

You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Confronting the ones we love is difficult and something we all avoid. Yet, the readings for this Sunday encourage us to have a 'hard love' for one another, to be able to correct one another. Then, St. Paul tells us, "Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbor". The Gospel has Jesus instructing us to confront our brother, our sister, if he/she is doing something wrong. It seems that is the last thing we would do! Me? Tell the person next to me that he or she is off base and should mend his/her ways? Yet, that is exactly what love is for. True Christian spirit is the spirit of helping one another overcome one's shortcomings. All of this boils down to having enough courage to confront and enough humility to enter into confrontation. That is an authentic sign of love, of deep friendship. GOSPEL CONFRONTATION, helping one another overcome one another's errors, would go a long way in dissolving the antagonism and suspicion around us.



THE NOTRE DAME RELIGIOUS BULLETIN, a long standing tradition, is issued weekly throughout the academic year to inform, inspire and encourage in spiritual/religious matters. NDRB SERVES THE ND COMMUNITY AND WELCOMES STUDENTS AND FACULTY TO CONTRIBUTE ARTICLES, CARTOONS, ART, AND OTHER MATERIAL.



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RELIGIOUS BULLETIN
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University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, IN 46556

Library Concourse 219-239-6536
Badin Hall 219-239-5242

Twenty-third Sunday
in Ordinary Time
September 6, 1987

Where two or three are
gathered in my name,
there am I.

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COLL
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BRIEF ENCOUNTER

By JOHN M. McCONNELL

I LIKE TO WALK. I like to walk the streets of New York City. It does a lot for me: Keeps me fit; supplies me—a priest—with some of my better homily ideas; does wonders for my mental attitude.

New York is a great city for people-watching: There are so many of us. If you're depressed, you have only to walk around midtown during the lunch break, and you'll find yourself rejuvenated by the vitality of the city.

I'm a priest whose parish is in Harlem. I walk around Harlem for fun and recreation. It's too depressing.

I was walking the East Side recently. It's called the "fashionable East Side." It's a nice part of town. It's easy walking. Because I was on the staff of an East Side parish for six years, I know the neighborhood. I walked into Roger that day. Roger's employed on the East Side. I stopped; we talked.

"How is it up there (in Harlem)?" he asked.

"We have a lot of problems."

I had already gone down the wrong road with Roger. I should have been talking about "those New York Yankees." You can't discuss sensitive social issues with Roger. Roger's only a few branches up the evolutionary tree.

"They bring it on themselves," he said with smug self-satisfaction (I thought).

The bright lights started going on and off in my head. The bells were ringing in my ears. I was pumping adrenalin. My blood pressure was rising. I wanted to strike out at him. I should have gotten out of there.

But I tried sweet reason: "If you have slavery for 250 years, and segregation for another 100, you're going to

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do a lot of damage. You're going to destroy people, and some of their kids, and their kids' kids. Worst of all, people are going to stop believing in themselves."

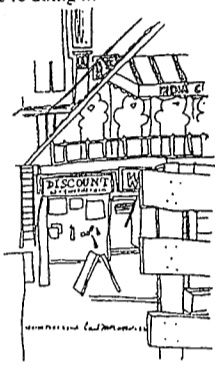
Roger wasn't listening; he was interrupting me. I got louder, plunged on. But when I heard him say, "Do you want to argue?" I turned quickly and walked away. Some 10 yards down the street, I regained control, turned again and shouted over my shoulder: "God bless. I'll be seeing you." (I hope not.)

TAKING ON Roger was a mistake. You can't get through to him. Too many prejudices. Too much conditioning over a lifetime. If Jesus were here in my place, He might have tried a parable. Parables make a point by telling a story or painting a picture. They have a slow fuse. They tease you into recognition. The prophets also used parables. Nathan's story of the rich man who stole the poor man's little lamb was a thunderbolt striking David the king, who had taken Uriah's wife, Bathsheba.

