
Jewish-Catholic humor

Rabbi Irwin Cutler of Dauphin Street Synagogue jokingly told the following story during the latest Jewish-Christian dialogue in Mobile.

The sixth-grade basketball team of Our Lady of Fatima Church was short one player for a particular game, and during practice the coach invited a boy who was watching from the sidelines to join the team.

The boy explained he was Jewish but, with the coach's encouragement, agreed to play on the team.

However, according to the story-teller, "on the night before this important game they gave out the T-shirts. This posed a problem because this young Jewish boy received a T-shirt stating 'Our Lady of Fatima.'

"When the Jewish boy received the T-shirt, he looked at it, sadly told the coach that in no way would his parents allow him to play on the team, even more so wear the T-shirt.

"The coach, trying to be very ecumenical about the whole thing, asked him to take it home anyway, show it to his parents, see what would happen.

"The next day the boy showed up wearing the T-shirt, ready to play for the team, but the coach noticed that the mother had neatly stitched the letter 'Y' in front of 'our.'"

The Christians and Jews who were seated in the local synagogue laughed together at the story, but they laughed even more when, during a question-answer session near the end of the dialogue, the first person to arise from his chair and ask a question introduced himself as Father Edward P. O'Hern of Our Lady of Fatima Church in Prichard.