

# VOICES VOICES VOICES



Vol II No 1

Summer 1986

## WELCOMING VOICES

*"There are so many kinds of voices in the world." This observation of St. Paul to the Corinthians (I Cor. 14:10) is no less true today than it was when he first said it. In this passage of his letter he is cautioning Christians to make sure that they spread the truth clearly to the people of the Church for "edification, exhortation and comfort. . . for if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle?"*

*We have taken St. Paul's advice to heart in our decision to publish this newsletter. In this time of confusion in the Church and in society, we hear many voices of dissent and anger. Many of these are voices of women. So great is the clamor of these voices that other voices seem all but drowned out.*

*By signing the **Affirmation for Catholic Women** you have indicated not only your awareness of this situation, but your willingness to join your voice with those of nearly thirty-thousand other Catholic women in affirming, not attacking, the truth which the Catholic Church teaches.*

*All of us know that it is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness—even when there are uncertainties involved. Your donations have made it possible for us to communicate in this way with everyone who has signed the **Affirmation**. We have no other source of funding this, or any other of the many projects which we might undertake.*

*Those of us who volunteer to conduct the "business end" of this effort have been profoundly encouraged by your thousands of letters of support. We want very much to share with you the comfort and strength we have received from you, as well as information, and we simply know of no way other than this to do it.*

*Our goal is to continue to publish **Voices** three or four times a year, God willing. Our staff of volunteers hopes to make it as professional as possible. We invite your prayers, your suggestions and, if possible, your donations. We are convinced that publishing **Voices** can help to fulfill the purposes of **Women for Faith and Family**, which are:*

- 1. To assist orthodox Catholic women in their effort to provide witness to their faith, both to their families and to the world.*
- 2. To aid women in their efforts to continually deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith.*
- 3. To aid faithful Catholic women in their desire for fellowship with others who share their faith and commitment.*
- 4. To serve as a channel through which questions from Catholic women seeking guidance or information can be directed.*

*Please pray with us, dear friend, that all our efforts may be guided by the Holy Spirit, may be useful to the Church, and that we may discern God's will for the future of **Women for Faith and Family**.*

*May our voices resound with Faith, not dissent; with Hope, not despair; and with Love, not bitterness. May our words and actions always provide comfort and encouragement to those in need, and may they be consistent with the example of strength, courage and devotion set for us by Our Lord's Blessed Mother, Mary.*

## What More Can We Do?

Many of you have indicated in your letters your desire to do more than signing the **Affirmation**. Many have excellent ideas for the direction **Women for Faith and Family** might take and worthy activities in which we might engage. Chief among these ideas is that we might form local chapters of **WFF** in many places.

Because of our present legal structure and because of personnel and financial limitations we are not at the moment able to do this. We believe that, at least for the present, we are doing all that we can do to fulfill the purposes of **WFF** by making the **Affirmation** as widely known as possible, by publishing **Voices**, and by planning national conferences.

We agree with Cardinal Ratzinger when he said, "Saints . . . reformed the Church in depth, not by working up plans for new structures, but by reforming themselves. What the Church needs in order to respond to the needs of man in every age is holiness, not management." (*The Ratzinger Report*, p.53)

At the present time extending our "structure" would involve so many administrative details that we would risk weakening our ability to serve the Church. There is a danger that the organization, not the church, would become the focus of our efforts.

There are a number of things that each of us can do. Specifically, we hope you will consider some of the following suggestions:

1. Help distribute the **Affirmation for Catholic Women** to gather more signatures and to spread the news of our efforts.
2. Write personally to your bishop, indicating your unity with the Church and your concern about the current crisis in the Church.  
(See "About Letters" in this issue).
3. If your diocesan "Task Force on Women" is suggesting the formation of a diocesan commission on "women's issues", register your concern about its function and membership.
4. Prepare yourself, spiritually and intellectually, to defend the Catholic Faith.
  - a. Pray an extra decade of the Rosary daily for the special intention of guidance of Church leaders through this time of crisis, and especially for strengthening the faith of Catholic women.
  - b. Read and study, to increase your understanding of Church teachings. Become familiar with recent Papal writings, especially Familiaris Consortio.
5. If possible, contact other women in your area for mutual support and group prayer and study.

