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NEW ORLEANS TIMES-PICAYUNE SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1961
THE NEW ORLEANS STATES-ITEM MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1961
AND
THE LOUISIANA WEEKLY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1961

Commemorating the 70th Anniversary of Their Foundation
February 12, 1961

THE SISTERS OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Issue a Call to Catholic New Orleans

Seventy years ago the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament were founded in Cornwells Heights, Pa., by Reverend Mother M. Katharine Drexel. Forty-six years ago she brought a group of her Sisters to New Orleans at the earnest request of the Most Reverend Archbishop Blenk. In the intervening years since, thousands on thousands of students have passed through their schools on every educational level from rural schools on the bayous of Louisiana to Xavier University. It has been an experience of joy and thanksgiving. The Sisters have known appreciation and love from a deeply appreciative people who found many doors to education closed to them. The look back is a pleasant memory geared to preparation for the day when racial barriers to education would disappear.

AFTER ALMOST A CENTURY OF WAITING THE DAY IS DAWNING

God has blessed this city with a beauty, culture and prosperity beyond the ordinary. All races have contributed to that. IN THE CHARITY OF THE HEART OF CHRIST CAN WE NOT FIND A COMMON MEETING GROUND OF DISCUSSION, UNDERSTANDING, MUTUAL ASSISTANCE AND MUTUAL RESPECT?

In the present clouded atmosphere, **THE SISTERS OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** appeal for Catholic articulation and behavior.

BOTH FROM A NATURAL AND A SUPERNATURAL POINT OF VIEW ALL MEN ARE BROTHERS. Naturally, all are of one biological origin in the parentage of Adam and Eve, and of one human nature composed of body and soul. Supernaturally, all are one in the sin of Adam and Eve, the Redemption of Christ, the call to membership through Baptism in the Mystical Body, the Church, and please God, all will be one with Christ in His Exaltation for all eternity. THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF JUSTICE (BOTH COMMUTATIVE AND DISTRIBUTIVE), AND THE PRIMAL OBLIGATION OF CHARITY ARE EQUALLY BINDING ON AND APPLICABLE TO ALL MEN. Forced segregation violates both Justice and Charity. BIBLICAL SCHOLARS KNOW THERE IS NO SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION FOR SEGREGATION. The claim for such a foundation in the Bible is absolutely and unequivocally false.

Long after this generation has passed, New Orleans will hold its queenly position at the mouth of the Father of Waters, and its towering cultural position among the cities of fair America. All races in this city have been endowed by God with rich talents to contribute to that culture. The hearts of the fine young students taught by the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament look to the future, to the families they want to have, the homes they want to build in this their native city. The acceptance of God's point of view, the point of view of Holy Mother the Church in community relations, will keep the light burning in students' eyes and hope flaming in their eager hearts.

**IN THE CHARITY OF THE GREAT HEART OF CHRIST LET
US WORK TOGETHER FOR THE GLORY OF GOD AND THE
HAPPINESS OF ALL CITIZENS OF NEW ORLEANS.**

"Let us love one another, for love is from God, and every-one who loves is born of God. He who does not love does not know God, for GOD IS LOVE." (1 John 4:7-8)

THE SISTERS OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

7325 Palmetto Street, New Orleans 25

Monday, Feb. 13, 1961

In answer to the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament

The position of Save Our Nation, Inc. is that God demands the segregation of the races and curses all integrators according to Scripture. We would welcome very much to have some statements from scholars on Scripture rather than mere conclusions of men.

The Sisters' advertisement in Sunday's paper contains in our opinion certain false assumptions and certain unwarranted conclusions which in the public interest should be examined.

Just as we challenged the Josephite Fathers, we now challenge you and your scholars to open debate at any time. If it can be shown that we are wrong we would be most happy to concede.

Sincerely,
MRS. B. J. GAILLOT JR.
President,
SAVE OUR NATION, INC.
P. O. Box 1474,
New Orleans 5, La.

It has been advocated that the best way to integrate the races would be to begin with little children, since they have no "prejudices." It is true that they have no prejudices. Neither do they have any knowledge or wisdom. They are simply helpless little children. So Almighty God has given them parents to guide them and care for them. Their souls belong to God and He will require a dreadful accounting from parents who neglect their terrific responsibility to protect the souls of these helpless children from contamination. To me nothing could be lower, nothing could be more depraved than to suggest sending little children into certain danger. And, O God! It is not only being suggested; it is being insisted upon in certain quarters. This I denounce as hellish and even that is not a descriptive enough word.

I hear talk about there being no segregation in heaven. Who says so? Who has been there and come back to report? Aren't there in heaven angels, archangels, cherubim, seraphim, dominations, powers and thrones? Are they all equal? Are they all the same color? There are colored saints, are there not? Have they changed color since they went to heaven? There should be saints of every race. My feeble intelligence tells me that they will retain their race in heaven and, since segregation is a law of nature and of nature's God, they will probably choose to keep to themselves in heaven as they choose to do so on earth. There would be no race problem in our country if it were not for those who seek the destruction of this country and who made the flat statement thirty odd years ago that they raise racial issues in this country in order to accomplish their purpose.

