

Editorial & Opinion

'Selectivism' not unique to U.S. Catholics

To the editor:

There is a tendency of some people to think that selectivism is something new and peculiar to Catholics, and that it exists only in the United States.

Catholics in Latin America and in the Latin nations of Europe, where they constitute the vast majority of the population, have been selective for years. Argentina just legalized divorce in spite of the pope's voiced objection during his recent visit there on the eve of the election.

The Catholic nations of Europe have legalized divorce. The lone exception is Ireland, which has just voted against legalizing divorce. This has cut the ground from under the Irish Republican Army. Protestants in Northern Ireland cannot be expected to support a united Ireland as long as they can point to non-Catholics being forced to conform to laws dictated by the Catholic Church.

Selective conservatism also afflicts other religions. Protestants have their fundamentalists. Jews have their extreme orthodox who want to prevent the non-orthodox people in Israel from attending movies on Friday. The conservative Khoumeni and his Shiite Moslems

dictate to the Sunni Moslems and non-Moslems in Iran, which is a theocratic dictatorship.

Whether it is called fundamentalism or conservatism, such extremes are a tendency to overemphasize the institution while ignoring, switching or minimizing the one or two basic principles upon which the institution was founded.

Catholic liberals select and emphasize the commandment handed down by Jesus Christ to "love thy neighbor as thyself" as the basic commandment and guide for people to live with each other in peace and justice. They just want the commandment put into practice by the economically powerful in their treatment of the less powerful.

The five papal encyclicals on social justice and the bishops' pastorals on peace and the economy are based upon this commandment. Catholics cannot violate that commandment and at the same time claim to be supporting the commandment to love God. Referring to the commandments to love God and neighbor, Christ declared, "On these two commandments depend the whole law of God."

Seeks prayers help for residents 'oppressed' by Supercollider bid

To the editor:

Our church has always sought to respond to the needs of the oppressed. I would like to bring to your attention the plight of your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ in Wayne County. Perhaps you have already heard of the state's proposal to build the Super-Collider — the 53-mile "atom smasher" — in Wayne County. Laws are already on the books to allow the government to take over approximately 1,000 families' residences. The impact on the rural communities of this type of project is more than the people can handle. Already, signs of stress are showing, especially in the

children and the elderly who are in fear of the destruction of their homes and their way of life.

What I am asking you today is to find out about this rape of a community and to write to your legislators. The downstate area succeeded in being withdrawn from consideration due to support from the area around the collider — people not directly affected by losses. We need your help, your letters, your prayers.

Carol May
Stoney Lonesome Road
Williamson

More Letters

Not only employers who fail to treat their employees with justice but also people who vote for politicians who they know use their office to promote the interests of the rich at the expense of the workers and consumers are violating the commandment to "love thy neighbor" by ignoring it.

To divert attention from their dissent, the conservatives continue their campaign to elevate the mosaic commandment dealing with adultery and sex as more important than the commandment emphasized by Christ, the popes and bishops. Whose selection do you choose?

Walter O'Hagan
Sherman Street
Auburn

SOUND ADVICE

By: John Crandall — Hearing Aid Specialist



If you suspend a bell in a jar and then remove all the air so the bell is in a vacuum, the bell will make no sound when rung. The reason for this is sound is the vibration of air particles. No air means no sound.

If you cannot understand what is being said on television because of a hearing problem, a special device known as a "decoder" can be fit to your set. On programs that are "closed captioned," it will show a printed dialogue at the bottom of the picture. Many prime time programs are "closed captioned."

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To place a classified ad, call 328-4340 between 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Classified ads cost 50 cents a word with a \$7.50 minimum. If you mail your ad to us, you may enclose payment or include a billing address.

General

Card of Thanks 2

GOD LORD Jesus - all Saints. Thank you. Josephine Zagami feels better - Help our families, also husband Thomas Mancuso and Victoria Zagami families. Help us; we'll publicize - donate and distribute prayers.

THANK YOU Sacred Heart of Jesus, Blessed Mother and St. Jude for a favor received. E.C.

THANKS ST. Jude, Blessed Mother and Sacred Heart of Jesus for favors received. M.M.

Announcements 7

BALLOONS & GIFTS for your loved ones this holiday. Beautiful and reasonable. AAA, BBB - 461-3610.

Employment

Help Wanted 14

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Rochester Catholic Diocese
Attn: Martha Anickaitis
1130 Buffalo Rd.
Rochester, New York 14624
E.C.M.P.

LIVE-IN STAFF RESIDENT

We are in need of a live-in staff person who is committed to living and working with the poor through prison ministry. The staff resident will be responsible for creating a loving family environment through guidance, direction, confrontation, supervision, example and prayer. Please contact: Rogers House, Corpus Christi's Home for Ex-Offenders, 287 Brock St., Rochester, N.Y. 14609. (716) 482-3694.

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Situations Wanted 16

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Buy/Sell—General

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Wanted To Buy 37

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Household Goods

Household Sales 41

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Furn. Apartments for Rent 67

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