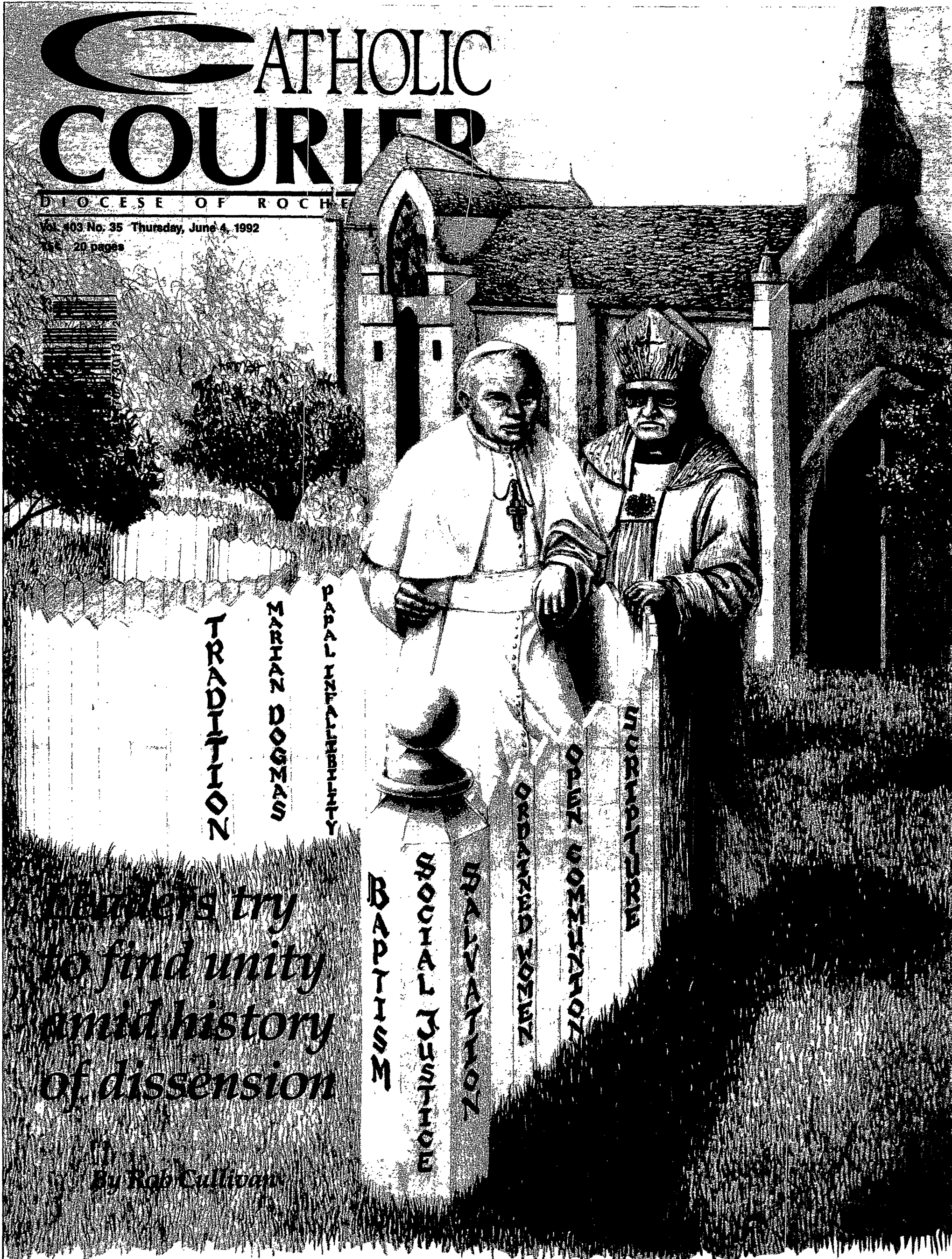


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Leaders try to find unity amid history of dissension

By Rob Cullivan

Ever since Vatican II, Roman Catholic leaders and theologians have met regularly with their Anglican counterparts in a joint effort to bridge ever-widening gaps between the two faith traditions.

The ongoing Roman/Anglican dialogues could be likened to meetings between two neighboring brothers — long divided by disagreement — who agree to speak across the fence about concerns they hold in common.

The desire for mutual understanding shared by the two faith traditions was highlighted May 25 when Pope John Paul II met in Vatican City with Anglican leader Archbishop George Carey

of Canterbury to discuss differences and commonalities between their respective Christian flocks.

Anglicanism is the Christian religion professed by all those who are in communion with and acknowledge to some degree the See of Canterbury. In Great Britain, Anglicanism is the state religion. In the United States, Anglicans are better known as Episcopalians.

The pope and the Anglican archbishop both expressed pleasure at the outcome of their May 25 meeting, but stressed that certain issues — especially the growing Anglican practice of

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