

MEDIA HYPE WOMEN “PRIESTS” STORY

On July 31, eight women proclaimed themselves priests and four other women anointed themselves deacons in a “ceremony” in Pittsburgh.

Contrary to some news reports (like the ABC television report on the Pittsburgh “ceremony” that we told you about in the July-August *Catalyst*), this was not the first time that this make-believe game had been played. In 2003, the Associated Press reported that Judith Heffernan had “performed baptisms, heard confessions, said Mass and participated in last rites as a Catholic priest” for the past 23 years. Even before Heffernan’s “ordination” in 1980, a woman was proclaimed “pope” on the steps of St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York; an anti-Catholic group, Catholics for a Free Choice, performed the “ceremony” in 1974. Similar things are done every day in the asylum, though the media show little interest in these stories.

There is only one plausible reason why the media covered this insane event: they have a vested ideological interest in promoting female ordination in the Catholic Church. In this instance, it was not the reporting, per se, that evinced a bias—it was the decision to cover the event that gave away their hand. #it was the decision to cover the event that gave away their hand.