

'SHORTEN DAYS OF TRIAL' PRAYS HOLY FATHER

PONTIFF IN RADIO MESSAGE PLEADS FOR EARLY PEACE

VATICAN CITY—A prayer that God will "shorten the days of trial and hasten to save us" was offered up on Nov. 29 by His Holiness Pope Pius XII in an address broadcast by radio to the closing exercises of the First National Eucharistic Congress of St. Salvador, held in San Salvador, El Salvador.

His Holiness said he raised his voice to heaven with those of the Congressists and that he did so as "Common Father" anguished by a tragedy whose burden he comes daily more difficult and sorrowful. "Lord give us all those fruits which You have prepared for us," the Holy Father prayed, "and among men, as a precious first fruit, the priceless gift of peace with Your Redeemer of the World, peace among men, that peace which daily we invoke at the break of dawn when, at the altar of sacrifice we say: *Pax Domini sit semper vobiscum. Dona nobis pacem.*"

Most Beautiful of Names
The Republic of El Salvador, Republic of the Saviour is the most beautiful of all possible names, the Holy Father said, and it was fitting that the faithful of that country should be gathered in the Capital San Salvador together with representatives of sister American Republics, to kneel and render homage at this time to the Divine Victim Who saved the world their Divine Saviour. It was fitting too His Holiness said for them to proclaim before the world that, in this decisive moment in the history of humanity there is no salvation except that which comes from Our Lord, Who is hidden behind the tabernacle veil.

Pope Pius then stressed the intimate relation of the Holy Eucharist and the Mass with the sacrifice of the Cross, and the need of man to participate to gain immortality.

"Our Lord must save us now also at this turning point in history," the Holy Father declared "because today as always the salvation of the world is found only in the return to the supernatural life to the Christian life which has its center and all its power in the Holy Eucharist. Woe to the world if this Divine Food were to fail to descend from Heaven for a single day! Woe to us pilgrims if this spring which issued forth at the striking of the rock in order to quench the thirst of the people were to run dry for even a moment at its life giving source."

"Then would we feel ourselves near to death from hunger and thirst. The Holy Father invoked the Blessed Mother, Queen of Peace, to protect the people of El Salvador and to extend that protection to the entire world."

Pope Pius concluded by blessing El Salvador and praying that the blessing be extended to include the entire American continent and across the seas to include the entire universe in an embrace that will be a cordial pledge of peace and salvation.

MAYNOOTH TAKES STUDENTS FROM NON-IRISH DIOCESES

DUBLIN For the first time in its history the Dunboyne Establishment at Maynooth is to admit students who are not sent by Irish dioceses to its schools of Theology and Canon Law. This decision was made at the meeting of the members of the Irish Hierarchy in St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, in view of the difficulty of sending students to Rome in the present emergency to study for the Doctorate in Theology and Canon Law.

Maynooth is the only college in these islands which has the power to confer degrees in Theology and Canon Law, and normally was open only to students of Irish dioceses.

Gift of Students

BUENOS AIRES. A statue of the Venerable Marcellin Champagnat, founder of the Little Brothers of Mary, unveiled at the Marist Brothers house, Lujan, was the gift of students and alumni of the 26 schools which the Marists conduct in Argentina and where more than 6,000 students now attend.

HERO-DIPLOMAT



Robert D. Murphy

American Diplomat Revealed As Hero In Freeing North Africa

WASHINGTON (NC) The history of the present war, particularly the part having to do with American operations in North Africa, will reveal a product of Catholic schools as one of its most brilliant heroes.

This becomes clear as the struggle develops phase by phase, and one by one the pieces of an international jigsaw puzzle fall neatly into place.

The as yet unnamed hero is Robert D. Murphy who was born in Milwaukee 48 years ago and attended Marquette Academy and Marquette University in that city. Originally his most recent office has been that of Counselor of the United States Embassy in Vichy, France. Actually, he has been in North Africa for many months, laboring quietly and patiently to establish the favorable scene upon which American troops arrived the night of Nov. 8.

Work Saved Many Lives

Mr. Murphy's works have been responsible in several respects. Competent authorities here are convinced that they made possible at least in its brilliant form, the American liberation of North Africa, that they unquestionably saved many American lives, not only in the first phases of the military operations, but constantly throughout them and especially in the bloodless winning over a strongly fortified Dakar and West Africa that they were largely instrumental in vindicating the long-range and often bitterly criticized policy which President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Cordell Hull maintained toward France after its fall.

It is known now that the State Department sent at least a score of its very ablest and most trusted men into North Africa after the fall of France. Robert Murphy was at their head. It is known that he enjoys the confidence and admiration of Secretary of State Hull, and it is believed here that he did not make a single important mistake in any of the arduous projects which he or his men undertook.

