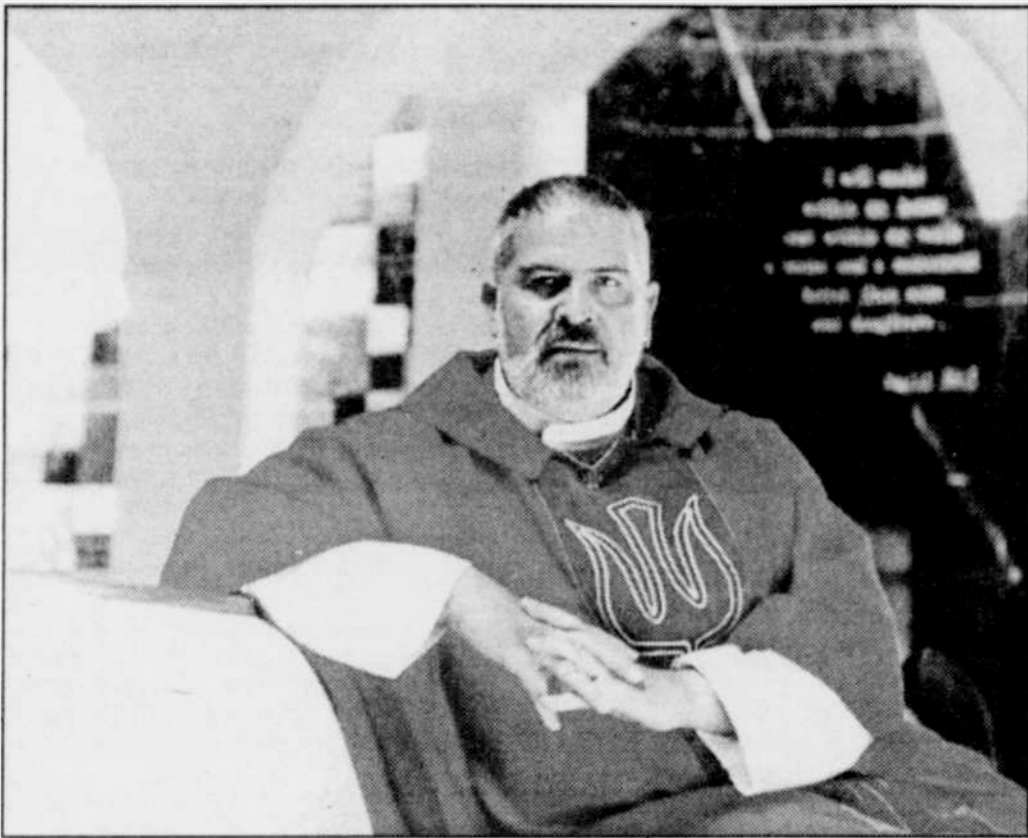


# WAR AND PEACE



"I personally believe the United States and Great Britain should have worked in concert with the family of nations—and were wrong not to have obtained a final U.N. resolution. At the same time, I am also distressed that the president of Iraq has murdered his own people and oppressed his nation, while fanning the flames of religious and ethnic hatreds. As a person of faith, I believe justice is the path that leads to peace."

—Troy Perry (above), Metropolitan Community Church founder

"I'm frightened that I have a garbage can in my garage filled with three days of supplies for

my family. I'm sad that my 8-year-old son sobbed last week, stating, 'I'm going to be recruited for the war.' I'm stunned that airplay of the Dixie Chicks dropped 30 percent...after a member of the band expressed her point of view about the war. I'm deeply troubled about how this intolerant environment will strangle the civil liberties of all minorities."

—Joan Garry (right), Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation executive director

"Yeah, Saddam is a brutal dictator—but so is Robert Mugabe, though there are no plans to invade Zimbabwe. Call me crazy, but I just don't believe mad dog Rummy's purpose in life is to liberate the downtrodden. This war—and Saddam—have absolutely nothing to do with 9/11 either. The plan was devised by far-right hawks in the White House long ago—10 years back, actually—and 9/11 simply gave them their ticket to finally create the American Empire they'd only dreamed about. Meanwhile, they couldn't even do it right

and have now gotten the majority of the world against us, bumbling idiots that they are. We're going to be paying for this one long after Dick Cheney's heart conks out, including with more terrorist attacks."

—Michelangelo Signorile, author

"I feel the way I imagine a small child might who finds herself strapped in the back seat while her father does 120 mph down the wrong side of the interstate."

—Alison Bechdel, cartoonist, *Dykes to Watch Out For*



"The war is a trumped-up excuse for us to once again play international bully and for Dubya—who hasn't lived up to his promise to blow bin Laden out of his foxhole—to get someone. Appealing to the populace's bloodlust and paranoia, the war's been played out amidst overhyped orange alerts and overplayed fears that Saddam has weapons of mass destruction.... Of course people who articulate thoughts like these get labeled unpatriotic, but nothing could be more flag-waving than invoking the right to free expression and the desire for world peace."

—Michael Musto (above), columnist, *The Village Voice*

"Bush is a dolt and a disaster, and he's leading the economy off the cliff. [But] I agree with Bush on the war. And I hope lefties will protest in the streets in an effort to hold Bush & Co. to the promises that they've made to the Iraqi people.... That means we should be protesting over how this war is conducted, not whether it's conducted. It's being conducted, so 'no war' is off the table."

—Dan Savage, author and columnist

"The question is always, 'Are you anti-war or pro-war?' I refuse to choose between those two narrow definitions. I am anti-genocide.... Unless we have the courage to rise up against all of the slaughter of innocents in this world, the chant for peace without the insistence of justice is hollow."

—Robin Tyler, veteran activist and comedian

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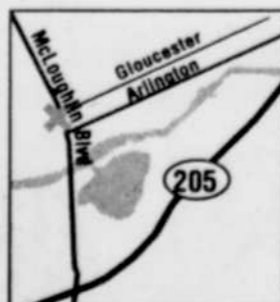
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