

# A BAD JOKE COMPOUNDED

Michael Ducharme was about to be fired as a teacher at Eustis High School, in Central Florida. But he did the smart thing and quit.

Ducharme, complaining about the heat, told his students that “I’m as hot as a pregnant nigger.” He later apologized to his students, explaining that what he meant to say was, “I’m as hot as a pregnant nun.” What a guy.

Ducharme’s tolerance for anti-Catholicism didn’t sit well with his principal, Bill Miller, who said that Miller’s second bad joke “compounded” his mistake. We sent a letter to Miller commending him for his action.

Members should know that such tolerance for anti-Catholicism, while rejecting other forms of bigotry, is not unusual. Just a few months ago, the *Seattle Times* was up in arms about the name of the Seattle University mascot, called “Chieftains.” So what did the newspaper recommend as a new name? It suggested “Runnin’ Rosaries” or “The Holy Waters.”

Bigots like Ducharme and the editorial board of the *Seattle Times* don’t see themselves as bigots. And that’s because they don’t see anything wrong with anti-Catholicism. This makes them worse than Archie Bunker-types: all the education in the world will never undo their bigotry. That is why public pressure works so much better than dialogue in these instances.