Roger was blaming the victim. Many of us do the same thing, without being aware we're doing it.

Roger doesn't see the larger truth. He sees the world "out there" with his own distortions, from a personality that he's been re-creating all his life. Maybe we all do the same thing, with the possible exception of an occasional Francis of Assisi.

What is "out there"? The world of "an everlasting covenant" where we are all brothers and sisters. That's the real world. And it's the only one "out there." ■



NDE-NDE-NDE-NDE-NDE-NDE-NDE

The Notre Dame Encounter, now in its second year, is a student oriented and conducted spiritual experience or retreat sponsored by the Campus Ministry. The Encounter team usually consists of six or more students and four or more older members the faculty and/or staff. Encounters run from Friday 1 P.M. through Sunday 5 P.M. at the Fatima Retreat House located on the northwest bank of St. Mary's Lake.

NDE is a concerted effort to bring a variety of students, faculty, and staff together in faith-seeking, participating religious experience.

The four NDE retreats scheduled for this year are:

October 9, 10, 11

November 20, 21, 22

January 22, 23, 24

March 25, 26, 27

Applications are now available in the Campus Ministry Office in Badin Hall. Further information is available from Brother Bonaventure or Sister Jo or Eileen Doherty at Campus Ministry in Badin Hall, 239 5242.

Natural Family Planning
Classes

Information Night-Mon. Sept. 14, 7:30 P.M. in Hayes Healy Aud.

Open to all engaged or married Faculty, Staff, & students.

The classes will be held Wed. Sept. 16th in Hayes-Healy 7-10 P.M. (Pre-registration is requested)

There is a fee for these classes, but financial aid is available.

Call 277-8807 or 237-7401 for more information.

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Are you thinking about the possibility of BECOMING CATHOLIC?

***An Information Session will be held on Sun., Sept. 27 at 7 P.M. in the Library Lounge to explain the initiation process here at Notre Dame.

Would you like to deepen your faith by being a SPONSOR to someone coming into the Catholic Church?

***The Information Session (*mentioned above) is also for all open to the role of being a sponsor.

Would you like to be CONFIRMED this year?

***Please attend the 8 P.M. Information Session in the Library Lounge, Sun., Sept. 27.

SEPTEMBER

REMINDERS

Sept. 12 CSC:Cila Orientation Weekend

Sept. 13 Eucharistic Workshop 2:30 pm

Sept. 15 Eucharistic Workshop 8pm/10pm

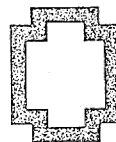
Sept. 23 Inauguration Day No Classes

SACRED HEART
CHURCH

SUNDAY
MASSES

THURSDAY SEPT 10 AT 5:15 PM IN
SACRED HEART CHURCH THE
SOPHOMORE CLASS AND KEENAN
HALL WILL SPONSOR A MASS
CELEBRATED BY FATHER MONK
MALLOY FOR JOSEPH PATRICK MC
CARTHY, A SOPHOMORE WHO WAS
KILLED IN AN ACCIDENT ON JUNE
10, 1987. ALL ARE WELCOME.

5 PM(SAT)
9 AM
10:30 AM
12:15 PM



RETREAT

“Sexuality, Intimacy & Spirituality”
directed by Patricia Livingston

TOPICS:

Intimacy
Relationships
Masturbation

Homosexuality
Heterosexuality
Loneliness

Sexuality: Primary
Genital
Affective

- How do I relate to God in the context of the gift of my sexuality?
- How does intimacy in my life reveal God to me?
- How do the yearnings of my life tell me about God's love for me?
- How can I come to understand my sexuality more broadly and deeply?
- How does understanding my sexuality free me to choose what is most life giving at this time in my life?

WHEN: September 25 (6:30) - September 27 (noon)

CONTACT: Campus Ministry Office
(Badin Hall) 239-5242

SIGN-UP DEADLINE: September 18, 1987

COST: \$12.00

OFFICE OF CAMPUS MINISTRY