Vol II, No 1

Spring—Summer, 1986

**Voices** is published by **Women for Faith and Family**, P.O. Box 8326, St. Louis, MO 63132, and distributed to signers of the **AFFIRMATION FOR CATHOLIC WOMEN**.

**Women for Faith and Family** is a non-profit organization incorporated in the State of Missouri. Tax-exempt donations, inquiries and changes of address may be mailed to **Women for Faith and Family**, P.O. Box 8326, St. Louis, MO 63132. Editorial mail should be addressed to **Voices c/o Women for Faith and Family**, P.O. Box 8326, St. Louis, MO 63132.

## What More Can We Do? (continued)

These are but a few suggestions. You may have additional ideas.

The important thing is to prepare yourself to act in accordance with God's will. Have courage. Do not be afraid. The Lord will supply us with the wisdom and strength we lack.

## ABOUT LETTERS

Your letters to us are a very important and useful means of communicating your concerns. They provide us with insights and encouragement. They also help us to determine what most needs to be communicated to Church leaders.

We would like to encourage you to write to your local bishop. Bishops and priests, of course, are not infallible nor omniscient. They **do** need information. They need to know your concerns. And they also need encouragement. We think they should hear from you as **individuals**, and that is one real way in which all of us can help them.

We also hope that you will make a particular effort to **pray** for your bishop. Our intercession is needed for their wise guidance of the Church.

Some guidelines, we believe, may be helpful in making your letters effective and useful. They are guidelines which we use when we presume to speak on your behalf.

We believe that we should consistently offer support for local bishops in their attempt to insure that the Church in their diocese is sound and authentically Catholic. We feel that our role should **not** be confrontational with respect to the bishops. We should not appear to "scold" bishops, or dispute with them. We are convinced that such a posture, in addition to being inappropriate, would be not only futile, but, in fact, counter-productive.

### Suggestions

We'd like to offer these suggestions when you believe it is necessary to advise your pastor or your bishop of some concern or, perhaps, something you believe to be an error or abuse:

1. Be specific. Gather relevant **facts**, including dates, places, documents, tapes, etc.
2. Draft your letter. Include only **one** topic — the most important. Make it clear, brief as possible, and refer to the documentation, if any.
3. Ask at least two others to read your letter and offer suggestions, corrections or comments.
4. Pray about it, asking that the Holy Spirit may guide your effort.
5. Read your letter again, imagining that you are the one receiving it, and what your response might be. Ask yourself if the Blessed Mother would write such a letter.  
**Rewrite** it, if necessary, so that your love and devotion **shows**. (Don't be tempted to "score points" — remember that "keeping score" is the Lord's business, not ours.)
6. Remember that Bishops receive a lot of mail and are busy. Make your letter brief, considerate, **always** charitable; and make letters of complaint infrequent. Remember to write encouraging words of support when you can.
7. If you feel that **WFF** should respond to some particular situation, make certain that you consult

(Continued on page 5)

## WFF PRESENTS TESTIMONY AT HEARING

In August, 1985, representatives of **Women for Faith and Family** presented testimony at the request of the NCCB Commission on the Pastoral Letter on women. They also presented to the Commission chairman, Bishop Joseph Imesch of Joliet, Illinois, a list of names of women who had signed the **Affirmation for Catholic Women**.

Among other groups who presented testimony at this hearing held in Chicago were the Institute on Religious Life and the **Consortium Perfectae Caritatis**.

The presentations of these three groups were subsequently collected in a pamphlet called "**Womanhood, Gift of God**" published by the Institute on Religious Life (see *Books* elsewhere in this issue of **VOICES**).

## DAY OF RECOLLECTION CELEBRATES ANNUNCIATION

The Reverend Richard Roach, SJ, theology professor from Marquette University addressed a Day of Recollection on the Feast of the Annunciation sponsored by **Women for Faith and Family** in St. Louis. The theme of his talks was "**'Woman', the Greatest HUMAN Person Who Ever Lived**", and focused on the example of love, sacrifice and devotion set for all humanity, and especially for women, by the Mother of Our Lord.

