

Et cetera

Abortion

Continued from page 1

on demand."

"I'm confident that more and more Americans every year, every day, are hearing your message and taking it to heart," he said. "I promise you the president hears you now and stands with you in a cause that must be won."

March for Life president Nellie J. Gray took the president to task for allowing only one-way communication. During previous demonstrations, former President Reagan spoke with Gray via two-way telephone hookup.

But Cardinal John J. O'Connor of New York said, "Whether the telephone connection was one-way or two-way, the president gave the strongest... message to the pro-life movement I have ever heard."

"I pray next year we will be here not to march in petition but in victory," the cardinal continued.

In Gray's address before the march, she expressed hope for victory as the result of the Supreme Court's decision to consider a Missouri law that declares that life begins at conception. The law also bans abortions at public hospitals, prohibits public funding of abortions and adds other restrictions.

"March for Life expects the Supreme Court to declare that babies are persons. No crumbs for the babies," she said.

Gray then pointed out the Missouri delegation at the march — 23 busloads of people who spent 21 hours on the road so that they could march behind their state's blue-and-white banner.

Catholic, Orthodox, Jewish and Protestant

leaders participated in the march. On the podium with Cardinal O'Connor were Cardinal Bernard F. Law of Boston, Cardinal James A. Hickey of Washington, Archbishop Anthony J. Bevilacqua of Philadelphia, Bishop Thomas J. Welsh of Allentown, Pa., and Bishop James C. Timlin of Scranton, Pa.

Orthodox Rabbi Yehuda Levin, director of Jews for Morality, said Jews "biblically support pro-life" and introduced the blowing of the shofar — a ram's horn — to commemorate lives lost to abortion. The shofar is blown in synagogues on Rosh Hashana and at the end of Yom Kippur.

New York Auxiliary Bishop Austin B. Vaughan, meanwhile, was participating in an abortion clinic protest near Washington.

Throughout the day, other anti-abortion activists, some of whom were affiliated with Binghamton N.Y.-based Operation Rescue, held rescues at health clinics in the Washington area. District of Columbia police officers arrested 153 protesters at a northwest clinic.

More than 300 people headed north from Washington in the pre-dawn hours to risk arrest an abortion clinic in Glen Burnie, Md. "Rachel's Rescue" drew nearly 80 women who have had abortions, to the Gynecare clinic in Glen Burnie. As more than 200 people prayed outside the building, 100 activists jammed the halls, blocking access to the clinic's seventh-floor office. Police moved in, but made no arrests, according to Juli Loesch, the group's media spokeswoman. After the clinic director announced that doctors in the facility would not perform abortions that day, the activists left.

On the opposite side of the issue, the Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights, which is an umbrella organization of about 50 groups, an-

nounced a campaign to "mobilize constituents nationwide to come out of the pew and into the streets in support of reproductive freedom."

The coalition has already begun to establish roots in Rochester. Forty-two area clergy, including the bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester, came out last week in support of a woman's right to choose abortion. Organizers of the coalition conducted a press conference on Friday, Jan. 20, in front of Genesee Hospital, where pro-life activists have been demonstrating for the past three years.

The coalition of clergy also celebrated an interfaith service last Sunday, Jan. 22, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, observing the an-

niversary of the court decision legalizing abortion. The service happened to coincide with Christian Unity Sunday.

According to one diocesan official, Bishop Burrill's support of a woman's right to choose abortion should not affect the covenant signed last spring by the bishops of the Catholic and Episcopalian dioceses.

"Abortion is not an ecumenical issue," said Margery S. Nurnberg, director of the diocesan department of ecumenical and interreligious affairs. "Abortion has never been on the ecumenical agenda. I see no (negative) ramifications at this point."

Compiled from local and national reports.

Pre-application deadline nears for CHD groups

The deadline for pre-applications for groups seeking funds from the Campaign for Human Development is Feb. 1. CHD is an action-education program sponsored by the Catholic bishops of the United States.

Since its inception, CHD has funded projects throughout the country that empower the poor and attack the basic causes of poverty. Funds are allocated on a non-denominational basis.

Groups applying for CHD monies will not receive the 1989 application form unless they have submitted pre-application forms by Feb. 1. The purpose of the pre-application form is to help CHD determine whether projects meet CHD criteria and guidelines.

Among these criteria are: the project must benefit a poverty group, and the majority of those benefiting from the project must be from a low-income community; members of a poverty group must have the dominant voice in the

project; and project activity for which funding is requested must conform to the moral teachings of the Catholic church.

For information, groups in Monroe and Livingston counties should contact Ken Maher at 716/546-4894; in Cayuga, Seneca, Yates, Ontario and Wayne counties, call Kevin Hennessy, 315/789-2686; or in Steuben, Tompkins, Tioga, Chemung and Schuyler, contact Kathy Dubel at 607/734-9784.

Order unveils new program

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester have inaugurated a "Come & See," a program designed to acquaint women with ministries undertaken by the order.

The first event will be a visit to St. Joseph's House of Hospitality, 402 South Ave., Rochester, on Tuesday, Feb. 7, from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. The visit will include dinner, and will be followed by a discussion of the visit and a presentation entitled "God's Call '89" at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse, 4095 East Ave., Rochester, at 7:30 p.m.

To make reservations for all or part of the "Come & See" event or for the retreats, call Sister Barbara Lum or Sister Marilyn Pray at 716/586-1000, ext. 28.

Center hosts Jungian retreat

Father Francis Blighton and Sister Margie Mayk, rc, will direct a weekend retreat entitled "The Gift of Woman," Jan. 27-29 at the Cenacle Center for Spiritual Renewal, 693 East Ave., Rochester. The retreat begins at 7:30 p.m. on the 27th and ends at 3:30 p.m. on the 29th.

The offering is \$65. For more information, call the Cenacle ministry office at 716/271-8755.

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