Dykes to Watch Out For

By Alison Bechdel

The Splendor of Truth

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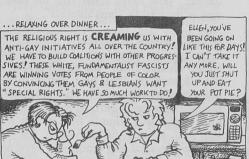
THIS SUCKS. I
WONDER WHAT PROPLE
IN RELATIONSHIPS ARE
DOING TONIGHT?

TAKES
TWO

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ings. When contacted, the priest indicated that scheduling conflicts prevented him from attending future meetings. Noting that phone calls and letters remain unanswered, Dignity member Thomas Fleury believes there is link between Bishop Angell and the scheduling difficulties of the priest. Dennis Finnegan supports Fleury's conclusion adding that the priest's withdrawal is consistent with the Pope's recent encyclical which, according to Finnegan, encouraged priests to remain obedient to their bishop. Sister Mary Anne Walsh of the United States Catholic Conference (USCC) in Washington DC indicated that the USCC has no official position on Dignity/USA and that each diocesan bishop has the authority to recognize Dignity groups and establish rules for priest participation. Gloria Gibson, Bishop Angell's Communication Director, added that "Bishop Angell has issued no statement on the status of Dignity/ Vermont. In general, however, the diocese does not endorse any organization which assumes a position of advocacy against church teachings". In response to questions regarding Angell's role, if any, in ending the relationship between Dignity/ Vermont and the priest who had been performing mass, Angell described the priest as an "honorable man" according to Gibson. Without a priest to celebrate mass, recent Dignity/Vermont meetings have been social in nature.

Rather that abandon their faith, gay and lesbian Roman Catholics throughout the country are choosing to remain Catholic, challenge church teachings regarding homosexuality and demand recognition of who they are. In spite of great obstacles, this group of Vermont Catholics is committed to sharing their truth with their church.

If you'd like to learn more about Dignity/ Vermont they can be reached at P.O. Box 782, Burlington, VT 05402-0782 or (802) 865-0505 ▼

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