

# CATHOLIC SYMBOLS “THREATEN” JEWS?

Don Gross, a staff writer for the Staten Island Advance, wrote a news story on February 16 on how St. Vincent’s Medical Center goes out of its way to accommodate Jewish patients. But in his story, Gross said that a Jewish social worker is employed by the Catholic hospital “to ease the minds of Jewish patients who suddenly find themselves surrounded by the trappings of the Catholic Church—objects that can be strange and even threatening—during a time of extreme stress.”

The league offered the following response:

“It would be instructive to know what Catholic objects are found ‘threatening’ by most Jews. To insinuate that Jews are threatened by Catholic imagery suggests either a culpability on the part of Catholics or a hypersensitivity on the part of Jews. Which is it, Mr. Gross?”