

More opinions

Asks bishop to undertake teaching obligation

To the Editor:

Bishop Clark's statement of support for Father Charles Curran is cause for dismay to many faithful in the Diocese of Rochester. While I agree that the pursuit of scholarship is certainly not to be stifled, Father Curran's Theory of Theological Compromise is diametrically opposed to even the most liberal interpretation of scripture. One need not be a biblical expert but only listen to Sunday gospel readings to understand that Christ did not compromise with the secular interpretations of the law by scribes and Pharisees. These experts of his time tested him re-

peatedly and his refusal to compromise cost him his human life.

Today Father Curran suggests that Church teaching (should) compromise with the ideals of those talk-show sophisticates who design morality to fit their own life patterns or justify their own actions and self-interests. These "authorities" offer popular answers to most complex problems and openly ridicule Judeo-Christian ethics as stale. Christ would bore Phil Donahue.

Bishop Clark's support of Father Curran serves to confuse the faithful and undermines the determined and loyal efforts of conscientious priests engaged in daily pastoral care.

How can a confessor credibly discuss issues with a penitent while such confusion and mixed signals exist?

I call upon Bishop Clark to undertake an extensive education program throughout the diocese making clear the official teaching of the Church on the matters of ethics and morals in question. As shepherd, he easily has more responsibility to meet this teaching obligation in support of the Church than to promote discussion groups in support of Father Curran.

James F. Rossette
North Place
Corning

EDITOR'S NOTE: To our knowledge, Bishop Clark is not affiliated with the organization Friends of Father Curran, which

sponsored the forums on the Father Curran case.

Rejecting Curran's ideas isn't violation of freedom

To the Editor:

I beg to differ with the Friends of Father Curran group who are now trying to evade the basic issues of the Father Curran controversy by now calling it "his legitimate dissenting opinion."

Anytime two or more people are engaged in conversation, we will have dissenting opinions. But if these opinions insult our intelligence, are illegal or immoral, we will not accept them.

My point is that everytime an individual has an idea, please don't try to force it on me and then scream that I am violating your freedom of speech when all that I'm saying is that you are wrong and that I reject your thinking.

Bishop Clark should clarify his position by saying that he does not agree with the teachings of Father Curran and that he will discontinue aid to any Catholic institution sponsoring this contradiction.

John A. Gural
Thornell Road
Pittsford

'Real people's dinner' to benefit homeless

A benefit for the city's hungry and homeless is planned Wednesday, April 16, at the Hof Brau Haus, 406 Lyell Avenue.

Organized by the United Auto Workers, the 'beans, franks and lemonade' dinner is timed to coincide with a \$250-a-plate fundraiser for Republican Congressman Fred J. Eckert. The political fundraiser, held at the Burgundy Basin Inn, will feature U.S. Vice President George Bush as a special guest.

"There's growing sentiment on the part of labor the Fred Eckert doesn't have the interests of working people or poor people at heart," said Anthony Di Marco, a coordinator of the event. "Many Americans are having a hard time getting by each day.

We're hoping the event dramatizes and sensitizes people to that."

The 'real people's dinner' begins at 6 p.m. Proceeds will aid the Open Door Mission, the Rochester Coalition of Emergency Food Shelters, and St. Bridget's Food Kitchen, among others.

In addition to the United Auto Workers, sponsors include the Central Labor Council, Local #1199 of the National Union of Hospital and Health Care Employees, the Gray Panthers, Metro-Act of Rochester, the Peace and Justice Education Center, the Westside Health Center, and Firefighters Local #1071.

A limited number of tickets are available at \$5 apiece. Call (716)458-1908 or 586-1843.

Inter-Parish Census

An Inter-parish Census, entitled "Church Alive," will be conducted in the Corning-Painted Post area on Sunday, April 13, from 1-5 p.m.

A coordinating committee of members from each of the parishes — St. Mary, St. Patrick, and St. Vincent DePaul in Corning and Immaculate Heart of Mary in Painted Post — has been meeting monthly since November to plan this project, which is under the supervision of Father Walter Wainwright, pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish.

800 volunteers will canvas the community. The purpose of this endeavor is to update the current parish records so as to more adequately minister to the spiritual needs of all parishioners.

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Spaghetti dinner, auction on tap this weekend

The Rosary Society of St. Agnes Church, 108 Prospect, St., Avon would like to announce its sponsoring a spaghetti supper on Saturday, April 12, from 4:30-7 p.m. Tickets for the supper, which will be held in the Parish Center Room, are available at Avon Floral World and Joanne's Beauty Salon.

The St. Agnes School will hold its third annual Promise Tree Auction at 1 p.m. on Sunday, April 13, in the School Hall, 60 Park Pl., Avon. Items available for auction include gift certificates, service projects, catered dinners, wood pieces and paintings. Boxed lunches will also be available to the highest bidders.

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General

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THANKS TO St. Jude and Holy Spirit. M.E.

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