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"I would make any sacrifice, even to the founding of my ring, pictorial cross and so on, in order to support a Catholic newspaper."—Pope Pius X.

## Editorials

### THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL IN 1934

The year of 1934 brought several trials to the Church throughout the world but afforded many occasions for rejoicing says a special copyrighted release of the N. C. W. C. News Service from Washington, this week. Clearly, succinctly, the special service article dwells upon the happenings in many lands and furnishes a basis for foretelling what is in store for the Church in varied parts of the world during the coming year. Excerpts from the retrospective observations made by the N. C. W. C. News Service follow.

While persecutions continued, and were greatly intensified in some places, the year 1934 was one of tremendous significance for the Catholic Church and offered many occasions for rejoicing and hope.

The year saw the closing in Rome of the Extraordinary Holy Year of Jubilee commemorating the Nineteenth Century of the Reformation, and its extension to the whole world for the year ending April 28, 1935. His Holiness Pope Pius XI led the Catholic world in the observance last March of the Nineteenth Centenary of the Institution of the Holy Eucharist, and officiated at the closing of the Holy Door in the Vatican Basilica on April 2.

The conclusion of Concordats with several countries was discussed, and that concluded between the Holy See and Austria in 1933 was ratified on May 1, 1934.

### EIGHT NEW SAINTS CANONIZED

Eight new Saints were raised to the honors of the altar in 1934, and there were a number of beatifications. St. Joan Antide Thourret, Foundress of the Sisters of Charity; St. Louise de Marillac, Foundress of the Daughters of Charity; St. Mary Michaela of the Blessed Sacrament, Spanish Foundress of the Sisters of Perpetual Adoration; St. Theresa Margaret Redi, a Carmelite nun; St. Pompilius Maria Pirrotti, of the Religious Teachers; St. Joseph Cottolengo, St. John Bosco, Founder of the Salesians, and St. Conrad of Parzham, a Capuchin, were canonized during the year.

Pope Pius XI, who observed his seventy-seventh birthday and the fifteenth anniversary of his episcopal consecration, exhibited remarkable good health and vigor, and even while at Castel Gandolfo did not relax his close application to work. The Holy Father took a keen interest in the American Bishops' crusade of the Legion of Decency and repeatedly gave it his encouragement and announced that he was praying for its success. He also followed closely the Buenos Aires Eucharistic Congress, addressing the pilgrims through the Vatican City radio station.

In addition to the Papal Constitution *Quod Superiore Anno*, extending the Holy Year to the world, Pope Pius issued letters on the eighth centenary of the death of St. Norbert, Founder of the Premonstratensian Order, and on the seventh centenary of the canonization of St. Dominic, Founder of the Order of Preachers.

Visitors to the Holy Father in 1934 included the King of Siam, with the Queen and Crown Prince, and a large number of world figures. His Holiness also received some 700 Midshipmen from the United States Naval Academy who made the Vatican ring with a "Four N" cheer for the Holy Father.

New indulgences were announced, and the text for the tribunal of the Rota was published. His Eminence Luigi Cardinal Sincero was named President of the Commission for the Codification of the Canon Law for the Oriental Church, succeeding the late Cardinal Gasparri. Father Philip Socorski, S. J., was named Director of the Vatican City radio station, succeeding Father Giuseppe Gianfranceschi, S. J., who died during the year. An International Juridical Congress was held in November, commemorating the Seventh Centenary of the Decretals of Pope Gregory IX and the Fourteenth Centenary of the *Corpus Juris Civilis*.

The North American College in Rome observed its seventy-fifth anniversary.

*Osservatore Romano* denied as fantastic the actual press report that His Eminence Eugenio Cardinal Pacelli, Papal Legate to the Buenos Aires Eucharistic Congress, was going to South America to suppress a certain cult of the Madonna which the report said existed in some South American countries.

### SOCIALIST EDUCATION IN MEXICO

The pervasiveness of the Catholic Church in Mexico has steadily worsened throughout the year. The campaign and destruction of Church property has proceeded without interruption. The number of priests arrested is estimated to have reached 1,000.

was further drastically reduced and, in some places, priests were banned altogether. The policy of oppression and tyranny was advanced on 4 dozen other fronts.

Narciso Bassols resigned as Minister of Public Education when his determination to introduce sex education in the schools stirred widespread antagonism, but the end of the year saw a program of Socialist education voted by the Legislature and virtually in operation. The caucus of the dominant National Revolutionary Party in the Chamber of Deputies voted to expel the Catholic Archbishops and Bishops and to suppress newspapers of what were called reactionary tendencies. Whole areas were left without priests, Bishops were arrested, and the arrest of His Excellency the Most Rev. Leopoldo Ruiz y Flores, Apostolic Delegate to Mexico, and of Bishop Manrique y Zarate of Huejutla, both in exile, was formally ordered in November.

