

**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 original, signed 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 for length as well as legal concerns. With respect to errors in submitted text, we will correct spelling only. Anonymous letters and the use of pseudonyms are unacceptable.

Mail letters to: *Catholic Courier*, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624. Please include your full name, phone number and complete address for verification purposes.

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**Leave the One, True Church alone**

To the editors:

I spoke to the St. Patrick's Parish Council on January 12th about the changes in the former Roman Catholic Mass.

Grant you, the Mass was re-written by Vatican II liturgical committees back in the sixties, but it seems in the last couple of years this unwarranted "updating" has turned the mass into a Protestant worship service, at best.

Listen to the language of the New Age New Mass proponents and they tell the story:

A priest is not a priest anymore, he is a "presider" or a "celebrant." That's because most priests since 1969 are ordained in the Anglican rite. Just call them "reverend," folks.

The Consecration is not referred to as "consecration" any longer, it is part of "Eucharist Prayers" — multiple choice — choose I, II, III, or IV. Why? Because Transubstantiation is not taking place, turning the bread and wine into the actual Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.

The words of the Consecration that were never to be changed, have been reworded, and continue to be re-arranged by committee after committee ad nauseum. Every other Monday, it seems, they re-invent the Mass. Or, excuse me, the "Eucharist" — it isn't a Mass anymore, either.

I have discovered that the goo-goo socialists who preach "love," "tolerance," "peace" and "harmony" are the most unloving, most intolerant, most contentious and disruptive people I know. When Jesus Christ yelled "Hypocrites!" he was talking about them.

Liberalism and Catholicism are exact opposites. The Catholic Church is not a "democracy" where an atheistic philosophy of "one man, one vote" prevails, nor is it the Satanic maxim, "Do your own thing is the whole of the Law."

There is Church Law and Canon Law. You either subscribe to them or you don't, but Church doctrine is not a smorgasbord where you can pick and choose what to believe.

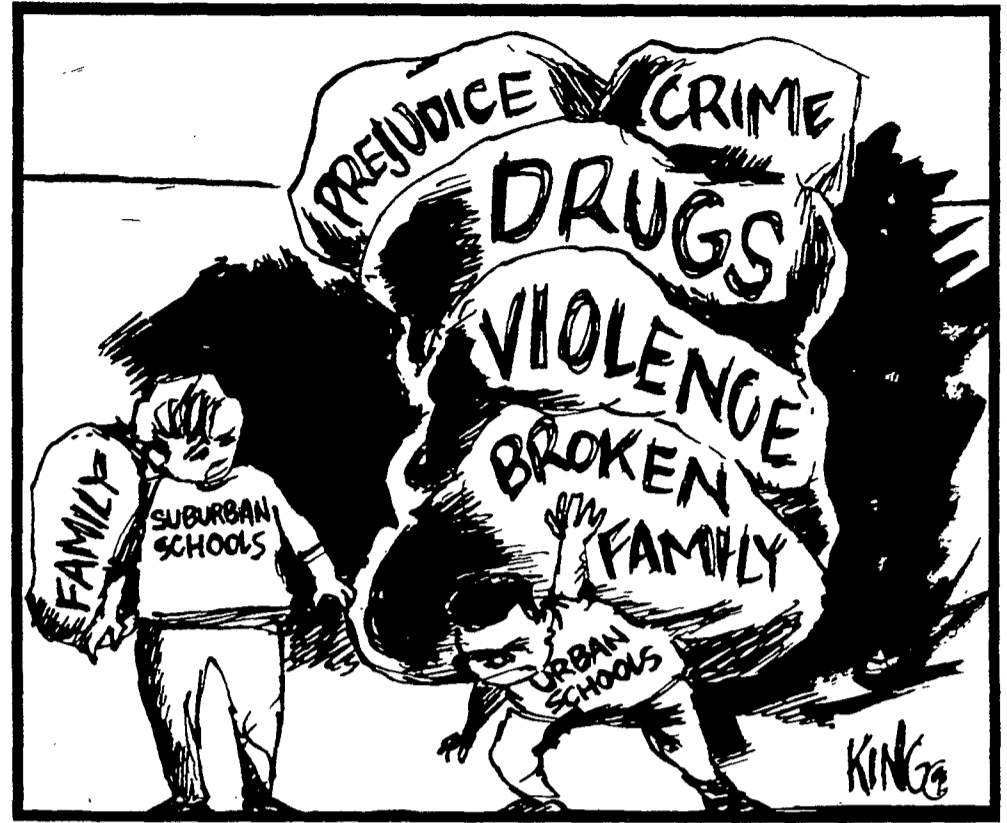
There's very little talk of God coming from the Catholic pulpits. It's all situational ethics, or, as the evangelicals say, "secular humanism." I attended Midnight "mass" Christmas Eve and was aghast that the birth of Jesus Christ, the Blessed Virgin Mary, Bethlehem or anything relating to the coming of our Savior was mentioned in the homily.

