

# OPINION COMMENTARY

## Catholic Courier

©1995, Rochester Catholic Press Association.

1150 Buffalo Road  
Rochester, NY 14624  
716/328-4340

### President

Bishop Matthew H. Clark

### General Manager/Editor

Karen M. Franz

### Editorial Department

#### Managing Editor

Richard A. Kiley

#### Senior Staff Writer

Lee Strong  
Finger Lakes

#### Staff writers

Rob Cullivan  
Genesee Valley

Mike Latona  
Southern Tier

#### Staff Photographer

S. John Wilkin

#### Editorial Intern

Scott VanDerveer

### Business Department

#### Circulation Manager

Jeanne A. Morin

#### Office Manager

Mary DiPonzio

#### Administrative Assistant

Lenna Hurley

### Advertising Department

#### Advertising Director

Ray Frey

#### Assistant Ad Manager/ Classified Director

Kathy Welsh

#### Sales Representatives

Ivan Ramos

Ron Granston

### Production Department

#### Graphics Manager

Lorraine Hennessey

#### Graphic Artist

Kim Parks

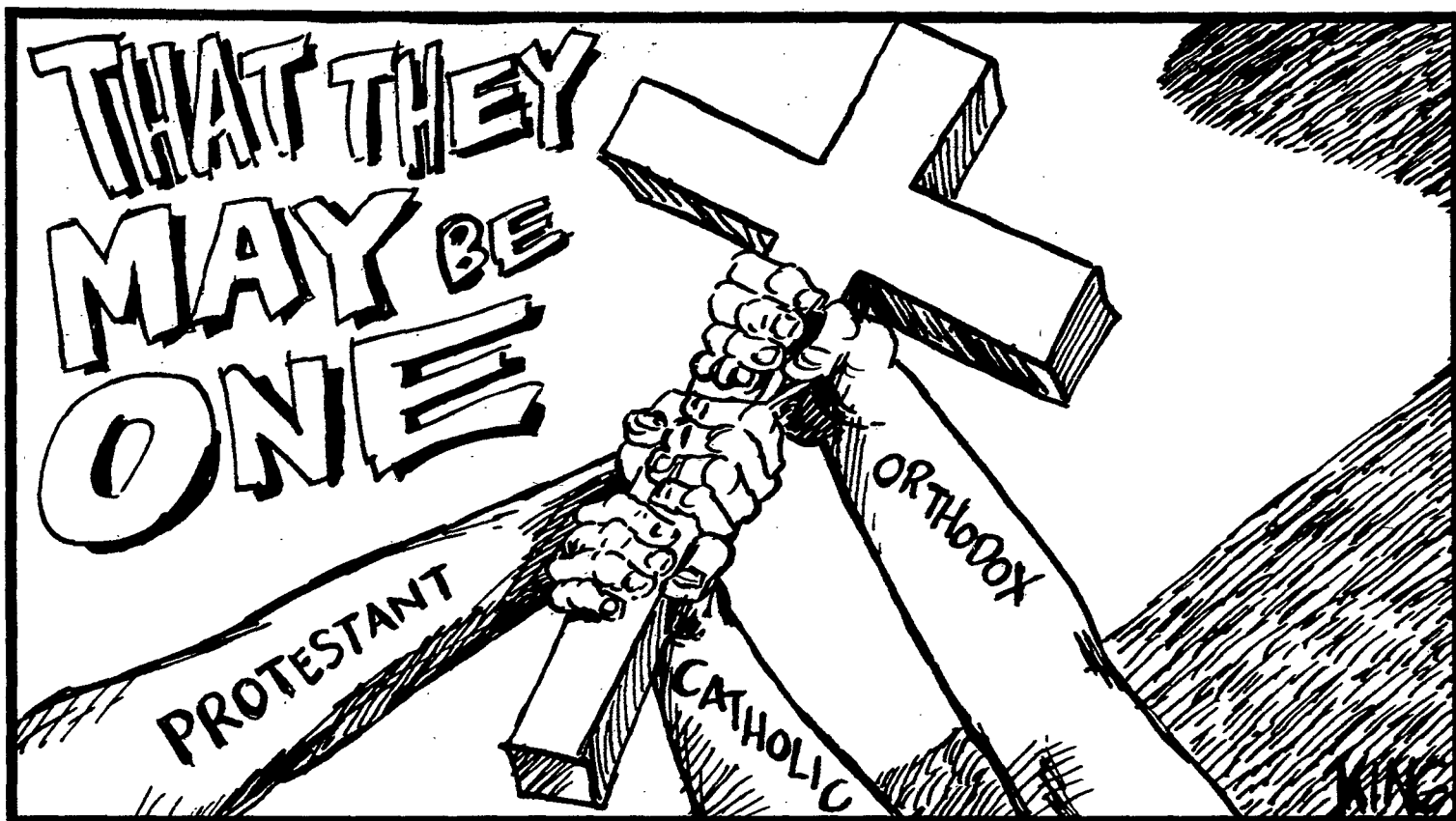
### Letters Policy

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.



## Minister adds to eulogy of Fr. Mura

### To the editors:

After two hours of listening and participating in a Mass with Father Dave Mura as the celebrant, teens wanted more. They often said that they couldn't believe that they were in church that long. It was interesting as well as fun.