President Rodriguez studiously avoided the religious conflict in his inaugural address on November 30, but the vigorous protest of the persecution in Mexico voted by the Bishops of the United States in their annual meeting last November stirred impressive reaction in the Mexican press. Government officials rejected pleas for the relaxation of the persecution and the opening of churches.

The action of United States Ambassador Josephus Daniels, who, in an address to Americans visiting Mexico, made what was interpreted as an endorsement of General Calles' assertion that the revolution should "enter into and take possession of the consciences of the young, caused widespread resentment. He later declared that in the address he intended only to praise education in general, but his recall from his post was asked in numerous petitions made to the Government of the United States.

### SITUATION IN GERMANY

In Germany, where Catholics were reported to be 21,200,000 out of a total population of 65,000,000, the year was ushered in with an attempt on the life of His Eminence Michael Cardinal von Faulhaber, Archbishop of Munich. Tension continued throughout the year, and there was real terror on June 30, when the Nazi "blood purge" was carried out. A number of prominent Catholic laymen were slain. Official pronouncements were issued in an attempt to justify the action, but these drew round and definite refutation from many quarters.

Negotiations looking to the application of the Concordat between the Holy See and Germany were said to be at a critical stage in February, and received a setback in the affair of June 30. Latest word had it that it was directly up to Chancellor Hitler himself whether the present state of silent warfare against the Church is to continue. Chancellor Hitler's desire to merge all youth groups has proved another source of difficulty.

Fear that the *Katholikentag* might be exposed to political disturbances caused Catholic leaders to abandon this convention of German Catholics for 1934. However, 60,000 persons attended the 32nd Catholic Congress in Berlin, and large outpourings attended meetings in other sections.

*Osservatore Romano* made public, without comment, a secret circular of Nazi central headquarters in Germany directing adherents to furnish information about religious Orders, particularly about their foreign relations.

The world-famous Passion Play was produced again with notable success at Oberammergau, and the process for the beatification of Father Adolf Kolping, founder of the world-wide association of Catholic Journeymen, was opened.

### MASS IN SOVIET RUSSIA

The Rev. Leopold Braun, A. A., sailed from New York on February 15 to give spiritual assistance to American Catholics in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. A few weeks later he was saying Mass in Moscow, and this revealed that the Most Rev. Pius Eugene Neven, Apostolic Administrator of Moscow, has been saying Mass there daily for the last eight years.

However, the year gave ample evidence that the Government of the Kremlin remains militant and persecutingly atheistic. Many more churches were closed, and some were converted into storehouses; religious objects were put to sacrilegious use in Godless museums; priests under arrest continued to undergo the worst imaginable ordeals, and still others were deported for delivering sermons in public. The Cathedral at Barnaul was dismantled on the pretext that it "impeded traffic." Bishop Anthony Malecki, after years of abuse in Bolshevik prisons, was found to be an invalid upon his arrival in Warsaw. Additional priests succumbed during 1934 after enduring cruel sufferings.

### RELATIONS WITH ITALY

King Victor Emmanuel III told the Italian Parliament last April that the settlement of the so-called Roman Question "remains an essential element of Italian history," and Premier Mussolini, addressing Knights of Malta, said that the reason Europe and humanity feel so profoundly the present crisis is above all their having forgotten the principles which are the foundation of religious and civil life—the defense of religion, the defense of country and honesty of life.

Pope Pius XI revealed grave concern for the Protestant propaganda in Italy, saying that Bishops had informed him that not one-third of the more than 300 dioceses in Italy can be considered immune from this activity. Figures based on the Italian Census for 1931, show that the 989,704 Catholics in Rome constitute 98.6 per cent of its population.

### COMPLIMENTS TO IRELAND

Pope Pius XI paid two touching compliments to the Irish people in the course of the year. The first was on the occasion of an audience accorded the Irish National Pilgrimage on Saint Patrick's Day, when he pronounced a warm salutation to the Irish everywhere, and said they are a little like the presence of God, because they live everywhere and always bear with them the effulgence of Christian life. The second tribute came in the selection of His Eminence Joseph Cardinal MacRory, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland, to be Papal Legate to the Australia National Eucharistic Congress.

## Diocesan Recordings

### THE YEAR AHEAD

Hopeful signs, as the year 1934 fades into history, indicate that the year 1935 may be looked forward to with more cheerful anticipation than any new year in several past. In wishing our readers a Happy, Prosperous New Year, we believe we may do it sincerely, this year, with the expectancy that during 1935 things will right themselves. That such will be the case is our earnest hope and prayer. May the New Year bring you an abundance of the worth while things of life!

