SEMINAR VISITORS IN NEW YORK

The Most Rev. Francis J. Spellman (center), Archbishop of New York, was host at dinner to members of the Inter-American Seminar on Social Studies while they were in his See City. The Seminar, held under the auspices of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, brought togther distinguished bishops, priests and lay scholars from a dozen countries in North, Central and South America for three weeks of conference and study at a half-dozen centers in the United States. Pictured with Archbishop Spellman are Bishop Miguel de Andrea of Buenos Aires (left) and Bishop Miguel Dario Miranda of Tulancingo, Mexico. (N.C.W.C.)

Christ's Resurrection Is Hope of Man, Doomed To Die

By Linus Riordan

Christ broke the chains of death and rose glorious and immortal from the tomb to complete the mystery of man's salvation and redemption. By His Passion and death Jesus liberated man from sin, by His Resurrection, He restored man to the most important of the blessings that had been forfeited by sin.

It was necessary, under the economy established by God, that Christ should rise from the dead by a glorious Resurrection, for this supreme test of the Divinity of Jesus was to afford irrefragable proof that He is God, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, the only Begotten Son of the Almighty Father. The infinite justice of God, moreover demanded that He who had been humiliated even to the death of the cross should be adored as the Risen Savior. Again the Resurrection was necessary to nourish and sustain our hope and to manifest in Our Lord's person the marvels of the glorious life for which man has been destined.

The risen body of Our Lord was the same one as had been nailed to the cross and laid in the tomb. But it was a glorified body and was endowed with certain attributes that man cannot possess except in a transfigured state. His body had the quality of impassibility, the property of being free from suffering; the quality of agility, the property of moving from place to place with the rapidity of thought and the quality of subtility, the power of passing through all other bodies without meeting resistance.

Our Lord retained in His hands and feet and side the marks of that great price He paid for the salvation of man. "It was becoming," St Thomas explains, "that the soul of Christ in the Resurrection should reassume the body with its wounds. First, for the glorification of Christ Himself; secondly, to confirm His disciples in their faith in the Resurrection, third, that in supplicating the Father for us He might always remind Him of what He had suffered for men, fourth, to recall the Divine mercy to those whom He had redeemed, by exhibiting to them the marks of His death, and, lastly that on Judgment day He might show forth the justice of the judgment by which (the wicked) are damned."

Christ rose by His own power "Destroy this tmeple (the temple of His body)," He said, "and in three days I will raise it up" (St. John x, 18) This power of rising from the grave was a unique prerogative of Almighty God, for it is impossible for mere man to rise himself by his own power from death to life. Christ, moreover, ascribes the power to His consubstantiality with His Father: "For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life even so the Son also gives life to whom He will" (John v, 21). We sometimes read in the Scriptures that He was raised by the Father, but this refers to Him as man, just as those passages that say He rose by His own power relate to Him as God. "I lay down My life," says Jesus, "that I may take it up again. No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down Myself I have the power to lay it down, and I have the power to take it up again" (John x, 17, 18).

The Risen Christ is the hope of man, doomed to die, for He is the prototype of the "Resurrection of the flesh." "Christ," St. Paul says, "has risen from the dead, the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by a man came death, by a man also comes resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made to live, but each in his own turn. Christ as first-fruits, then they who are Christ's who have believed, at His coming" (1 Cor xv, 20-23). His Resurrection, the most perfect of all, may be called the archetype of ours, and just as His body, rising to immortal glory, was transformed, so shall our bodies, now frail and mortal, be changed and clothed with immortality. In the words of St. Paul, "We eagerly await a Savior, Our Lord Jesus Christ, who will refashion the body of lowliness, conforming it to the body of His glory" (Phil. iii, 20, 21). Western Catholic.

VOLUME ON ST. BERNADETTE CONTINUES BOOK LOG LEAD

NEW YORK — Franz Werfel's best seller, "The Song of Bernadette," continues to be the choice for first place in the Book Log, monthly report of what Catholics are reading published in America. In August, 41 book stores put this book in first place.

"Seventeenth Summer" has climbed from sixth to third place. The only newcomer in the August report is "Living Upstairs" which has taken eighth place.

The ten best sellers for the month of August are: "The Song of Bernadette," by Franz Werfel (Viking); "The Mass of Brother Michel," by Michael Kent (Bruce); "Seventeenth Summer," by Maureen Daly (Dodd, Mead); "The Man Who Got Even with God," by Father Raymond (Bruce); "Rig for Church," by Rev. William A. Maguire (Macmillan); "And Down the Days," by the Rev. John Louis Bonn (Macmillan); "The Catholic Pattern," by Thomas Woodlock (Simon, Shuster); "Living Upstairs," by Francis Meehan (Dutton). "Fast by the Road," by John Moody (Macmillan); "Faith the Root," by Barbara Fleury (Dutton).

ADULT: A person who has stopped growing vertically and has begun to grow horizontally.

Missionary Baptizes Children of Non-Catholic Chinese Delegate

NEW YORK—All of the five children of Dr. and Mrs. T. F. Hu, Official Delegate of Justice of the Chinese Government, have now been baptized in the Catholic Faith and are attending Catholic schools. The parents are not Catholics.

The three youngest children were baptized by the Rev. Dr. John T. E. Hsu, pastor of the Chinese Catholic Mission in Chicago and close friend of Dr. and Mrs. Hu, at a ceremony this week at the Church of the Sacred Heart here. The two older children were baptized by Father Hsu two and a half years ago.

Negro, 13, attends Chestnut Hill Academy, Philadelphia; Barbara, 12, Sacred Heart Academy, Newton, Mass.; Matthew, 10, Nazareth Academy, Philadelphia; Paul, 8, Corpus Christi Academy here, and Victoria, 7, Mapleshade, Sacred Heart Academy, also in this city. Father Hsu became acquainted with Dr. and Mrs. Hu in Washington, D. C., three and a half years ago.

Commando Leader, Catholic, Decorated

LONDON, (under ed. of the ecumenical text on Bermuda, Major Lord Lovat has been awarded the Military Cross.

Lord Lovat, aged 31, was the heir of the Lovat Scouts, formed up by his father, when he fell the timbers. Before the Dunkirk evacuation he was in charge of the rear guard on the Lafrinty beach. He is a Catholic.

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