

August 1994

From the Editor's Desk

John P. Mullooly

Follow this and additional works at: <http://epublications.marquette.edu/lnq>

Recommended Citation

Mullooly, John P. (1994) "From the Editor's Desk," *The Linacre Quarterly*: Vol. 61: No. 3, Article 2.
Available at: <http://epublications.marquette.edu/lnq/vol61/iss3/2>

From the Editor's Desk



Linacre Quarterly - 25 Years

It has been 25 years since I was appointed Editor of *Linacre Quarterly*. This is an appropriate time to review the record. In 1969, the church was reacting to *Humanae Vitae*, the encyclical of Pope Paul VI, reaffirming the traditional teaching in regard to marriage, reiterating its teaching banning birth control. Following Vatican II there was wide speculation that this teaching would be revised. These hopes were crushed by the encyclical.

As editor it was apparent that a stand had to be made editorially. Our stand and the stand of the National Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds was to stand by *Humanae Vitae* and Pope Paul VI and his magisterial teaching.

A concentrated effort was made to upgrade the quality of the articles and, to do this, an editorial advisory board was created and effort made to have the universities involved. Such efforts were successful. Manuscripts poured in sympathetic to the Church's point of view and such editorial policy has continued to this day.

In 1969, abortion was high on the agenda. With the *Roe vs. Wade* decision by the Supreme Court in 1973, we were dealt a severe blow. The A.M.A. had caved in to abortion prior to this. Many saw euthanasia as the next goal and it is with us today as an issue. While it is still not accepted there are signs that such opposition will diminish in this hedonistic and secularistic age. Other issues have surfaced over the past 25 years, eg. those concerning the artificial creation of life. Witness the efforts of artificial conception, in vitro fertilization, cloning, etc. Surrogate motherhood has reared its ugly head.

The one bright spot that has been present during the past 25 years has been the presence of Pope John Paul II. His courage and inspiration have been magnificent. His various encyclicals have been inspired and a call for all of us in regard to right action. One only has to recall *Donum Vitae*, *Familiaris Consortio* and *Splendor Venturae* to bring to mind our call to duty. As I look back on 25 years, and ponder its meaning, it is clear to me that we have championed unpopular causes.

Following the Church in medical moral matters is not easy. But being a Christian is not easy. It means being faithful and true to one's God and to one's conscience and so it will always be. However, to be true and faithful is a mark of character. "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of Life".

— **John P. Mullooly, M.D.**
Editor