### LOOKING BACK

Under the heading "Editorials" on this page and under the heading "Catholic Events in Nation during 1934 in Review" on page 7, there is a comprehensive resume of what has taken place throughout the Catholic world during 1934. The complete story is so comprehensive that we find it necessary to use space below also to bring to your attention more of the excellent information prepared by the N. C. W. C. News Service in a special copyrighted release.

### SITUATION IN SPAIN

While, with the beginning of 1934 the Catholic Church in Spain emerged triumphant from the tremendous crisis of three years' duration, the N. C. W. C. News Service article on the trials and triumphs of the Church universal during 1934 states: "the distinct advances were somewhat overshadowed toward the close of the year, when a large number of priests were barbarously slaughtered and burned in a Socialist uprising in the Province of Austria.

The Catholic triumph in the long crisis was attributed to the extension and better organization of Catholic Action, and to the wider dissemination of the social teachings of the Church. A national campaign embracing 60 weeks of study was launched by the Central Union of Catholic Action. Braving Socialist and Communist threats of violence, some 5,000 Catholic youths and 10,000 Catholic adults met at Orense for the seventh Regional Assembly of the Catholic Youth of Galicia. Some 10,000 attended a meeting of young Catholics members of Juventud de Accion Popular.

Plans for a great Catholic University in Spain modeled after those in England and America were brought forward.

### OVER IN AUSTRIA

"The joy that came to Austria in May, through the ratification of its Concordat with the Holy See," the N. C. W. C. News Service article states, "turned into deepest sorrow in July, when Chancellor Engelbert Dollfuss fell the victim of assassins' bullets. The Pope was deeply grieved, the Austrian nation was plunged into sorrow, and genuine sympathy was felt in all quarters. Chancellor Dollfuss was striving to effect the transition into a Christian corporative State in the light of the Papal Encyclical *Quadragesimo Anno* when he was murdered.

"Early in 1934, thousands who had been drawn into apostasy during the Radical Socialists' period of power began to pour back to the Catholic Church, and revealed astonishing facts about the extent to which the anti-clerical element went to coerce the working classes to abandon their Faith. The slaying of Chancellor Dollfuss was preceded by an era of terror in which two Catholic churches and four rectories were bombed, and was followed by a campaign of calumny against Catholic leaders, the object of which was to create ill feeling among the Jews. Reports of true facts offset this campaign of misrepresentation."

### MISSION ACTIVITY


In summarizing Catholic events in 1934, the N. C. W. C. News Service had this to say of the missions: "Missionary activity, which His Holiness called the noblest continuation of the work of Jesus Christ, Who was Himself the First Missionary, received great impetus during the year. While contributions to the work of the Propagation of the Faith reported in April were less than the preceding year, the fluctuations in the rate of exchange was believed to have contributed materially to the decrease. A volume containing concise information on Catholic Missions throughout the world was completed toward the close of the year.

"While there was widespread sorrow because of the brutal intensification of the persecution of the Church in Mexico; the horrifying massacre of priests in the Socialist uprisings in the Province of Asturias, Spain; the dogged, silent fight upon the Church in Germany, and the continuance of the oppression of religion in Russia, there was occasion for great rejoicing in the tremendous success of the Thirty-second International Eucharistic Congress at Buenos Aires in October, the remarkable world-wide reaction to the campaign against recent motion pictures launched by the Bishops of the United States, the pilgrimage of World War veterans of many nations to Lourdes to pray for peace, the

# STRANGE BUT TRUE

## Catholic Facts But Little Known

By M. J. MURRAY



The scattered groups of Ojibway Indians in Northern Canada are ministered to by FATHER JOSEPH COUTURE S.J. with the aid of an airplane which he pilots. HIS "PARISH" EMBRACES THE ENORMOUS AREA OF MORE THAN 100,000 SQUARE MILES.

When WESTMINSTER ABBEY, LONDON, was built by King Edward the Confessor in 1055 it was then the largest church in Christendom. REBUILDING WAS BEGUN IN 1245 AND THE PRESENT CHURCH FINISHED IN 1517.

It is recorded that PIUS X reluctantly consented to his nomination as Pope with the words: "I accept it as a cross."

HE PONTIFICATE THIS HUMBLE BEGINNING IS REGARDED AS ONE OF THE MOST AUSPICIOUS IN THE CHURCH'S HISTORY.

An OBSERVATORY in the South of France provided in 1847 by the Will of Antoine Abadie, a devout Catholic Scientist, is directed by RELIGIOUS who are charged with the task of cataloguing 500,000 stars before 1950.

PALESTINE is barely 10,000 square miles in extent—approximately equal to Vermont, one of the smaller States in the U.S.A. OUR LORD ONLY TRAVELLED OVER HALF OF THAT AREA DURING HIS PUBLIC MINISTRY.