Down South we all lived in peace
untill the red devil got in to the people
and started all this trouble. The white
people in the south got along with the
negro and we never had no trouble.
If the Catholic church priests and
Sister's dont stop it, It is going to be
the biggest bloody bloody war in
history. We southern got along better
with the negroes then the North.
If the Northern people dont like how we
do down South, let them go back
to the North and stay put. So I am
asking you all in the name of Our
Lord and Savior Jesus Christ stop
this integration and let us live
like we have been living and let the
Northern people go back to they
home in the North and stay put.
The Southern negroes have got just
what the white has so what more
do they want.

Commemorating the 70th Anniversary of Their Foundation

February 12, 1961

Why ARE YOU TRYING TO BRAIN WASH THE PUBLIC?

THE SISTERS OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Issue a Call to Catholic New Orleans

I DO NOT THINK THE CHURCH SHOULD INTER INTO POLITICS OR TAKE SIDEN

Seventy years ago the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament were founded in Cornwall Heights, Pa., by Reverend Mother M. Katharine Drexel. Forty-six years ago she brought a group of her Sisters to New Orleans at the earnest request of the Most Reverend Archbishop Blenk. In the intervening years since, thousands on thousands of students have passed through their schools on every educational level from rural schools on the bayous of Louisiana to Xavier University. It has been an experience of joy and thanksgiving. The Sisters have known appreciation and love from a deeply appreciative people who found many doors to education closed to them. The look back is a pleasant memory geared to preparation for the day when racial barriers to education would disappear.

INTERGRATION. THIS KIND OF CHURCH ACTIVITIES HURTS THE CHURCH. IT CAUSES HATE AMONG IT MEMBER AND THE RACES. THE LESS WE CAN SAY ABOUT THIS QUESTION THE BETTER OFF WE ARE. FORCE HAS NEVER CORRECTED A WRONG THERE HAS BEEN ONE CIVIL WAY ABOUT THIS QUESTION, SO WAY NOT LEAVE IT AND NOT TRY TO CAUSE ANOTHER ONE

God has blessed this city with a beauty, culture and prosperity beyond the ordinary. All races have contributed to that. IN THE CHARITY OF THE HEART OF CHRIST CAN WE NOT FIND A COMMON MEETING GROUND OF DISCUSSION, UNDERSTANDING, MUTUAL ASSISTANCE AND MUTUAL RESPECT? A FREE MIND. I BELIEVE IN GOD, BUT NOT THE MAN MADE RULES OF THE CHURCH

IN THE PRESENT CLOUDED ATMOSPHERE, THE SISTERS OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT appeal for Catholic articulation and behavior. BEGANING. AND NOW THE CHURCH THINKS THEY SHOULD BE MIXED. THIS WILL HURT DONATION TO THE CHURCH IN FACT BOTH FROM A NATURAL AND A SUPERNATURAL POINT OF VIEW ALL MEN ARE BROTHERS. Naturally, all are of one biological origin in the parentage of Adam and Eve, and of one human nature composed of body and soul. Super-naturally, all are one in the sin of Adam and Eve, the Redemption of Christ, the call to membership through Baptism in the Mystical Body, the Church, and please God, all will be one with Christ in His Exaltation for all eternity.

THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF JUSTICE (BOTH COMMUTATIVE AND DISTRIBUTIVE), AND THE PRIMAL OBLIGATION OF CHARITY ARE EQUALLY BINDING ON AND APPLICABLE TO ALL MEN. Forced segregation violates both Justice and Charity. BIBLICAL SCHOLARS KNOW THERE IS NO SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION FOR SEGREGATION. The claim for such a foundation in the Bible is absolutely and unequivocally false.

THEY READ ANYTHING THEY WANT TO, NOT JUST WHAT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH WANTS THEM. YOU CANT KEEP THEM INDOCTRINATED MUCH LONGER. LONG AFTER THIS GENERATION HAS PASSED, NEW ORLEANS WILL HOLD ITS QUEENLY POSITION AT THE MOUTH OF THE FATHER OF WATERS, AND ITS TOWERING CULTURAL POSITION AMONG THE CITIES OF FAIR AMERICA. All races in this city have been endowed by God with rich talents to contribute to that culture. The hearts of the fine young students taught by the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament look to the future, to the families they want to have, the homes they want to build in their native city. The acceptance of God's point of view, the point of view of Holy Mother the Church in community relations, will keep the light burning in students' eyes and hope flaming in their eager hearts.

