Thursday, October 8, 1987

no

More Letters

Blessed Virgin, pope call Christians to return to God

To the editor:

Pope John Paul II has, for the second time, chosen to honor our country with his presence, his wisdom, and his love. Thousands welcome him, yet many of these do not agree with his teachings.

Common to both open dissenter and silent questioner is one central idea. They feel that by sheer numbers and loud protest they will change the pope's mind, and therefore the teachings of the Catholic Church.

It has been said that God is not elected and that Christianity is not a democracy, but how many seriously consider what this means? You would think in today's changing world, that an unchanging God would be a tremendous relief and a reason for joy. In reality, the opposite is true.

Surprisingly, very few people today understand what a church should be and what awe-some responsibility is entrusted to it. A church's primary concern and duty to its people is to clearly state what constitutes serious wrongdoing. The bottom line is to lead its people to the salvation of their souls. This mission is specifically entrusted to the leaders of the Church.

Contrary to the opinions of many, but true to his mission, the pope did not remain silent on the major issues dividing Catholics today. He did not bow to the numbers or back down in the face of protest. He strongly, clearly, and consistently upheld the teachings of the Catholic Church. More importantly, he laid it on the line for all dissenting Catholics, stating that they commit a grave error. We cannot pick and choose the rules we will obey and those we won't, and still be considered "good Catholics." In other words we cannot pick and choose the words of Christ that we will listen to and still be saved.

Jesus often warned us of the wolves in sheep's clothing who will lead many down the path to hell. These wolves are all around us, in every denomination; they are our religious, our ministers and our pastors. They no longer call sin what it is, and openly endorse today's immoral practices. They tell us not to repent, because we no longer sin. Many follow blindly, because these leaders tell us what we want to hear. The human heart can justify every evil and call it good.

Mary, the Blessed Virgin has been appearing since 1980, in the village of Medjugorje in Yugoslavia. She comes not as a prophet of doom, but as loving mother, calling us back to God before a great and terrible chastisement falls on this earth. This punishment will come from God to appease His anger and His justice, because of the great sins of humanity. Mary comes to warn all her children of every faith to repent before it is too late.

With her words ringing in our ears, should we not listen to the pope? His is the only voice of reason, and of love in this insane world. This world is rushing to its destruction, but the tragedy is that it is also rushing headlong down the road to hell.

The pope speaks not only to Catholics, but to all Christians. He should be listened to, not because he leads the Catholic Church, not because he is a charismatic world leader, not because kings and presidents seek his favor, but because he is the voice of truth, that Christ himself assured us would always be heard.

And as long as the voice of truth rings clear, no one can claim to have been deceived when they stand before their judge.

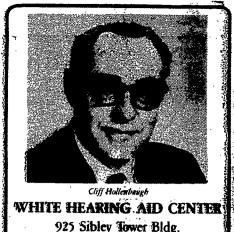
Janet M. Parulski Lakecrest Avenue Rochester

Catholic Daughters set reception

A Mass for reception of new members to the Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Nativity #931 will take place on Thursday, October 8, at Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, 152 Main St., Brockport, at 7 p.m. A regular business meeting will follow.

The group will also hold its annual penny fund raiser on Sunday, October 11, at Bolger Hall, Utica and Erie Streets, in Brockport beginning at 1 p.m. Free refreshments will be provided

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Music/instruments3/

2 MY THANKS to our Blessed Lady and St. Jude for favors received, E.S.Mc.

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Painting/Papering 113

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