

# on the MOVIE



Coming next week: Soccer d

In the 1999 comedy movie, "Dogma," a character played by Chris Rock claims he was the forgotten 13th apostle, and was kicked out of heaven for saying Jesus was black. He shows his anger by frequently mouthing the F-word. Also in "Dogma," a female descendant of Joseph and Mary is depicted in a modern-day setting, working at an abortion clinic.

In "Stigmata," a thriller that was also released in 1999, a young atheist woman receives the wounds of Christ (known as the stigmata). A young priest struggles with a growing attraction to the woman. A Vatican official attempts to choke the woman to death. The movie contains considerable blood and profanity.

One could argue that since these movies are fictional, their depictions of religion aren't to be taken seriously.

In fact, several youths at one Rochester parish said they're not fazed by these depictions of the Catholic Church.

"It still has to have suspense and drama, or people wouldn't watch it if it was a totally 'Catholic' movie," said Mary Dillio, 17.

In Elizabeth Boe's view, also, movies about her faith that are low on entertainment value might turn off people in her age range.

"A lot of people I know wouldn't watch a (non-controversial) religious movie in the theater," Elizabeth, 15, said. Both she and Mary said they have seen "Dogma" and "Stigmata" in their entireties.

The two teens are youth-group members at Roman Catholic Community of the 19th Ward. Over the course of two recent meetings, the group viewed parts of "Stigmata" and "Dogma" as well as "The Third Miracle," a 1999 movie which, in part, depicts an agnostic woman who challenges Catholic traditions. Because all three movies are rated "R" by the Motion Picture Association of America, youth minister Kathleen Kalinowski only showed clips of the less objectionable scenes to

"Stigmata" photos courtesy of MGM Studios

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