AND THERE ARE NO REASONS FOR ANY OTHER ORGANIZATION TRYING TO. IN THE CHARITY OF THE GREAT HEART OF CHRIST LET THE RESON FOR THIS IS BE CAUSE THEY US WORK TOGETHER FOR THE GLORY OF GOD AND THE HAPPINESS OF ALL CITIZENS OF NEW ORLEANS. THEIR SIBE. IT WILL BE ANOTHER CONGO

"Let us love one another, for love is from God, and every one who loves is born of God. He who does not love does not know God, for GOD IS LOVE." (1 John 4:7-8)

THE BEST WAY FOR ANY OF US TO WIN IS TO LET TIME TAKE ITS COURSE AND THE SISTERS OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT IT WILL IF FORCE IS NOT USED. 7325 Palmetto Street, New Orleans 25

I TRUST I HAVE MADE MY SELF CLEAR AS I ONLY MEAN GOOD

I DONT LIKE HATE AND FORCE I LIKE FREEDOM THE OLE AMERICAN WAY, DONT YOU.

February 18, 1961

Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament
7325 Palmetto Street
New Orleans 25, Louisiana

Dear Sisters:

May I first tell you that I am employed as the secretary of the William Franky School, which was intergrated on November 14, 1960, and then go on with my letter.

By this time, I am sure you must have received many types of letters, both gratifying and insulting, in reference to your article in the newspaper of February 12, 1961.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for printing this article. It was one of the most beautifully written items that I have read in some time.

Sisters, I pray to Our Divine Lord every day of my life that His Grace will enlighten our people and make them realize what an unjust

and unkind way they are thinking and following. I also pray that they will soon realize what little love and gratitude they are showing to Jesus Christ for His sufferings and death for our salvation.

May I again thank you for the splendid article and tell you that my two sons, my husband and I will offer our Mass, and Communion this Sunday to you and your wonderful work. You can be sure that you are not forgotten in the prayers of the Nuns and priests at St. Mary of the Angels Church which is my Jewish Church. We pray very hard for peace, and justice toward our fellow men. Through God alone, will we ever acquire either one.

God Bless you and give you strength and courage.

Sincerely yours,
Mrs. Ruth Gendway

The Catholic University of America
Washington 17, D. C.

COMMITTEE ON AFFILIATION AND EXTENSION

February 23, 1961

Sister Mary Josephina
President
Xavier University of Louisiana
Palmetto and Pine Streets
New Orleans 25, Louisiana

Dear Sister Mary Josephina:

I am most grateful to you for sending me a copy of your statement which appeared in the newspapers of New Orleans. It was magnificent and is the kind of leadership which is so badly needed and which our Catholic institutions of higher education can give but fail to do so. This kind of action does not require much money, but it does need more than that: honest conviction and courage.

Congratulations!

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,



Roy J. Deferrari
Director, Program of Affiliation

RJD:jk

Rev. Mother Superior:

Thank you for you and
yours Sisters' courageous and challenging
statement in this morning's Times-Picayune.

I can not see how any one
can deny your Christian approach on integration.

"Blessed are they who
hunger and thirst for justice, for they shall
be satisfied."

Many of us would like to be
articulate on this subject but fear reprisals.

Respect.,



Anne Collins
(Mrs. Wm. E. Collins)

Feb. 12, '61

SISTERS OF THE HOLY FAMILY
MOTHERHOUSE AND NOVITIATE



DE LISLE JUNIOR COLLEGE

6901 Chef Menteur Highway
New Orleans 26, La.

March 5, 1961

Office of the Dean

Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament
Xavier University Convent
Palmetto and Pine Streets
New Orleans 25, Louisiana

My dear Sisters:

Please accept my sincere congratulations on the blessed occasion of the seventieth year of the establishment of your wonderful Community and the forty-sixth of your presence in New Orleans. Although my letter is arriving some weeks late, it is nonetheless sent with deep filial sentiments to the Sisters who directed my life during its young years and whom I love tenderly and respect thoroughly.

At this time I also send a message of gratitude for the beautiful message published in The Times Picayune of February 12. It came, I think, at such an appropriate time and was filled with an invitation to love, so typical of my Sisters. Whoever the composer was, she expressed just what I thought you would say when the time proved most profitable. Congratulations again for having the courage to expose yourselves to some adverse criticism that must have come your way from some of our less-informed brethren. Without a doubt, every Xavierite and S.B.S.-ite loves you very much for representing his cause. May God reward you!

Sisters, it is my fervent prayer that your work will always be successful and that the little - sometimes very big, I know, - heart pricks that come your way from the very people for whom you have left all and for whom you do all will be eased by knowing that they do love you and appreciate you much; but sometimes the actions of others cause them to be distrustful and forgetful. Forgive them, for they mean well. And your article will go far in their convictions.

God bless you always!

Yours sincerely, in J.M.J.,

Sister Mary Boniface, S.S.D.

More responses to the Sisters' open letter, including full versions of responses excerpted here, can be found at Xavier University archives.