



Karin von Voigtlander/Catholic Courier

teach morality without teaching liberal, or any, politics.

4) To bring the Magisterium to the table misses the point. I do question the necessity of Vatican II, the first council not called in response to a crisis, but appears to have itself caused a crisis.

5) Bishop Clark may hear disagreement, but I don't think the Pope does. Witness Rome's oblivion to current problems in the American Church, until it was too late, caused mostly by political correctness, and the failure of the papal nuncio to inform Rome.

6) I received many letters of support; therefore, I'm not alone. This constituency needs attention by our clergy.

This will be my last letter on this subject.

**Dr. Anthony D'Amico**  
Canal Street  
Lyons

## Letters agree, differ in tone

To the editor:

Writer Rob Hoffman writes in the *Courier's* March 20 edition questioning Dr. Anthony D'Amico's expressed opinions from an earlier edition, ("Conservative finds church unwelcoming"). That is fine. However, Hoffman writes in an accusative, belligerent manner concerning the doctor's opinions. Is that necessary? May I suggest Hoffman read Martha Tolen's letter on the same subject, same edition? Martha writes in a respectful coherent manner.

**John Compton**  
Sheldon Road  
Honeoye Falls

## MORE LETTERS

commandment; love one another as I have loved you." In examining the events of the last hundred years we find that we have had at least five major wars: I, II, Vietnam, Korea, Iraq, numerous worldwide scrimmages such as Haiti, Somalia, Panama, police actions, and violence on our streets. These have resulted in the destruction of many millions of lives. Also we have also turned the medical profession upside down. Their purpose, I believe, is to heal and save lives. Instead, through abortion they have killed millions of unborn citizens and they would like to extend this to mercy killing and euthanasia. Recently we have had the beginning of terrorism which is responsible for not only deaths but leaving in its wake fear and destruction. This destroying lives instead of giving life would seem to be saying that we are making of ourselves little gods and find ourselves moving toward a culture of death, in place of one where we love our neighbor

as we have been invited.

The solution to these conditions may be found in the Apostolic Exhortation of Pope John Paul II entitled *Familiaris Consortio* of 1981, where he entreats us to recover an awareness of the primacy of moral values and to recapture the ultimate meaning of life and its fundamental values. This will enable us to bring about the true advancement of the human person in their whole truth and in their freedom and dignity.

**Leon Bartle**  
Beechwood Crescent  
Webster

## Critic missed letter's point

To the editor:

Regarding Rob Hoffman's letter "Says writer is out of step with church" (March 20): My letter was brief and simple so everyone would understand. Unfortunately Mr. Hoffman attempts to intellectualize the debate.

1) "Hierarchy" is understood to include the Pope. My point — conservative writers are not represented in our newspaper. To believe that the Pope and his advisors are not influenced by Italian politics is like believing in Santa.

2) Mr. Hoffman knows few people in the pews are aware of the Magisterium. I don't believe any of the cited papal statements were *ex cathedra*; therefore, they were personal opinions. What is "unrestrained capitalism"? Would the great theologian,

Adam Smith, agree with that statement? He says I must change, not the Magisterium. In other words, become a pacifist or leave the Church. Whether Christ taught pacifism has been debated since the Deposition. St. Augustine thought he gave the answer, but obviously not.

3) A clever trick is to accuse conservatives of agreeing with the radical left — abortionists — and therefore with the devil. Hence my statement "I am troubled to the depths of my soul." The clergy can

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