

s about the
e artists de-
Ve may sup-
yons statue
th one of

n unable to
his madon-
nothing of
hat the stat-
onastery in
m the 14th
an't be cor-
15th centu-
ts that the
ions. This is
e sculptors
k in marble
ors in Siena
erefore the
: work of a

rs seem to
out the im-
epresented
ner. But in
rew T. Dis-
e church,
ion shrine.
lessed this

t pastor re-
aiche for a
nded up in
prove em-
or dropped.
It was sub-
ptistery.
ichard Or-
remodeled
ly with the
ur Lady of
mer place
wever, the
Therefore,
id the ren-
its careful

ite task to
, an artist
vell-known
ll Factory

the paint
veral col-
storations:
w. But the
ally given
nd a dark
were the
y Tuscan
h century.
the wood
any worm
woodwork
ion at the
led. This
a bit of
ller.

only well-
il. Mary is
t she was,
it is inno-
e world's
eely con-
God? Star-
Father's
a gentle
Gabriel,
the Lord.
g to your

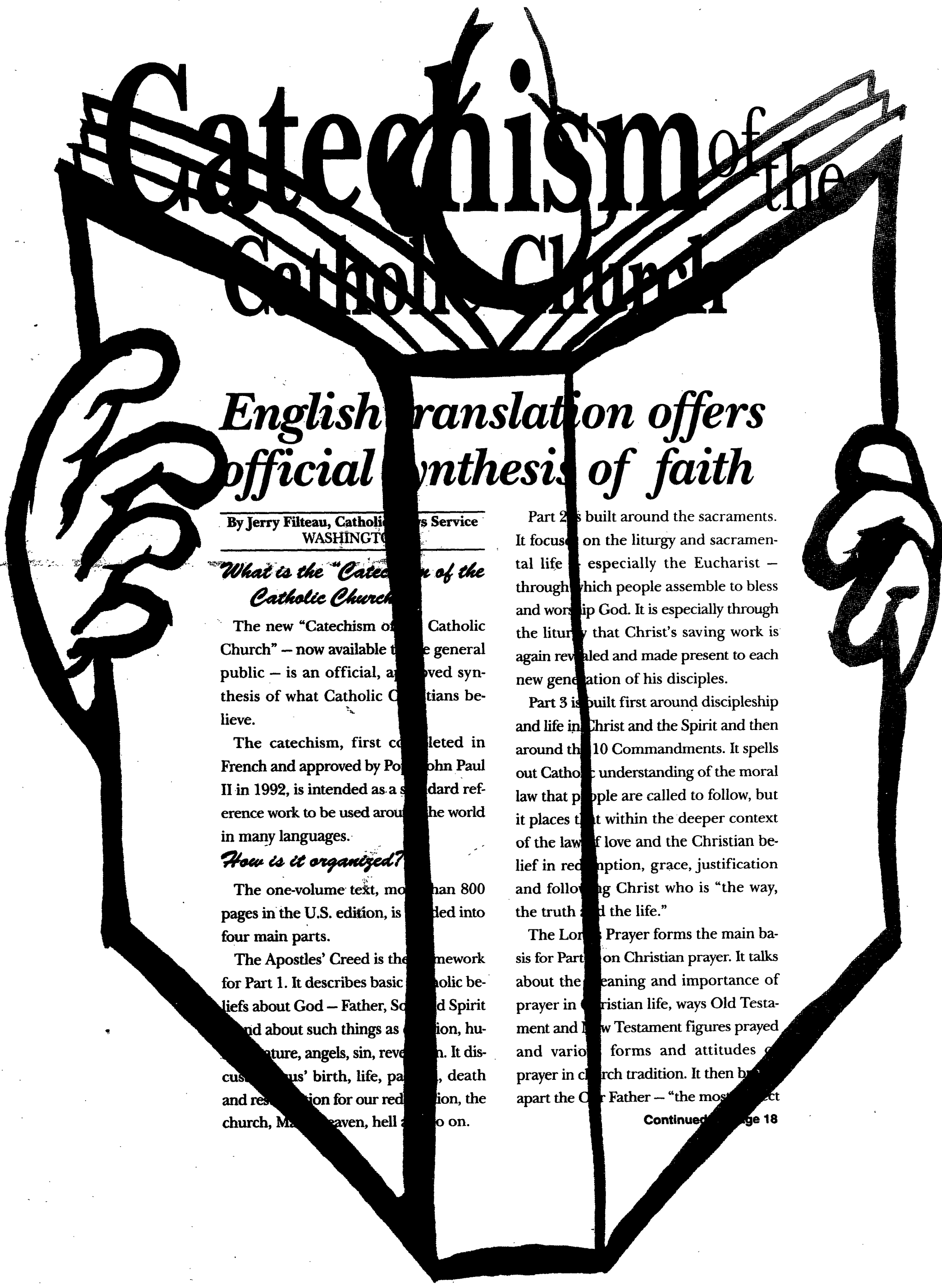
omen re-
age prob-
iscovered
its lesson
American
still ad-
shed the
tever He

archivist,
Church in



Catholic Courier

DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK ■ VOL. 105 NO. 37 ■ THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 1994 ■ 75c ■ 20 PAGES



English translation offers official synthesis of faith

By Jerry Filteau, Catholic News Service
WASHINGTON

What is the "Catechism of the Catholic Church?"

The new "Catechism of the Catholic Church" — now available to the general public — is an official, approved synthesis of what Catholic Christians believe.

The catechism, first completed in French and approved by Pope John Paul II in 1992, is intended as a standard reference work to be used around the world in many languages.

How is it organized?

The one-volume text, more than 800 pages in the U.S. edition, is divided into four main parts.

The Apostles' Creed is the framework for Part 1. It describes basic Catholic beliefs about God — Father, Son and Spirit — and about such things as creation, humanity, nature, angels, sin, revelation. It discusses Jesus' birth, life, passion, death and resurrection for our redemption, the church, Mary, heaven, hell and so on.

Part 2 is built around the sacraments. It focuses on the liturgy and sacramental life — especially the Eucharist — through which people assemble to bless and worship God. It is especially through the liturgy that Christ's saving work is again revealed and made present to each new generation of his disciples.

Part 3 is built first around discipleship and life in Christ and the Spirit and then around the 10 Commandments. It spells out Catholic understanding of the moral law that people are called to follow, but it places that within the deeper context of the law of love and the Christian belief in redemption, grace, justification and following Christ who is "the way, the truth and the life."

The Lord's Prayer forms the main basis for Part 4 on Christian prayer. It talks about the meaning and importance of prayer in Christian life, ways Old Testament and New Testament figures prayed and various forms and attitudes of prayer in church tradition. It then brings apart the Our Father — "the most perfect

Continued on page 18