This commemoration of the Annunciation was attended by about seventy area women, and was organized by Ann O'Donnell.

### Awards Presented

Two awards were presented at the Day of Recollection. The first to Sister Ann Marie Skinner, RSM, who is a cardiology nurse at St. John's Mercy Hospital in St. Louis. Sister Ann has maintained a computer listing of about 20,000 of the signatures to the **Affirmation for Catholic Women** since December, 1984. She has also worked to help with the transfer of our computer records to a larger system. Sister's long career in nursing has included research and teaching at Washington University School of Medicine. Late this spring she spent several weeks working at a Mission in Alaska.

The second award was presented to Ann O'Donnell, in recognition and thanksgiving for the invaluable work she has done and continues to do in defense of the Faith and the family.

Mrs. O'Donnell has been a prominent figure in both the national and the local Right-to-Life organizations for many years, speaking, writing and working for pro-life legislation, as well as caring for pregnant girls in her own home.

## MOTHER TERESA IS WITH US

Mother Teresa of Calcutta joined the list of signers of the **Affirmation for Catholic Women** in January, 1986. Her signature was accompanied by a letter from her assistant, Sister Priscilla, which said, in part, "**As you can see, Mother has signed the 'Affirmation' which all of the M.C. (Missionaries of Charity, the religious congregation she founded) in the U.S. had signed before we came to the Chapter in September. The situation in the U. S. is very much in our minds and prayers.**"

The signature and comment were forwarded by the Rev. James Swetnam, S.J., who teaches at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome and maintains close association with the Missionaries of Charity there.

### New List Sent To Pope

In March of this year a current list of signatures (including Mother Teresa's) was sent to the Holy Father. Following this, an encouraging note of support was received from Cardinal Edouard Gagnon, head of the Pontifical Council on the Family, who delivered the list to Pope John Paul II. A similar letter was received from the Papal Secretariat of State.

## FIRST NATIONAL CONFERENCE HELD IN ST. LOUIS

"Women, Thanks-giving and Life-giving" was the title of the keynote address given by Bishop Thomas J. Welsh, Bishop of Allentown, Pennsylvania, and member of the Presidential Committee of the Pontifical Council on the Family, at the first National Conference of **Women for Faith and Family** held October 3-5, 1985 in St. Louis.

A highlight of the conference, attended by about 200 women from the United States and Canada, was the reading of a message and Apostolic Blessing for the Conference from Pope John Paul II.

Mother Angelica, founder and director of the EWTN Cable Network also addressed the group.

The focus of this conference was on contemporary challenges to the Faith, and the response of Catholic women to these challenges; especially such issues as human sexuality, family life, ordination and roles for women in the Church.

Two of the talks addressed the issues of artificial contraception and the priesthood. Janet Smith, Ph.D., from Notre Dame University, addressed the group on "**Humanae Vitae and Pope John Paul II.**" Joyce Little, Ph.D., a theologian from the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Texas, spoke on "**Women and the Priesthood.**"

Other conference addresses were given by Dr. Susan Muto of Duquesne University, Dr. James Hitchcock, of St. Louis University, Ann O'Donnell and Helen Hull Hitchcock, both organizers of **WFF**.

All sessions of the conference were taped. For tape forms, write to ACTS, 1025 E. Clayton Rd., Ballwin, MO 63011, or write to **Women for Faith and Family**.

*(See news of the 1986 WFF Conference, page 7)*

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*"Take the cross He sends as it is, and not as you imagine it ought to be."*

Cornelia Connelley

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## LINCOLN DIOCESE PROMOTES AFFIRMATION

The annual convention of the Lincoln (Nebraska) Diocesan Council of Catholic Women unanimously adopted a resolution stating that the organization will promote the **AFFIRMATION FOR CATHOLIC WOMEN** in all parishes of the Diocese.

Helen Hull Hitchcock gave the keynote address at this meeting of about two hundred women held at the Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln on May 17, 1986.

The Most Rev. Glennon P. Flavin, Bishop of Lincoln, also addressed the conference, giving explicit support to **Women for Faith and Family** and the efforts it has undertaken to express unity with the Church.

