

Rev. Lester Kinsolving's

Religion Update

Just five years ago, Pope Paul VI issued his explosively controversial anti-contraceptive encyclical "Humanae Vitae."

Primarily on the basis of the immediate denunciation of this encyclical by some 800 U.S. Catholic theologians (not to mention what has been shown as a massive disregard for it by most U.S. laity), this column made a prediction. I suggested that within one decade the status of the papacy might well diminish to the same kind of powerless respect held by Elizabeth II in Australia.

The key to the real power of the papacy is the right to appoint all bishops. And in view of reported clergy rebellions in the Dioceses of Fribourg (Switzerland) and Bocatucu (Brazil), it seemed as if Catholic laity world-wide might be in the process of insisting upon the right to local election of their bishops.

Papal investiture in both cases seems to have weath-

ered the storm, and the holy father appears to have retained this key to international ecclesiastical power.

But another problem has arisen. The bishops themselves have begun, politely but quite definitely, to defy the pope on birth control.

The Catholic bishops of Mexico, for example, recently issued a public statement which should provide considerable moral relief to devout Catholics - even as it raised eyebrows and fevers in the Vatican:

"This decision of husband and wife - to have another child or not - implies the right and responsibility to decide upon the means. The decision they take regarding the means, following with sincerity the dictates of their conscience, must leave them with peace of mind, since they have no reason to feel that they are drifting apart from divine friendship."

The Catholic bishops of Indonesia have further stated:

"Catholic medical institutions do not perform evil if they responsibly advise and aid the requests of parents who desire to avoid a new pregnancy by employing other methods than total or periodical sexual abstinence."

The daring of these groups of bishops may well have been inspired by one of their fellow prelates who dared to speak out on this subject a year before the pope's encyclical.

The Most Rev. Thomas Roberts, retired archbishop of Bombay, has charged that the arguments for "Humanae Vitae" were "quite unconvincing," and a form of what he called "papal fundamentalism." He continued to say: "The pope would lose credibility if he permitted what other popes did not."

A year before the encyclical, Archbishop Roberts told a Cambridge University Catholic audience that individual conscience should dictate a Catholic's conduct regarding

contraception, as well as celibacy and abortion.

The university's acting Catholic chaplain, a rash fellow Jesuit named Joseph Christie, actually disrupted the archbishop's lecture, because, in his words:

"The archbishop was preaching heresy under my roof, and I wasn't going to stand for it!"

This reaction and the archbishop's trenchant response was heard around the world by Catholics who noted that Roberts was head of his peer in both ecclesiastical rank and his ability to reason.

Hence for most Catholics, it seems that the pontiff's denunciation of contraception on the grounds that it is artificial is regarded with all the enthusiasm of an encyclical condemning artificial respiration.

This opposition includes the inventor of "the pill," Dr. John Rock, a Catholic, who recently predicted that the next Pope will approve of both birth control and abortion.



BARBARA KNAPP, secretary at North Congregational Church, arranged the mitten tree that stands in the church foyer, awaiting more decorations as they come in from the church's Women's Assn. "Take the picture now," she said, "in another week it will be so covered you won't be able to see the tree."

PRESBYTERIAN
WARD UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LIVONIA
 Farmington Road & Six Mile Road
 422-1150
 Worship & Bible School
 9:30 & 11:00
 "Christmas Wonder"
 Dr. Bartlett L. Hess
 7:00 p.m.
 "Amahl & the Night Visitors"
 Christmas Concert by the Choirs
 Dr. Jerry Smith, Director
 Wed. School of Christian Education
 Family Dinner 6 p.m. Classes & Choirs 7 p.m.
 Nursery provided for all activities
 9:30 A.M. Broadcast WBFM 98.7

ROSEDALE GARDENS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 Hubbard at West Chicago
 Garland 2-084
WORSHIP & CHURCH SCHOOL
 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
 Special Class for Handicapped Children
 11 a.m.
 Pastors:
 Arthur K. Baunier
 Donald R. Ely
 Shirley Harden, Director of Music

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FARMINGTON
 26165 Farmington Rd.
 Farmington Hills, Michigan
 (at 11 Mile)
 WORSHIP - 10:30 A.M.
 CHURCH SCHOOL - 10:30 A.M.
 (Nursery - Sr. High)
 Everybody is welcome.
 Rev. George W. Ramsay
 Rev. Homer E. Nyro
 474-8170

ST. TIMOTHY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 People Caring For People
 WORSHIP CELEBRATION AND CHURCH SCHOOL
 10 a.m.
 (Nursery Care)
 NEWBURGH RD.
 (Just South of Six Mile)
 DR. PAUL GILLIS
 Interim Minister
 Jim Anderson,
 Music & Choir Director
 Call 261-4844
 281-8500, Ext. 254

ST. PAUL'S Presbyterian Church
 27475 Five Mile Road
 GA 2-1470
 "Everyone Welcome"
 Dr. William F. Whitledge
 Rev. William A. McGaughey
 Rev. Charles M. Webster
SERVICES
 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.

