

CATHOLIC COURIER

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Letters Policy

The *Catholic Courier* wishes to provide space for readers throughout the diocese to express opinions on all sides of the issues. We welcome all signed, original letters about current issues affecting church life.

Although we cannot publish every letter we receive, we seek, insofar as possible, to provide a balanced representation of expressed opinions and a variety of reflections on life in the church. We will choose letters for publication based on likely reader interest, timeliness and a sense of fair play. Our discerning readers may determine whether to agree or disagree with the opinions of the letter writers.

We reserve the right to edit all letters. Mail them to: *Catholic Courier*, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, New York 14624. Please include your full name as well as telephone number and complete address for verification purposes.

Opinion



This 11th century image titled 'Marriage at Cana' depicts Christ performing his first miracle. File art

Trying to 'neuterize' God denies church teachings

To the editors:

A letter made an uninformed or biased statement that "God sent his Son out of practicality and acceptability" (*Catholic Courier*, Jan. 14).

Not! Many have proposed this and other concepts under the guide of "social mores" et al. These arguments for the ordination of women (and other changes) are proposed in the present time — as we conceive it. We relegate God and relate to God as a historical and non-relevant figure.

Not true. To deny the fact that Christ (part of the Trinity and God Himself), because of social mores, did not have a woman at the Last Supper denies the omnipotence of God. It means He let Christ err, and, if so, He (God) is not perfect.

It's time to take the trash out. If you accept the Bible as a historical account (and the basis of Catholicism) God created Adam before Eve.

The snake approached Eve, not Adam. The rest is history. This does not mean women are part of the trash. Christ performed his first miracle at Cana at the mere suggestion of a woman — his mother. As God, if He wanted a woman to be a "priest" — whom else would He honor to be included at the First Mass? He performed His first miracle for her.

There is a constant attempt by some to neuterize God as a Father in the Liturgy.

The omission of the word "Father" at every chance in the recitation of the Liturgical Prayers, raises the question — if a priest refuses to acknowledge God as a Father, why should that priest expect to be called Father? When the word Father is left out of the Doxology this denies the Trinity and a definite liturgical "no-no."

Why do women want to be "priests?" Why not "priestesses" or celebrants? Obvious answers.

Accept neuterization or neutralization of gender, whether it is priesthood, practice of homosexuality, women's right to abortion et al, and you deny the omnipotence of God the Father, and God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost — and all their attributes.

Theology is merely the study of God. Truth is not a democracy to be determined in a specific time space.

Deny God (the Trinity) you deny the right of the Universal Catholic Church to teach through the Pope — not individual dioceses and bishops.

Deny the omnipotence of God, you ultimately deny your own and others redemption through Christ.

I thank God I am a woman. I thank God he let me find the Universal Catholic Church long after birth and not "marrying" into it.

"God gives the very best to those who leave the choice to Him."

Shirley F. Schuhart, OFH (tertiary)
Whalen Road
Penfield

Rebel Catholics must return to conformity with the church

To the editors:

In response to Steve DeLucia Jr.'s letter to the editor of January 14, 1993. I would suggest to Steve, that he start to read other Catholic publications to broaden his horizon in matters of Catholic faith because he is sorely misguided. One point is that the Holy Father Pope John Paul II the leader of the worlds Roman Catholics is infallible in matters of faith and he has stated that woman priests is a dead issue, and this is a primary matter of faith. This is not a sexist male view, but more simply a reality that is going to remain. Woman have served the Church for many years since Vatican II

without ever being ordained to the priesthood. If you rebel Catholicism got in line with true Roman Catholicism, the Church as a whole would be better off.

Recently the Church of England allowed woman priests (I don't know as of yet, if Queen Elizabeth has approved or not) but mark my words it will be the demise of the Church of England. And last but not least NO God would NOT sent a daughter as savior to modern society!!! God only has a Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ!!!

Alan Patrick Rector
Lake Avenue
Rochester

Bias alleged in film review

To the editors:

Your Dec. 10 story on Malcolm X revealed the liberal bias of the reviewer, Henry Herx of Catholic News Service.

It refers to Malcolm's father's murder by the KKK. My conservative sources say the father who was a drunk admitted before he died that he had accidentally slipped on the railroad tracks where he met his death.

The article mentions "white agents of a CIA-like organization," in connection with the assassination of Malcolm by the Nation of Islam. What connection is there? The CIA is an arm of our government which is under Congressional oversight.

This gratuitously insulting reference is a typical liberal ploy — in essence lying — what's new?

John F. Starkweather
Middle Road
Rush

Answers offered regarding beliefs

To the editors:

Fr. McBrien said many beautiful things in his column "Catholicism is a sacramental faith" (*Catholic Courier*, Jan. 14). I'm not a long faced Catholic because I've chosen answers to the first list of his article.

I regard Pope John Paul to be head of the Church. He's the current successor to St. Peter who was given the keys of the kingdom by Christ.

Pray always to have a strong devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary — encourage others to as well.

Catholics are not supposed to practice birth control — natural family planning is acceptable.

Understand celibacy is a requisite to becoming a priest.

A priest is the Person of Christ in the confessional — how fortunate we are to have the Sacrament of Confession or Penance.

Thank You.

Rena B. Camblin
Meadow Drive
Palmyra

'Hats off' for the tribute to Father Paul Cuddy

To the editors:

Thank you for your page honoring the memory of Father Paul Cuddy in the Dec. 24 Christmas issue. It was a fitting tribute.

Father Cuddy's consistent conservatism, combined with his sense of humor, made him, in retrospect, the diocesan Rush Limbaugh.

When I saw the Yule caps on the heads of your regular columnists I hurriedly turned back to page 2 to see if that columnist was also capped and I had missed it. Alas, the bishop was bare headed. I presume that decision was made at a lengthy and perhaps heated editorial staff meeting. Albeit, the Christmas issue was excellent. Happy New Year!

Father Raymond G. Heisel
Mother of Sorrows Church
Mt. Read Boulevard
Rochester

EDITORS' NOTE: We're glad you liked it. And although we'd like to say the headgear lapse stemmed from serious thought, we simply forgot!