### New Religious Communities Established

Bishop Flavin has recently established a community of the "Pink Sisters", a contemplative order of Perpetual Adoration, so called because of their rose colored habits. Their convent, which includes a large enclosed garden and a newly completed chapel, is located in a quiet neighborhood in the Bishop's former residence. They have just received two new vocations to their order from the Lincoln area.

An order of Vietnamese nuns will also soon be established in the Lincoln Diocese.

## O'DONNELL SPEAKS TO CONSORTIUM

Ann O'Donnell, one of WFF's organizers, addressed a conference of **Consortium Perfectae Caritatis**, a group of women's Religious orders who are faithful to the teachings of the Church, at their April, 1986 meeting held in St. Louis.

Among other speakers at this conference were William Kirk Kilpatrick, noted psychologist from Boston College, and Anne Roach Muggeridge of Ontario, Canada, a writer and mother, who is also the daughter-in-law of Malcom Muggeridge.

## WFF FILES BRIEF IN COURT CASE

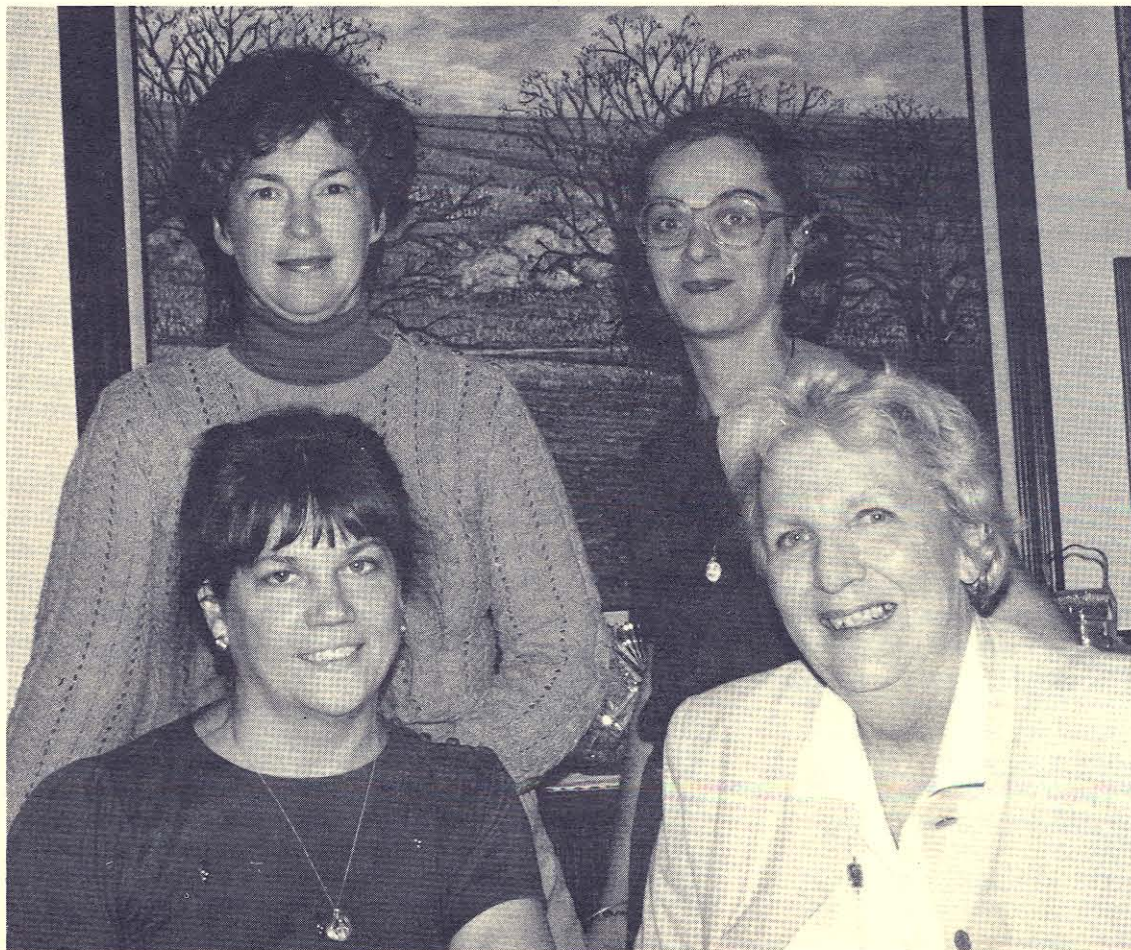
"An Ohio case currently on appeal in the U. S. Supreme Court could have wide-reaching effects on all religious schools," according to Helen Hull Hitchcock, President of **Women for Faith and Family**.

