

Draft labors with divisive issues

WASHINGTON — "If you're looking for something to criticize in this document, you'll find it," said Bishop Joseph L. Imesch of Joliet, Ill.

He was referring to the third draft of the U.S. bishops' pastoral letter on women's concerns, titled "Called to Be One in Christ Jesus: A Pastoral Response to the Concerns of Women for Church and Society," which was released April 9.

Rochester's Bishop Matthew H. Clark is a member of the committee writing the pastoral.

In a world in which millions of people still don't think of sexism as a problem, the proposed pastoral says it's not just a problem, it's a "sin."

In a world in which many who do call sexism a sin would also say it is sexist for the church to exclude women from ordained ministry, the pastoral continues to support the church's "unbroken tradition" of "calling only men to ordained priesthood."

In a U.S. Catholic society that has overwhelmingly ignored or rejected church teaching against artificial contraception, the pastoral recommends natural family planning as the approach for "couples who for serious reasons wish to postpone a new birth."

Amid the passionately debated is-

suess of women's roles in U.S. society and in the Catholic Church today, it seems unlikely that the bishops could have written any document on the topic without arousing everyone's anger on one issue or another.

Yet the new draft is out there now, with 20,000 words of potential controversy — and apparently is finally headed for a vote. The U.S. bishops are to discuss it at a national meeting in June at the University of Notre Dame. When they convene again in Washington this November, they are supposed to vote on it.

"It can't say it all, (but) at least let us say what can be said. It's time for the bishops to address women's concerns," Bishop Imesch said.

The document firmly denounces sexism and pronounces women's equality. But it declares that "the equality of men and women as persons is best served not by disregarding sexual difference but by taking this gift and reality into account."

Among the concerns the document addresses are:

- Male-female relationships and the consequences of sexism in personal and family life.

- Problems of societal discrimination against women, ranging from economic and career disadvantages to special problems such as the double obstacles faced by single mothers and

women of racial and ethnic minorities.

- The need for the church to advance women's church roles in all areas open to them and to combat sexist attitudes among Catholics through preaching and education.

- Violence against women so widespread that "one woman in four will be sexually assaulted in her lifetime."

- Pervasive sexual exploitation of women, ranging from prostitution and pornography to the exploitation of women in entertainment and advertising.

In its conclusion the document calls for the establishment of commissions on women in church and society in every U.S. diocese. It sets out a 25-point education and action program for the U.S. Catholic Church; the commissions would work to implement the program at the parish and diocesan level.

One of the most striking features of the first draft was a series of direct quotes from U.S. Catholic women, some sharply critical of the church, interspersed throughout the text. The quotes were drawn from the extensive grass-roots consultation that preceded the first draft.

In the second draft that use of such quotations was significantly reduced, and in the third draft they disappeared in favor of paraphrases.



AP/Wide World Photos
GERMAN EVACUEES — Members of the German community in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, kiss while waiting April 9 at the local Volkswagen plant to be evacuated on buses. Under armed guard, 21 Germans — many who worked at the plant — departed with other nationals for the Serbian capital of Belgrade.

HOMEMADE REAL MILK CHOCOLATE FOR EASTER

- Solid & Semi-solid Easter Bunnies
- Chocolate Easter Eggs
- Chocolate Baskets
- Easter Sweet Bread
- Easter Egg Bread
- Bunny & Egg shaped cakes

OPEN EASTER SUNDAY UNTIL 2:00PM

Sawoia
PASTRY SHOPPE

2267 CLIFFORD AVE. Near Culver
482-1130 SERVING YOU SINCE 1929
Open Mon.-Sat. 9a.m.-7p.m., Sun. 9a.m.-2p.m.


ARNDT FUNERAL HOME
1118 Long Pond Road (South of Maiden Lane)
(716) 225-6350

- Ronald John Arndt - Licensed Funeral Director since 1963
- Pre-planned funeral arrangements by appointment
- Lighted parking for over 100 cars
- Complete funeral arrangements at one convenient location
- Professional personal services make our families number 1
- Personal & Dignified Services For All Faiths
- General Price lists available
- Central Greece Area

FUNERAL DIRECTORS OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE

The funeral Directors listed herein offer pre-need and at-need services and counseling in accordance with the Catholic faith.

MONROE/WAYNE COUNTIES

 NULTON FUNERAL HOME MAIN OFFICE: 1704 Penfield Road (716) 381-3900 Penfield	MATTLE FUNERAL HOME 853 Culver Road (716) 482-2440 Rochester	PAYNE-NULTON FUNERAL HOME 22 Bickford Street (315) 986-7781 Macedon	WOOD FUNERAL HOME 1530 Buffalo Road (716) 247-6360 Gates
---	--	---	--

ROCHESTER

Crawford Funeral Home, Inc. "Our Family Serving Your Family" Located at 495 N. Winton Rd. (Between Atlantic & Humboldt) (716) 482-0400	Lucy Funeral Home, Inc. 301 W. Main St. Victor, N.Y. 924-5730 2309 Culver Rd. 342-0470 Michael W. Lucy Lic. Mgr.
---	--

GATES

Alvah Halloran & Son, Inc. Funeral Home H. Daniel Halloran 2125 Chili Avenue Rochester, N.Y. 14624 (716) 247-7590	DiPonzio Funeral Home, Inc. (Across from St. Theodore's Church) 219 Spencerport Road Rochester, N.Y. 14606 429-6700
--	--

IRONDEQUOIT

Schauman-Sulewski Funeral Home Inc. Edwin Sulewski 2100 St. Paul Street Rochester, N.Y. 14621 (716) 342-3400	Michael R. Yackiw Funeral Home 1270 Norton Street Rochester, N.Y. 14621 (716) 544-5000
---	--

GREECE

Arndt Funeral Home 1118 Long Pond Rd. (south of Maiden Lane) Parking for over 100 cars Greece, N.Y. 14626 Ronald John Arndt (716) 225-6350	Vay-Schleich and Meeson Funeral Home Inc. "Greece's Largest and Most Complete Facilities" 2692 Dewey Avenue 1075 Long Pond Rd. (716) 663-2100
---	--

MONUMENTS

HART MONUMENT CO.
2301 Dewey Avenue
Opposite Holy Sepulchre Cemetery
Since 1856
865-6746

OVER 45 YEARS
TROPHIES • PLAQUES

ONE OF
AMERICA'S LARGEST AND MOST COMPLETE TROPHY SERVICES

546-5143

TROPHY & AWARD SPECIALISTS

- GIFT ITEMS • MEDALS • NOVELTIES

Dependable/Prompt Service
All work done on premises by expert professionals
222 SOUTH AVE. — ONE BLOCK SOUTH OF RUNDLE LIBRARY
ROCHESTER FREE PARKING IN REAR

V.H. LANG TROPHIES, INC.

Alpine Manor

PROPRIETARY HOME FOR AMBULATORY ADULTS

A home away from home in the beautiful Livingston County hill country.

Semi-Private \$41.00 per day
Private \$43.00 per day

2714 Poplar Hill Rd. (south of 5 & 20 between E. Avon & Lima)
Lima NY 624-3290
Tim Kinsella, proprietor
DOCTOR ON CALL 24 HRS