All in the Family

by Nancy West

Openness is making your rough draft the finished copy.

The Monday after a Cursillo there is nothing else you can be but open. You drink in the world with all your senses, knowing as you didn't before that you smell, hear, feel, taste, and see the goodness of our God. You are possessed by peace so beautiful that you burn to share it with someone. I chose you. Peace.

This column was begun in the hope of bringing about much sharing of blossoms of grace and some blooms are already being delivered, by the hand of our unsuspecting mailman. My gratitude is exceeded only by my hope that more floral letters are on the way. (Please, I have absolutely no hope for flowery

As I was saying before getting involved in that tangle, some who wish to share with ALL have been heard from. This one made me very happy. It is a response to the column on April 24 which shared several persons thoughts on authority, freedom, and conscience.

"To N.M. of Wake County, D.B. of Pittsboro, and Moun-

taineer.

"Peace be to you from the Father who loves you, from the Son who has paid the price for all your sins, and from the Holy Spirit who dwells within you to counsel and guide you.

"Why are you troubled? Do you seek to be justified? You'll never make it where you're looking. All the rules, regulations, and laws in the whole world and in the Church can never do it. Justification is God's free gift to you. He loves you and has called you. Do you doubt it?

"Were you not baptized by water and the Holy Spirit? The sign of the water should reassure you that you have received the Holy Spirit. But you have sinned. So have we all. But God still loves us. His call is continuous. Are you not sorry for your sins? Have you not confessed them? Well then, let the words of the priest reassure you.

But is that still not enough? Do you seek to be told what to do? You are asking the impossible, nor do you understand to what you have been called. Our Protestant brothers are right when they speak of the primacy of conscience. Neither pope nor bishop can tell you what to do. Their role is limited to guiding you along the right path. You must take the steps yourself.

"Seek counsel by all means. But when you have heard all, then enter into the presence of God within you and discover what He would have you do. And what shall your choice be? To show your love for Him who has so much loved you. When you have done this, you are at peace. You are not likely to sin. You may make mistakes, but mistakes are not sins. We can learn from our mistakes. And this is a part of our growing up in

"Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees. They kept all the rules and missed the point. They thought they were justified by their works, but they were sons of Satan, liars, because no man is justified before God as of himself.

"Christ is our justification. Love Him in deed and in thought and show that love in your love for your brothers. He has

commanded us to do one thing: love.

"Yes, we need authority of the Church, and it will be there until the end of time. But understand the purpose of that authority and its limitations. It cannot walk for you, only keep you on the path. Understand too when this authority is infallible and when it is not. Neither are you infallible, but you can make every choice in the sincere love of Christ.

"For most of us this attention to pleasing God in all things is too much for our weakness; do not be discouraged. If we acknowledge and truly feel our misery, we will find peace."

M.A.G., Greensboro

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English Church Leaders Express Pessimism about Reunion

over prospects of union with the overcome this barrier." Catholic Church.

At the same time, a Baptist conference lauded the efforts of the ecumenical council.

Archbishop Anglican Edwin Morris of Wales declared that the Vatican's attitude to Anglican orders was "an insuperable barrier" and that Anglicans would never accept the Catholic dogma of papal infallibility.

Archbishop Morris, addressing a convention of the Anglican Church in Wales at Llandrindod Wells. said that so far as he could see reunion seemed far below the horizon, even though the visit of Anglican Archbishop Michael Ramsey of Canterbury to Pope Paul VI had opened the door to considerable of these tough problems.

ARCHBISHOP MORRIS said he thought a possibility to be explored was some sort of relationship between the Anglican and Catholic Churches such as exist now between the Anglicans and the Old Catholics. Anglicans and Old Catholics have intercommunion without accepting all each other's doctrinal opinions, sacramental devotions or liturgical practices, but with each—according to negotiated agreement in Bonn in 1932-"believing the other to hold all the essentials of the Christian faith."

Dr. Morris added: "The problem between us and Rome lies in the last few words of this clause. Rome's ideas of what are all the essentials of the faith differ widely from ours. There would also be this further difficulty. In 1896 Pope Leo XIII pronounced Anglican orders to be null and void and this pronouncement is still authoritative in the Roman Church. True it has never been claimed that it is an infallible pronouncement so presumably it could be tive, however, it constitutes an insuperable barrier between Angli- ing work.

The Welsh archbishop suggested that the question of Anglican orders should be one of the first to be examined by the joint Anglican-Roman Catholic doctrinal commission announced after Dr. Ramsey's visit to Pope Paul in

IN SCOTLAND, Dr. Nevile Davidson, convener (chairman) of the (Presbyterian) Church of Scot-Relations Inter-Church land's Committee, said that neither the Roman Catholics nor the Free Church of Scotland had shown any desire to change their doctrine during informal discussions with his own Church.

Dr. Davidson, speaking to a synod of the Presbyterian Church in Edinburgh, said that no official conversations had so far been suggested either by the Catholics or the Presbyterians, though the general assembly of the Scottish Church recognized and approved the various unofficial meetings and interchange of views.

He praised the efforts of Pope John and Pope Paul for ecumenism and the Second Vatican Council for issuing documents showing "a new and surprising openness." But he said it must be recog-

High Point Hospital Guild Holds Meeting

High Point -Approximately 50 ladies and their guests attended the May meeting of St. Edward's Guild which was held at Maryfield Nursing Home. Prior to the meeting, Sister Patrice conducted the g oup on a tour of the new facilities. Father Frederick Koch explained in detail the accoutrements in the chapel. Mrs. Jack Rochelle explained the work which is done by the volunteers withdrawn or modified. While it in the Maryfield Auxiliary and inremains unchanged and authorita- vited the ladies to join the organization and share in this reward-

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LONDON-(NC) - Two impor- cans and Rome. No service or rec- nized that at present no signifitant non-Catholic churchmen in onciliation on the lines of the An-Britain have expressed pessimism glican - Methodist service could seemed to be indicated and that great differences still divided the been a notable change in the "ecclesiastical climate," a new at-

two churches. There had, however, mosphere of friendliness and a new attitude of openness on the part of the Catholics.

In England, Baptists holding a national conference in London approved an official report expressing gratitude for what is taking place in the Catholic Church. Through the Vatican council "windows have been opened," it said. Baptists have "their own good reasons for caution and vigilance," it noted, but added that the Baptist Council is "convinced that there are grounds for gratitude for what is taking place within the Roman Church."

"ROMAN DOCTRINES have not greatly changed, though the decrees on the Doctrine of the Church, on Revelation, on Ecumenism and on the Church in the Modern World contained significant clarifications and modifications of previous declarations," it said.

On the Decree on Religious Liberty-"the cause of much heartsearching and debate among the bishops"—the report commented: 'Our brethren in Spain and Colombia have already benefitted from the changing attitude of the Roman Church.'

The report said that "not all Baptists in this and in other countries have been happy" at the decisions of the Baptist World Alliance not to send observers to the Vatican council. "It is certain that here and throughout the world Baptists-like their fellow Christians-will be affected by the changes taking place within the Roman Church, Increasing confrontation and meeting together are inevitable."

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

South Orange, N.J. - (NC) -Attorney General Nicholas Katzenbach wil be the main speaker at Seton Hall University's commencement exercises June 4. The attorney general will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree, and Episcopal Bishop Leland Stark of Newark will receive an honorary doctorate of humane letters.

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