Early this year WFF filed a "friends of the court" brief jointly with the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights on behalf of Dayton Christian School, appellees in the case, whose attorney is William Ball, Esq.

The case involves a 1979 dispute between the Dayton Christian School, an elementary school sponsored by two evangelical churches, and a former teacher who filed a sex-discrimination suit after her employment was terminated. Supported by the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, the teacher claims that she had been terminated "because of serious philosophical differences with DCS."

"What is at stake in the DCS case is the right of any religious institution to define its doctrines and to make demands of its members", said Mrs. Hitchcock. "If a State Civil Rights Commission can impose its power to prevent a religious school from requiring its teachers to adhere to the religion's beliefs, Catholic schools could be forced to hire teachers who overtly oppose the Catholic faith. This would defeat the purpose of religious schools," she said.

"**Women for Faith and Family** is not an 'activist' organization; and we may not wholly agree with every aspect of the school's philosophy", commented Mrs. Hitchcock, "However, this case involves important issues of religious freedom of deep concern to Catholic women and their families which we felt we could not ignore."



*Seated at the dining room table where **Women for Faith and Family** was organized are clockwise from lower left: Helen Hull Hitchcock, Sherry Tyree, Christine Crowe and Anne Connell.*

## VATICAN COUNCIL NOTES WFF

The April, 1986 issue of the Newsletter of the Pontifical Council on the Family included an article about **Women for Faith and Family**. The article comments that "due to the very encouraging outpouring of support, the organization held a national conference last October to aid faithful Catholic women in deepening their understanding of the Catholic faith. Bishop Thomas J. Welsh, Member of the PCF Presidential Committee, attended and delivered a keynote address. The President of WFF, Mrs. Helen Hull Hitchcock, has now sent the Affirmation to the Holy Father with more than 25,000 signatures. A second national conference is planned for the fall. The organization is in contact with women in other countries and would be pleased to reach others who might work with them in their efforts . . ."

It is clear that the problems which the **Affirmation for Catholic Women** addresses are not unique to the United States. Nor is the desire of faithful Catholic women to act in defense of the Catholic Church and its teachings. While most of the signatures to the **Affirmation** have been those of American women, we have received many signatures from Mexico, Canada and India already. Signatures have also come from Korea, Samoa and other countries.

The **Affirmation** is currently available from our office in English and Spanish. Translations into French, German, Italian, Polish and Dutch are currently being prepared.

If you know of individuals or organizations in other countries who might be interested in receiving a copy of the **Affirmation**, please feel free to send them a copy, or write us with their name, address and postal zip, and we will send it.

## CANADA

The Canadian Council of Catholic Bishops unanimously approved the distribution of a "study kit" called 'Women in the Church' throughout all Canadian dioceses at their Plenary session in October, 1984. The "kit", which contains outlines for twelve "study sessions" and other materials, represents the feminist views of an "Ad Hoc" committee of women advisors, and is clearly intended to be used for "consciousness raising" of Canadian Catholic women.

Mary Malone, a former nun and a member of the "Ad Hoc Committee" commented later "I would like to try to radicalize every woman in every parish", and expresses hope that the "kit" can be used to accomplish this.

Women for Life, Faith and Family was formed following the adoption of the "kit", and has been circulating the **Affirmation for Catholic Women** especially among Catholic women actively involved in the Canadian Pro-Life movement. WLFF presented their concerns to the CCCB in January, 1986.

## HOLLAND

"Vrouwen in de R.K. Kerk" (Women in the Roman Catholic Church) came into being six years ago in response to the dissidence in evidence among Dutch Catholic women's organizations. VRKK has been sponsoring annual conferences since 1982 to address issues of current concern.

