

OPINIONS

Catholic Courier

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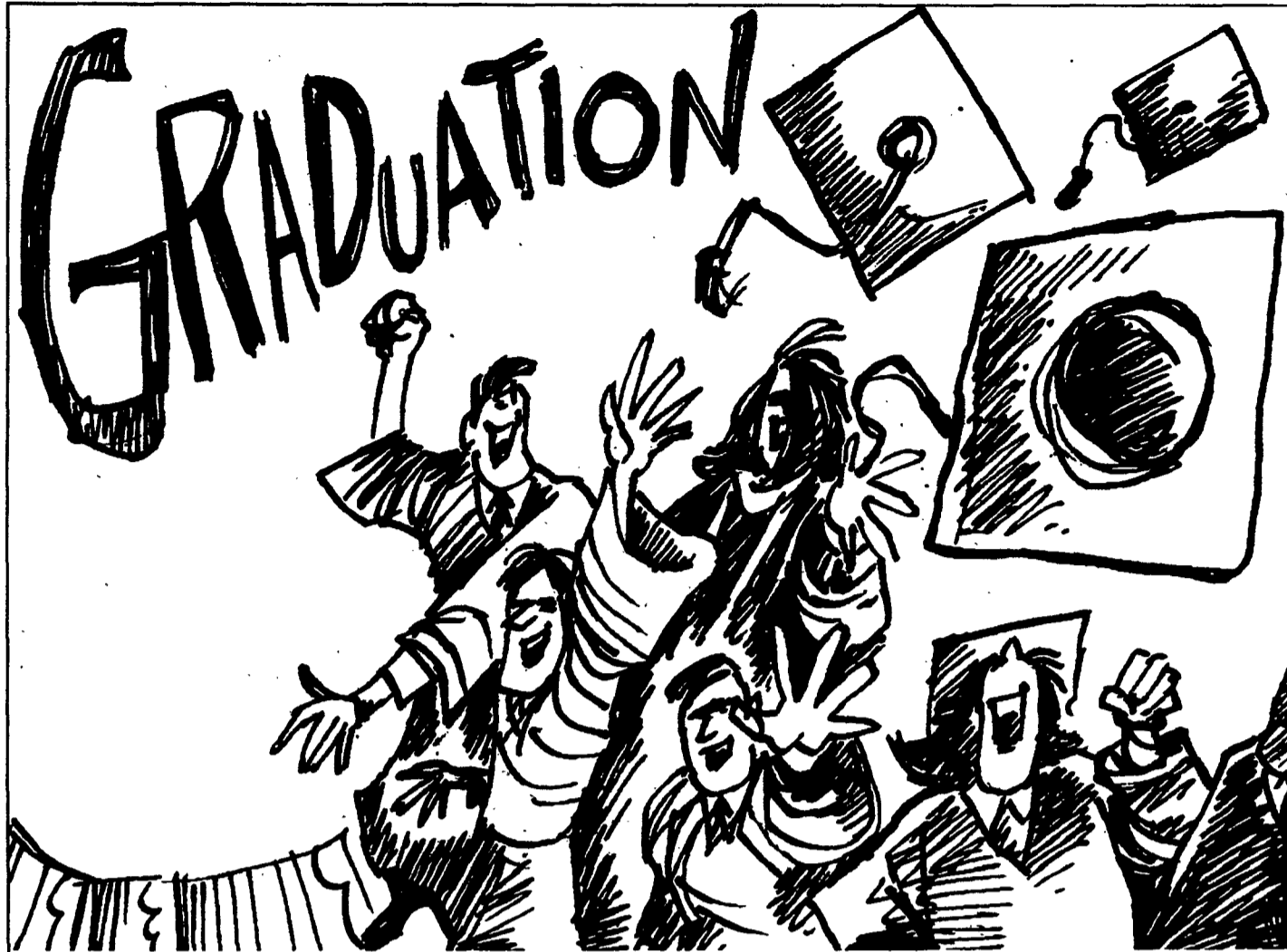
Letters Policy

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 letter writers' opinions.

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, P.O. Box 24379, Rochester, N.Y. 14624. Please include your full name, phone number and complete address for verification purposes.



