

Letter: Christian compassion is needed

Sunday, August 22, 2004

I am truly disheartened by the ongoing letters and Speak Out comments in the MetroWest Daily News, criticizing parishioners devastated by the closing of beloved parishes. I am particularly troubled by the lack of understanding and compassion among those claiming it is "God's will" and "to help the Catholic Church prosper" (Speak Out, Aug. 16).

I honestly wonder if the writers' own churches were closing, could they be as acquiescent as they advocate for others.

The forced closing of a long established church feels no different than any other tragic death. The grief is a process and needs to be expressed in order to move on with life. In the heat of the moment, such expressions are not always well thought out but they are sincere attempts to fight perceived injustice.

There are many of us working behind the scenes, preparing the groundwork for future church communities. But that doesn't mean we don't share the same feelings as other parishioners who choose to be more public.

God NEVER wills that people suffer but rather suffers along with them. Would that fellow Catholics could do the same.

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