In a recent letter to WFF, they say that because of "a new

movement in our country of Catholics who, pretending to be faithful to the Church, do everything to treat the Church as if it were a democratic organization", their 1985 conference focused on subjects such as "Universal Church in relation to local churches and to dissenting churches; the guidance of the Church and one's own conscience; and the difference between general priesthood of all faithful and sacral priesthood."

VRKK has translated the **Affirmation for Catholic Women** into Dutch, and will be circulating it this summer.

## AUSTRALIA

An existing lay Catholic group in Australia is responding to increased pressure for the ordination of women to the priesthood by initiating an effort to collect signatures of Catholic women to the **Affirmation**. WFF has been advised that the circulation of the document is beginning this summer.

*"Sex education, which is a basic right and duty of parents, must always be carried out under their attentive guidance, whether at home or in the educational centers chosen and controlled by them. In this regard, the Church reaffirms the law of subsidiarity, which the school is bound to observe when it cooperates in sex education, by entering into the same spirit that animates the parents."*

*(paragraph 37, FAMILIARIS CONSORTIO)*

## CALL TO WOMEN

*"Like all the baptized, you are called to holiness in order to sanctify the world according to your vocation in the plan of God, who created humanity as 'man' and 'woman'. Together with men, bring into the heart of your families, bring into the heart of this society, the human and Christian capacities with which God has endowed your femininity and which you will be able to develop . . . to the very degree that you are united with Christ, the source of holiness.*

*"The Lord counts on you so that human relations may be permeated with the love that God desires. The ways of accomplishing this service may differ . . . But - in the most evangelical sense which transcends the opinions of this world - it is always a question of service, which is indispensable for humanity and the Church."*

*Pope John Paul II, from a homily given in Canada, Sept. 11, 1984*

*(Suggestions, Continued from page 2)*

- with us, giving us the information we may need to make a response.
8. Do **NOT** speak for **WFF**, or represent yourself as a spokesman for **WFF** without **advance** approval by the **WFF** office. **This is very important.** Our "official statements" must be consistent; and **WFF** may not legally engage in such political activities as lobbying, support of political candidates, etc.

## BOOKS/PUBLICATIONS . . .

### Mother Angelica, **Living Prayer**

*Servant Books, Ann Arbor, 1985, 125 pp.*

A beautifully written book which offers insights and encouragement to all who seek peace of heart and a closer relationship with God through prayer.

The Rev. Maynard Kilodziej, O.F.M.,

### **Understanding the Mass**

*Franciscan Publishers, Pulaski, Wisc 54162, 1980, 80 pp.*

A clearly written discussion of the Mass, especially emphasizing the relationship between the Old Covenant and the New Covenant.

The Rev. James Downey, O.S.B., **Womanhood, Gift of God**  
*Institute on Religious Life, 1985, 39 pp.*

Consideration of the Institute on Religious Life and Women for Faith and Family conveyed to the Bishops' Committee on the Pastoral on Women.

### Evelyn B. Vitz, **A Continual Feast**

*Harper & Row, New York, 1985, 294 pp. (Indexed) \$16.95*

This is a cookbook "with a difference". Organized according to the Liturgical year, this fascinating book contains much useful information about religious customs associated with food, in addition to the author's prized collection of recipes. Nice present for a bride.

### Mary Pride, **The Way Home**

*Crossway Books, Westchester, IL, 1985, 234 pp.*

A former radical feminist activist, now an Evangelical Christian, the author emphasizes the need to develop a new vision of Christian womanhood which is deeply rooted in biblical faith.

Paul M. Quay, S.J.

### **The Christian Meaning of Human Sexuality**

*Credo House, Evanston, IL, 1985, 113 pp.*

An extremely valuable book which should be read by all who seek to understand the deep reasons for the moral teachings of the Church on sex. This book should be required reading for all Pre-Cana participants.

### William E. May, **Sex and the Sanctity of Human Life**

*Christendom Publications, Christendom College Press, Front Royal, VA, 1984, 139 pp.*

A well organized work especially focusing on problems of contraception, sterilization, abortion and laboratory generation of human life, showing the philosophical basis for the Church's teaching, with a critical appraisal of the ideas of "dissenting theologians".