Christ's body can build up children

To the editors:

I am writing this letter so a voice can be heard, as it was heard on June 1, when many people "stood for children."

This is an enormous reminder that on this day for children, when poor children were remembered, we really do need to see and recognize other children, abused children. We need to acknowledge clearly and deeply *who* they are — and *where* they are coming from.

First, let's take a focus on children *now*. All kinds of abuses are taking place, even now as we speak! How can there be an advocate — *who* can be an advocate? Somehow this has become such a hidden agenda. There have to be ways to shout from the mountain tops that very small, young and defenseless children are victims of big adult people with their very harmful acts! We need to be so attentive to the very fact that some such chosen evil acts can be completely life-lasting destroyers of these children! The manifestations of such evils are a broken mind, soul or spirit. This is not seen, and it is horribly and unjustly not understood.

By the time an abused child grows up, everything within that person has been so whipped out of shape and form. Often every important aspect of the mind and spirit has been severely warped and defected and worn down.

The Body of Christ can build up. So within Jesus, let us take a "stand for chil-

dren" in his glorious healing name and take these beaten souls and rebuild them!

Rebuild by prayer, rebuild by support, rebuild by community, rebuild by acceptance and understanding, rebuild by the

very teachings and examples of our precious and beloved Jesus. Children need us to stand for them not only one day, but every day of the year.

Katrina R.M. DiGiovanni
Thorndale Terrace, Rochester

Prayer key to gaining peace

To the editors:

(Regarding) Art Bouchard's letter (*Catholic Courier*, May 23: "Clergy, religious shouldn't protest printing"):

You are 100% right, Art.

It is for their own protection to be fingerprinted = Welfare.

Protesting is getting out-of-hand, unsound, unreasonable.

Peace? Yes we all want a Peaceful World, but you don't *fight* for peace.

You Pray for Peace!

Perhaps a little less active parish events and more heartfelt prayers would bring about Peace on Earth. Or at least equal time for both.

Stop me, if I'm wrong.

But, the Sacred Heart of Jesus' quote

"Come to Me! etc. etc.

Let's allow Him more time to do His job too.

Personally, He loves to carry the load. 100 percent qualified too.

We can't just sit on our soft-seat all the time, but at least keep it warm enough to pray more earnestly for a better world all the way around; not just "fingerprinting."

Personally, I have yet to view for a fact that any protesting actually solves the issue or problems. Yes, while we have the time, let us do good. But allow praying more to God for it!

Ann F. Miller
Bridge Street
Corning

Proud to attend Syracuse pro-life march

To the editors:

I have never been so proud to be a Catholic, as I recently was in Syracuse. On May 10, I had the privilege of attending Bishop James Moynihan's Pro-Life Mass and procession to Planned Parenthood's abortion clinic. Even though it was a work day, over 1,200 people, including more than 30 priests, were present.

It was an extremely prayerful, peaceful, yet powerful witness for Our Lord,

and against the horror of abortion. Bishop Moynihan, former pastor of St. Joseph's in Penfield, deserves much praise and admiration. His homily against abortion, coupled with the public demonstration of prayer, exhibited a great deal of courage. God Bless this new Bishop who's not afraid to stand up in defense of human life.

Mary Melfi
Oakshire Way
Pittsford

Article omitted Mary's 'revolutionary tune'

To the editors:

I am grateful for the fine summing up on the Church's teaching on Mary in the May 23 issue of the *Catholic Courier*. What I missed, though, is Mary of the Magnificat: the woman who believes that

The mighty arm of God
scatters the proud in their conceit,
pulls tyrants from their thrones,

and raises up the humble.

The Lord fills the starving
and lets the rich go hungry.

The young mother who went to visit a much older mother is a young woman who pipes a revolutionary tune.

Monsignor William H. Shannon
East Avenue
Rochester

Corrections

Two typographical errors recently appeared on this page. In Dr. Michael Aiello's letter of May 30 ("Committee intends to establish program for people grieving over past abortions"), the contact number listed for Project Rachel was incorrect. Prospective volunteers should call 716/865-0360.

A word inadvertently was omitted from a headline on last week's Opinions page. The headline on Thomas Benzoni's letter should have read: "Emergency room specialist finds clarity in church stand on extraordinary care."

The *Catholic Courier* regrets the errors.