The Catholic Church is "catholic" in name only, and that is spelled with a small "c." I was baptized a Roman Catholic. That is what I am. And that is what this New Age Masonic Church is not.

For those of you who think the desecration of the True Roman Catholic Mass is wonderful, find yourselves another church. The Unitarian Universalist, Queen of Ecumenicism, would love to have you.

Leave the ONE TRUE CHURCH alone!!

**Lucille Povero**  
Center Street, Seneca Falls



**Ad policy adheres to law of government, not God**

To the editors:

In response to the letter of Nov. 23 regarding the Courier's policy in the solicitation and printing of political ads and your editorial response, I would like to comment.

It is patently clear and has now been noted, that your policy is based on the Constitution of the United States — Freedom of Speech — and not the commandments of God — Thou Shall Not Kill, as in the case of abortion. It can be presumed as well, that if the *Courier* had been in publication in the 1800s, it conceivably could have included promotion of pro-slavery candidates and their political ads as well.

In this respect, the *Courier-Journal* (sic) is not a "religious" publication but rather a secular newspaper which focuses on religious and spiritual issues that is merely marketed through and promoted by the Diocese of Rochester.

This needs to be made very clear, particularly to those persons who do not purchase the newspaper on their own but receive it, albeit involuntarily, from

their collective parish subscriptions. There is enough confusion today about matters of faith without the advertisements of the *Courier* adding to the melee.

**Mel Lewis**  
South Avenue, Rochester

*EDITORS' NOTE: Ms. Lewis seems to have missed three key points in our previous editors' note. First, to our recollection, not one pro-choice candidate in the past 10 years has inquired about purchasing political ads in the Catholic Courier. Second, the letter that raised this question complained about our publication of ads for candidates who opposed abortion but supported the death penalty. Thirdly, because of Internal Revenue Service regulations that affect ALL non-profit organizations, a decision to refuse any one candidate's ad effectively means cutting off ALL candidates' access to advertisements in the Courier. Since no pro-choice candidates have sought advertising in the Courier, it seems foolish to establish a policy that would only serve to hamper candidates who support some if not all church teachings.*

**Key point in discussion of life is that it is gift one must deserve**

To the editors:

I walked out of Church on Sunday in the middle of the Sermon.

I'm 58. Lifelong Catholic. I've never done that before. The sermon was on Death.

It's time for rebuttal, in all fairness,

to the Bishop's publicized concept that "no matter what happens everyone deserves the gift of Life." The key word here is GIFT.

The New Catechism states: (P546, article 2266) "Preserving the common good of society requires rendering the aggressor unable to inflict harm. For this reason, the traditional teaching of the church has acknowledged as well-founded the right and duty of legitimate public authority to punish malefactors by means of penalties commensurate with the gravity of the crime, not excluding, in cases of extreme gravity, the death penalty."

My consciousness has been raised by a paraplegic Christmas guest in my home... The mugger's bullet is still in this boy's spine. His pain is constant. The mugger said "You ain't worth nuthin'" as he shot him. For a man like that, the gift of life should be denied. He is vengeful and unremorseful. He doesn't deserve the GIFT of LIFE.

**Carol Creswell, R.N.**  
Main Street, Bloomfield

**Woman's murder calls attention to need to clean up brutality on our television sets**

To the editors:

When I did read about the sad death of Jean Giambra, I could not get it out of my mind for days and days. Then I knew I had not ever read in any history or literature courses — and I took a lot of those — of any crime more brutal.

So I'm convinced it came from our present environment of what is being sent into homes or wherever TV goes in shows like *Life Without Shame*. So I am asking all our readers to write to the folks who represent them in Congress — that should be three people, right? — and let them

know we want them to tell the producers of such shows that they are unacceptable. Ask them to change the laws.

I grew up the first decades of my life without the intrusion of TV. We can all see how brutish films affect the viewer.

See what they do. I can tell you I was glad when I knew her attacker was behind bars; I'm near her age. I like to walk to a store without fear. I like to be at home without fear 24 hours a day. How about you?

**Mary Rita Crowe**  
Main Street, Rochester