### **Faith and Life Series**

*Ignatius Press, San Francisco, 1984.*

This series of catechetical books for elementary school-age children is both beautiful and true, and would be extremely useful to home-schoolers. If these books were used in all Catholic elementary schools, it could change the future of the Church in this country.

Randall & Therese Cirner, **10 Weeks to a Better Marriage**  
*Servant Books, Ann Arbor, MI, 1985, 132 pp.*

A "plan of action" for married couples, using scripture as a basis for family life teaching. Designed for Christian couples who want to deepen their marriage relationship.

### William Kirk Kilpatrick, **The Emperor's New Clothes**

*Crossway Books, Westchester, IL, 1985, 184 pp.*

The author brilliantly exposes "the naked truth about the new psychology". Beyond the polished barbs with which he pricks the inflated balloons of contemporary "psychobabble", however, one can see the truth.

Dietrich von Hildebrand,

### **Marriage, the Mystery of Faithful Love**

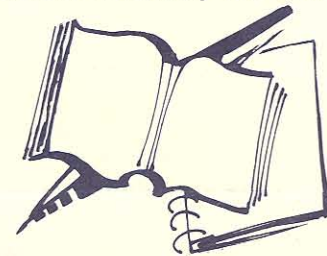
*Forward by Cdl. John J. O'Connor, Sophia Institute Press, Manchester, NH, 1985, 70 pp.*

A reprint of two 1942 essays on the sacramental meaning of marriage by one of our century's greatest theologians. Includes introduction by Alice von Hildebrand.

### Pope John Paul II, **Sacred in All Its Forms**

*Ed. & Intro. by James V. Schall, SJ, Daughters of St. Paul, Boston, MA, 1984, 482 pp.*

Selected homilies and addresses of the Holy Father on all aspects of human life, including abortion, family life, theology of the body and many other life issues. Includes several documents of the Holy See and Bishops on related matters. Immensely valuable resource work.



### Pope John Paul II, **Original Unity of Man and Woman**

*Daughters of St. Paul, Boston, MA, 1981, 184 pp.*

Subtitled "Catechesis on the book of Genesis," and originally presented by His Holiness in General Audiences in 1979-80, this book shows the origin of the Church's teachings on marriage "from the beginning". The implications of "theology of the body" on roles for men and women in the Church and in the world become clear in this work, which is both scholarly and highly readable.

### Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, **The Ratzinger Report**

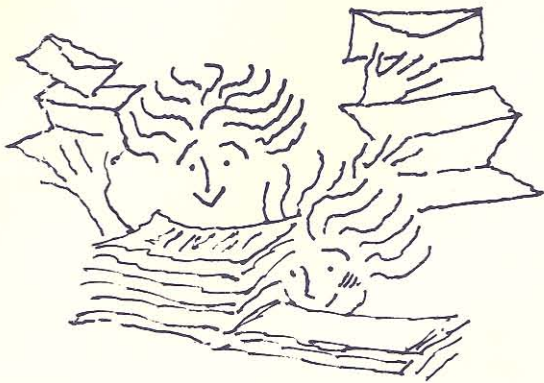
*Ignatius Press, San Francisco, 1986*

An interview with Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the German theologian who is head of the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. A candid and enlightening discussion of contemporary problems in the Church, including "liberation theology", the role of women in the Church, and other topics of current concern.

### James Hitchcock, **Years of Crisis**

*Ignatius Press, San Francisco, 1985, 285 pp.*

Collected essays (1970-1983) of enduring interest from this well-known commentator on contemporary Church affairs who is a Professor of History at St. Louis University. Includes "American Culture and the Problem of Divorce", "The Church and the Sexual Revolution", "Does Christianity Have a Future" and other essays selected from the author's previously published works.



## MESSAGE FROM THE MAILROOM

The signing of the **Affirmation for Catholic Women** is a quick and effective way to express our loyalty to our Church and our Pope. The document itself and the large number of women signers conveys a message to the Vatican and also to the Catholic and secular press.

We have nearly 30,000 signatures at this point. This enthusiastic response encourages us to ask you to help gather more signatures from other Catholic women who are not aware of the **Affirmation**. They need to know that they are not alone.