## THE LIBRARY SIGN POST

This issue of the Catholic Courier appears on the Feast of the Holy Innocents. There is an old Basque Christmas carol which sings a winsome lament on the death of these infant victims. The translation which I quote is by Rev. J. O'Connor; note the starting thought of the second stanza.

"O Bethlehem! 'Tis not the rosebud's time to open,  
O Bethlehem!  
Yet fallen petals haunt thy ways  
Deep desolation moans in Rama,  
Rachel bewailing sons that are not,  
Disconsolate O Bethlehem!  
"O Bethlehem!  
Incarnad'd in riven roses,  
O Bethlehem!  
Hadst thou no room at all for Him?  
So very small was royal Juda?  
Now there is room in every cradle,  
And He is gone, O Bethlehem!  
"O Bethlehem!  
Most heavy is the price of glory,  
And thou hast paid.  
God gave thee His beloved Son  
And for His own hath ta'en thy darlings;  
Never from Heaven's golden story  
Thy name shall fade, O Bethlehem!"

Whoever spoke the libel of the "dark" Middle Ages, was evidently ignorant of the facts of those Catholic centuries. Not least of all, he certainly never studied the medieval carols. For here we have folk rhymes and tunes which are miniature masterpieces of beauty and imagination. To quote that fine musician and finer Catholic, Sir Richard Terry, there was in the medieval carols "the dominating idea of joyfulness in the Feast of Our Lord's Nativity. All Europe celebrated the Nativity at Christmas, not as the memory of a long past event but as something which was actually happening. Neighbor called to neighbor to join the pilgrimage to Bethlehem that they might find the new-born Babe and worship Him. Every mother's heart yearned over Him in His helplessness. . . . Let us take food (said the good folk to one another) let us take clothing for the little Babe, in His nakedness. The phrase 'Let us

Fields" now go even unto Bethlehem' was not to them mere chronicled speech of some shepherds of olden time; it was a direct personal appeal from neighbor to neighbor to hasten to the Crib in company with the Shepherds.

If the first Noel (carol) was "to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay," it is not surprising to find that no poetry burns brighter with the glow of Christmas than the carols of the unnamed and forgotten simple folk of Europe in the ages of faith. The "mute inglorious Miltons" of a later time whom the "Elegy in a Country Churchyard" laments, might have been "inglorious" to later generations, but they would certainly not have been "mute" if they had not been born from that ancient Faith which sang like bells in the hearts of their unremembered fathers.

The personnel of the Catholic Evidence Library units in wishing you a New Year rich with God's blessings. We look forward to another year of service for the Catholic book needs of Rochester and their neighbors. We ask for two things—that you pray for us, and that you advertise us.

Literary Gossip: Chesterton has a rousing article in the current "America"; its unpromising title, "The Affair of the Prayer Book," leads him to say some very straightforward things about a recent Protestant compromise. The article is one of a series in which Chesterton describes six occasions in the last few years when he would most certainly have become a convert to the Catholic Church were it not for the fact that he had already been converted. The monsignorial purple has not dimmed the vigor of Dr. Sheen's eloquence, as was evident from his Catholic Hour talk last Sunday evening. In fact he seemed to be a little more matter-of-fact and pedestrian: I think it will be to his hearers' profit. . . . Did you know that the Broadway play "The First Legion," which is just ready to close a quite successful three months' run, made its mark despite two awful handicaps, first, that not one woman is in the cast, and second, that the play is entirely about some Jesuit priests?

Strong words in approval of the Legion-of-Decency have come from a no less respected gentleman than Mr. Irvin Cobb, who is reported by Percy Hammond, New York drama critic, as saying that "the protest of the Roman Catholic Church against 'smut' films has been the salvation of the motion picture art." Mr. Hammond quotes Mr. Cobb in the course of a paragraph which is worth passing on to you as a sample of what one reviewer thinks of Catholic moral vigilance.

He says: "The three Roman Catholic clergymen who patrol the Times Square theaters in search of plays in which there are no moral impurities have a tough job. Vigilant sentinels at Amusement's gates, they do not abuse their authority. More in sorrow than in anger they challenge the offenders without a word of scolding—but it is easier for a thrifty man to enter Mr. Leches' kingdom of heaven than it is for a Broadway play to thread the postern of their needle eyes. They stand erect, uncompromising and unprejudiced, and their judgments, while severe, are fortified by facts. They deplore the smut, the profanity, the vulgarities and the general misbehavior of the playwrights, producers and actors, and forbid most of them the privileges of the Church's white list. Their attitude is rather a startling development in drama-criticism, and one which the showmen might profitably contemplate."

December 28, 1934.

Achieving success in New York isn't so much. Making the folks back home admit that you have is the real test.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

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