Father Dave translated the Mass into a modern-day celebration that was easily accepted by teens and young people. He would strongly encourage everyone to sing the songs, hymns, and the responsorial psalms. When someone wasn't singing he'd ask why? "Oh so you have a lousy voice, well who gave you that voice?" When they answer "GOD," then Father Dave would say, "Then give it back to God, and sing loud!"

Father Mura would liken the Mass celebration to a special family celebration by comparing church to grandma's house. He'd say it was like the preparation of a great feast. While someone was

in the kitchen, another older family member would sit around telling stories and then they gather around to sing songs. When the meal was ready, all sat around the table, they ate and they drank. What a wonderful time.

Father Dave spoke to youth at their level. He'd tell biblical stories and they would come alive. Anyone who has heard his version of a particular Gospel story never forgets it. Once last year I listened and watched Father Mura's interpretation of the Trinity. He explained it as he juggled three pastel-color scarfs from the pulpit at Holy Apostles. I'll never forget the Trinity and its meaning because these three scarfs will always stay in my mind.

Father Dave Mura was a happy priest. He lived the message that Pope John II gave to the youth in Denver, Colorado, during the 1993 World Youth Day. The Holy Father said, "Don't be afraid of the

Gospel, be proud of it." Father Dave was proud. He made it exciting. He gave us a lot to work with. He had a special message to all of us who work with youth. "DON'T LET GO!" Continue to hold on and recommit to young people. Be patient and giving. Take time with them. Listen. They need us.

Dave, we won't let go. We'll work a little harder and continue to follow your lead. We thank God for His gift of you. We love you and we miss you.

Paul Anastasi, Youth Minister  
Christ The King Church, Rochester

## Crime of abortion overlooked amid outcry over Smith

### To the editors:

While anticipating the upcoming Susan Smith trial, I think about the cry of public opinion to destroy her just like she destroyed her children. We have become incensed at the ghastliness of the offense; this young mother perpetrated a crime against her two baby boys sending them to a watery grave at the bottom of a lake. What she did was wrong! But, think a moment — how many women, daily, kill their own children while still in the womb?

The bottom of the lake.

The bottom of a garbage disposal.

The bottom of a trash can.

What's the difference?

Susan Smith may feel remorseful and repentant for her heinous act. She may ask God for mercy and forgiveness. If she does seek forgiveness, she will be forgiven. However, her children are dead by her own hand. The Bible says, "Thou shalt not kill!" Therefore, there's a consequence for taking the life of other human beings. God and society demands she pay the price for her crime.

Even so, how many women feel no remorse or shame for aborting their unborn children, yet condemn this woman, and seek her destruction? What Susan, alone, did in secret, millions of women do daily. What a grim picture, and example of mixed messages has been mirrored to the eyes of our youth today.

In the midst of all this confusion, there is one glorious truth that's often overlooked. We can destroy the body, but the soul lives forever. In this case, Susan Smith's children have not perished! They rest in the arms of a loving, Eternal, heavenly Father.

Marilyn Krebs  
Bright Oaks Circle, Rochester

## Actions, attire lack respect

### To the editors:

The "Thought For The Week" in our church bulletin was "Conscience: An inner voice that warns us somebody is looking."

Perhaps we should give this some real thought! Is God looking? With this in mind I question certain actions that take place in our churches. Eucharistic Ministers walk up the aisle very casually. Even when they distribute Communion they dress very casually, with men wearing colorful sport shirts, and women wearing jeans. Maybe (former gubernatorial candidate) Mr. (Thomas) Golisano had a good point in wanting a dress code for business. Should we not expect one for serving the Lord? Would they dress this way going to a wedding? I doubt it. Is not Mass a Feast deserving of reverence?

Further, we are now informed that while we may genuflect or bow from the

waist, it is really not necessary to do so. We are also told that, if, at the end of Mass, we want to genuflect, we might consider doing it in the pew rather than in the aisle where we may be trampled on by people leaving. If, indeed, we are in danger of being trampled, then perhaps we should have some instructions on how to enter and leave the church.

I wish more people would look at Channel 49 — EWTN — and see what reverence is really all about. Moreover, I am sure that if our eyes could pierce into the other world, we would be amazed that the angels are prostrating themselves before the tabernacle in adoration, while some of our priests and parishioners pass by without so much as a glance toward the home of that wonderful Prisoner of Love.

Florence Goodwin  
Laredo Drive, Rochester

## Parishioners had no choice on administrator

### To the editors:

In reference to your article on "Bishop appoints two pastoral administrators" (May 25), Guardian Angels was never given an option as to the kind of leadership we would receive.

Father Peter Clifford came to Guardian Angels to "request" the parish accept a Pastoral Administrator on November 21, 1994. We were told there was a shortage of priests and that the diocese could not assign a pastor for the six year term required in Cannon Law. We

were also told we could not advertise for a priest.

Since the time of this meeting the priest who has served as Sacramental Minister has been assigned as pastor of another parish.

We still do not know who our Sacramental Minister will be. If there is a shortage of priests why do some parishes have two or three full-time priests and others have none?

Cheryl E. Russell  
Partridgeberry Way, West Henrietta