Our mailroom will happily send copies of the **Affirmation** and publicity about **Women for Faith and Family** to you or your friends or your pastor. Our experience shows that when a pastor publicizes the **Affirmation** in his bulletin and encourages signing, the results are terrific.

Please stress these three points as you introduce the **Affirmation** for more signatures:

- 1.) Names and addresses must be clearly **PRINTED**.
- 2.) **ZIP CODES** are a necessity.
- 3.) Privacy is maintained; the names will not be given, rented or sold to anyone or any organization.

If *your* name and/or address is inaccurate on the outside of this mailing, drop us a line with both the incorrect and corrected versions. We will remedy the situation.

We thought you might like to know more about this group that meets Thursday mornings at Sherry Tyree's home. Beyond the fact that we are all Catholic women, we are a diverse lot. Like you we are from a broad base within the Catholic community. Among the list of names below you will find Democrats, Republicans, homemakers, professional women, a nun, mothers, stepmothers and women who are childless. We include a former Civil Rights activist, present-day anti-abortionists, former teachers, widows and divorced women. Our ages range from the early thirties to the late seventies. Some of us have one child; one of us has eleven. Two of us have had a child die.

We are like you. In addition, we have the privilege of coming together once a week to open the letters you send us, to count the signatures and to respond to you. How reassured you would be if you could sit with us and read the mail. Never has the mail box been empty. Thank you and God bless you for writing. Keep it up; we'll be here.

Christine Crowe  
Mary Mehan  
Sherry Tyree  
Phyllis Mees

Sue Dignan  
Rosalie Buckley  
Ann O'Donnell  
Anne Stewart Connell

Helen Hull Hitchcock  
Jerry King  
Sr. Ann Marie Skinner, RSM  
Maureen Gleason Schwartz

## SECOND NATIONAL WFF CONFERENCE

Please plan on attending our Second National Conference to be held in St. Louis at the Marriott Hotel at the Airport Friday, October 3 through Sunday, October 5, 1986.

Registration begins Friday after 3 p.m. with the keynote address at 8 p.m. The tentative schedule for Saturday begins with Mass and has a full day of speakers. Sunday offers Mass, several sessions, and the closing prayers at 12:30 p.m.

Among those who have agreed to speak at the conference (confirmed as of 6-1-86) include: Louise Summerhill, founder of Birthright International; Ronda Chervin, member of the consulting commission for the Bishop's Pastoral on Women; Ellen Wilson Fielding, young mother and former book review editor of the Wall Street Journal; Sister Bernadette Counihan, OSF, founder and Superior of the Sisters of St. Francis of Christ, the Divine Teacher.

Please see the conference registration form and note that rooms cannot be guaranteed after September 18. Register **early**. Conference chairman is Christine Crowe, 7701 Davis Drive, St. Louis, MO 63105.

(Tapes are still available from last year's conference. Write for a tape order form.)

## CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

*Please complete both sides.*

### Conference Fees:

# \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 (Advance) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\$30 (At The Door)

*Special arrangements at the door for priests and religious.*

### Meals:

*Continental breakfast Saturday and Sunday included in Conference Registration Fee.*

### Saturday:

Lunch # \_\_\_\_\_ x \$11.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Banquet # \_\_\_\_\_ x \$21.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Lodging:

Single # \_\_\_\_\_ x (\$49 + 1.47 tax) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(One Night)

# \_\_\_\_\_ x (\$98 + 2.94 tax) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Two Nights)

Double # \_\_\_\_\_ x (\$24.50 + .75 tax) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(One Night)

# \_\_\_\_\_ x (\$49 + 1.47 tax) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Two Nights)

Preferred Roommate \_\_\_\_\_

*Rooms cannot be guaranteed after September 18.*

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Women for Faith & Family  
P.O. Box 8326  
St. Louis, Mo. 63132



Non-profit  
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Permit No. 6

*"Saints . . . reformed the Church in depth, not by working up plans for new structures, but by reforming themselves. What the Church needs in order to respond to the needs of man in every age is holiness, not management." Cardinal Ratzinger, in The Ratzinger Report*

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