DIAL-A-RIDE
 Sunday School or Church
 278-9340 835-4109
ST. MARK'S PRESBYTERIAN
 Joy Rd. bet. Inkster & Beech
 Dearborn Heights

PLYMOUTH FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 701 Church 453-6464
 Philip Rodgers Magee, Minister
 Theodore O. Taylor II, Assistant
 Henry J. Walsh, Emeritus
WORSHIP
 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.
CHURCH SCHOOL
 9:30 Crib - Grade 6
 11:00 Crib - Sr. High

GENEVA UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 452-1684
 Worship - 10 a.m.
 Pioneer Middle School
 4601 ANN ARBOR RD.
 1 Mile West of Sheldon Rd., Plymouth
 Rev. Jeffrey S. Goldsmith

BYZANTINE (GREEK) CATHOLIC
Sacred Heart Byzantine Catholic Church
 29125 W. 6 Mile, Livonia
 427-2100
 Rev. Don G. Freude
 Sat. 7:30 p.m. Vespers
 Sunday 8:30 a.m. Mass
 9:00 and 11 a.m. Divine Liturgy

REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA
CHURCH OF THE SAVIOR
 38100 Five Mile Rd.
 Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
 Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
 Evening Study Groups 7 p.m.
 Nursery Care is Provided at All Services
 454-1062
 Rev. Ronald Van Der Werf
 Pastor
 Rev. Moody Yap
 Minister of Evangelism

EPISCOPAL
Saint Andrews, Livonia
 16360 Hubbard Road
 421-8451
 Sunday Worship
 8:00-9:00-11:00 a.m.
 10 a.m. Ministry to Deaf

Holy Spirit, Westland
 34645 Cowan Rd.
 281-8460
 (Service) Southern Livonia
 Sunday Worship
 8:00 a.m.
 10:00 a.m.

Saint John's, Plymouth
 574 S. Sheldon Road
 453-0190
 Services
 Wednesday 10:00 a.m.
 Sunday 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.
 Daily 9:00 a.m.

TRINITY, FARMINGTON HILLS
 28880 LeMura
 North of 31 Mile
 between Orchard Lake & Middlebelt
 Sunday: 8:00 A.M. Holy Communion
 10:30 A.M. Family Worship
 Wed: 10:00 A.M. Holy Communion
 Call office for Church School Information
 474-2880

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE
CHRISTIAN SCIENCE
 Churches of the area cordially invite you to attend their services. Sunday School is conducted at the same hour as church, and care is provided for children of pre-Sunday School age.

Hours of Service

FOURTH CHURCH, Detroit 11 a.m.
 24400 W. Seven Mile near Telegraph

EIGHTH CHURCH, Detroit 10:30 a.m.
 20011 Grand River at Evergreen Rd

FIRST CHURCH, Garden City 11 a.m.
 33111 Ford Road

FIRST CHURCH, Plymouth 10:30 a.m.
 1100 West Ann Arbor Trail

FIRST CHURCH, Farmington 11 a.m.
 33825 Five River Avenue

WEDNESDAY TESTIMONIAL MEETINGS HELD AT 8 P.M.

CHURCH OF GOD
Riverside Park
 11771 Newburgh Road
 at Plymouth Road
 484-0900
 Pastor
 George W. Buck, Jr.
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 10:45 Morning Worship
 8:30 a.m. Evening Service

Livonia Church of God
 18827 Middlebelt Rd.
 Rev. J. L. Walker
 Sunday School 10 a.m.
 Morning Worship 11 a.m.
 Evening Service 7 p.m.
 Wed. Night Church 478-7933 7:30 p.m.
 Pastorage 478-4585

UNITY
UNITY of LIVONIA
 28660 Five Mile
 421-1760
 Sunday 9:30 & 11:00 A.M.
 Dial-Prayer 281-2440

LUTHERAN WIS. SYNOD
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Churches

WISCONSIN LUTHERAN
 Radio Hour WIID A.M. 1090
 Sunday 10:00 a.m.

In Livonia -
 St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church
 14750 Farmington Rd.
 Pastor Winfred Koelbin 261-8759
 Worship Services 8:30 and 11 a.m.
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

In Plymouth -
 St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church
 1343 Peninsula Avenue
 Pastor Leonard Koeningger 453-3393
 Worship Services 8 and 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

In Redford Township -
 Lela Park Ev. Lutheran Church
 14750 Farmington Rd.
 Pastor Edward Zell 532-8655
 Worship Services 8:30 and 11 a.m.
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

In Westland -
 Our Savior Ev. Lutheran Church
 Warren at Farmington Rd.
 Pastor Jack A. Goffinger 427-8119
 Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
 Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

261-8600, Ext. 254

CHRISTIAN CHURCH
 (Disciples of Christ)
LIVONIA CHRISTIAN CHURCH
 36075 7 Mile Rd.
 478-2075
 Sunday Worship
 9:30 a.m.

CHRISTIAN REFORMED
UNIVERSITY HILLS CHURCH
 Worship with Us at
 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
 26711 Farmington Rd.
 at I-696
 Dr. J. H. Ellens
 477-1350 474-0514

CHRISTADELPHIANS
CHRISTADELPHIANS
 36618 Parkdale
 1 1/2 mi. South of Plymouth off Levan
 Please come & listen to our talk Sunday
 evening at 8 p.m. (food willing).
 Subject:
 "Is God Working Today
 In The Nations?"
 Write for free magazine or bible correspondence course. Box 1428, Detroit, Mich. 48221.

CHURCH ADS CALL
 VEL ELLIS
 -261-8600 Ext. 254

AMERICAN LUTHERAN
ST. JOHN
 American Lutheran Church
 23225 Gill Road
 Farmington
 Pastor Charles Fox
 474-0584 or 474-4439
 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.
 Sunday School
 for all ages 9:40 A.M.
 Nursery service 11:00 A.M.

CHRIST LUTHERAN
 14350 Waverly Road Redford
 Rev. Jerry Stroud
 Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.
 Sunday School 11:00 a.m.

Nursery Provided

MIDDLE RD.	WALNUT	LIVONIA
	X	
		SCHOOLCRAFT