Champlin of Syracuse. I have known Father Champlin for many years. He has pastoral gifts given to few -- gracious yet virile; progressive but orthodox. He has an unaffected simplicity which reminds me of the unction which comes from the utter simplicity of Mother Teresa. As a young priest he was in the dog house of the Syracuse chancery, less from any fault of his, and more from curial nervousness at anything new. This cloud did not last, and his bishop appointed him director of liturgy; and he became a spiritual teacher not only in the Syracuse diocese, but throughout the United States. His booklet, "Together for Life," is used in marriage preparation throughout the United States.

"Behind Closed Doors" gives methods of prayer; history of devotions; information of new movements. In one section he gives seven ways of praying, viz. 1. The Rosary; 2. Liturgy of the Hours; 3. Bible Reading; 4. Meditation; 5. Charismatic Prayer; 6. Centering Prayer; 7. Journal Keeping. His style of writing is intelligible and uncomplicated, and should be useful to people who want to strengthen their prayer life, but wish not to be enmeshed by theological complications or pop spirituality.

It is interesting to note the change from two decades ago, when the religious Red Guards took over much of the Church: burying majestic music, inspiring ritual, treasured devotions and practices; destroying statues and paintings; inflicting vulgarities into the sacred. These Red Guards were eminently successful in destroying rosary devotion. Once a valued part of community spiritual life in seminaries and religious communities, the rosary was derided. Consequently it was dropped as a communal spiritual exercise. Once part of the spiritual life of individual Catholics, the scorn of the Red Guards for the rosary caused many to drop the

devotion, though Pope John XXIII, Dr. Tom Dooley, Jesuit Karl Rahner and Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity attest to its efficacy.

In a chapter entitled "Mary and the Rosary" Father Champlin begins: "When very dissimilar Catholic periodicals within a few months time carry totally unrelated but similar articles agreeing on a certain point, it would seem both that there must be some truth in the assertion, and that the silent, mysterious action—of the Holy Spirit is present. In a relatively recent past, three publications we might label as center, left and right, have printed articles about the importance, rediscovery and liberation of the Blessed Virgin."

Sally Cunneen, a founding editor of "Cross Currents," wrote: "I often wonder how many Catholics, after the Second Vatican Council, quietly put away their rosaries and images, but now feel like dragging them out again. Many of us tucked away our rosaries and images of Mary, hoping some day to reconcile our childhood devotions with the challenges of a changing Church. Many Catholics recently have begun to see that Jesus' mother has more to do with our reality than we once thought."

Mitch Finlay wrote in the Jesuit "America": "I have taken to praying the rosary again. It must be a good dozen years since I prayed this particular 'mode' and there is a sense of homecoming about it." In response to Finlay's article, a clergyman from St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, Arlington, Texas, wrote: "I was happy to read Mitch Finlay's 'Recovering the Rosary.' I would like to add that the rosary is widely used and valued by Catholics who are in exile from the Roman obedience. Perhaps the best book in recent years on the mysteries of the rosary is 'Five for Sorrow; Ten for Joy' by Neville Ward, who is himself a Methodist minister -- though I doubt that this implies widespread use of the rosary among Methodists."

"Behind Closed Doors" is not of the genre of the spiritual classics of Boylan or Marmion or Leen, classics which few will read today. But it is a practical book for those who want to deepen their prayer life.

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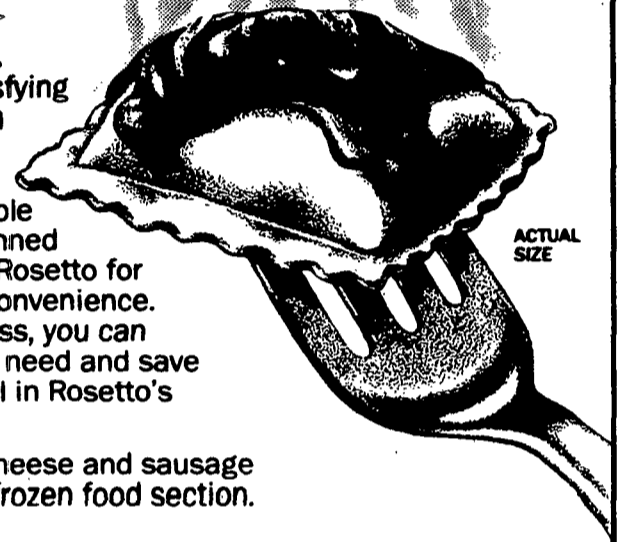
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