Difficult Mission

Mr. Murphy, acting under this government's policy arranged for exchanges between the United States and North Africa of certain necessary materials. The United States sent gasoline, wheat and the like abroad and brought home cork and other materials that are sorely needed here. Critics of the foreign policy in the United States set up the cry that these materials would surely reach Nazi hands.

Mr. Murphy arranged to have his aides escort each shipment to its North African destination. Not a pint of gasoline, nor a bushel of wheat, nor a pound of any material was ever diverted from its real purpose.

This was only one of countless jobs that Mr. Murphy carried out which, laid side by side, paved the way, observers here say, for the brilliant achievement which was our military entry into North Africa.

We must realize that the happiness of life is golden content, the ability to do without luxuries, and to be independent of the artificialities of modern life.

German Bishops Hit Modern Violations Of Marriage Sanctity

VATICAN CITY, (NC)—Scoring violations of the sanctity of marriage, the German Hierarchy, in a Joint Pastoral, discusses public morality in Germany and urges Catholics to

resort to prayer and mortification to withstand the current efforts to break the law of God, according to KIPA, Catholic press agency in Fribourg, Switzerland.

The German Bishops declare in the Pastoral that moral problems affect not only Catholics but the future of the nation itself and that the moral law is an aspect and integral part of Christian Doctrine.

The Pastoral assails the teaching that the forces of nature are given to us for the unrestrained use of them, adding that the rightful use of the creative impulses is made only in matrimony. The Pastoral notes that recently outstanding lay scientists deplored the putting of so-called "companionate and biological marriages on the same plane as those contracted in Germany."

Asserting that to lose control of the forces of nature will lead to chaos, the Bishops' Letter says:

"One of the fatal errors of our time is to affirm the holiness of nature. Ever since with a special understanding and honor recognizes within itself the indominate seeking of a future is not the highest, the lowest part of his nature is being."

To affirm that physical love is the supreme good is to attempt to abolish the unchain our lowest instincts, the Bishops say. Another step in this direction will be with the aberration in which it is wished to create outside marriage a new people, even systematically "super-men."

The Bishops then condemn the view that "eugenics is harmful to health and contrary to the de-

In War Zone



Mentioned in dispatches from Casablanca, French Morocco is Father Francis T. O'Leary of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Lowell, Mass. and a Navy Chaplain since June 1941. Father O'Leary led the brief religious service before the American troops landed at Casablanca. (NCWC)

Prelate Orders Six Weeks' Notice Of Intention To Wed

LONDON, Ont. A pastoral letter of the Most Rev. John T. Kidd, Bishop of London set out that henceforth in London Diocese there must be six weeks' notice of intention to wed on the part of two Catholics, and three months notice when it is a question of a mixed marriage.

"Holy Mother the Church has always been the protector of the sanctity of marriage," Bishop Kidd said. "In her desire to safeguard still more this holy Sacrament in an age when many have forgotten its sacred character His Holiness the Pope recently issued new legislation of great importance."

These directions of the Holy Father concern:

"1. The instruction to be imparted to persons about to be married

"2. The inquiry to be made by the pastor in order to make sure that the sacrament is received with full knowledge of its obligations.

"(b) A right intention
(c) Without any canonical impediments which might render the marriage invalid or unlawful.

"In order that this instruction and investigation may take place in every case the faithful are to take notice that they must inform the pastor of an intended marriage at least six weeks before the date of the marriage. Should the case arise in which a Catholic becomes involved in a mixed marriage promise, which the Church forbids and regrets the pastor must be informed at least three months before the date of the marriage."

Prophecy of Fatima Recalled

(By N.C. News Service)

In a recent radio address to Portugal His Holiness Pope Pius XII conveyed the "Church and the world" the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The address, occasioned by the observance of the silver jubilee of the Apparitions at Fatima and the Holy Father's special silver jubilee, has centered attention upon this shrine in the Diocese of Leiria, Portugal, which is sometimes referred to as the Portuguese Lourdes.

It is noted that the prophecy made at Fatima on July 13, 1917 mentioned Russia, and that the Holy Father made allusions to Russia in his recent address. It is also noted that the prophecy predicted peace for the world when my Immaculate Heart will triumph and that the Holy Father has now consecrated the Church and the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Consecration, Apparition, Coincidental.

By a strange coincidence the Sovereign Pontiff whose great devotion to the Blessed Virgin is well known and who has appealed especially to children to invoke her intercession for the restoration of peace was consecrated a Bishop on May 13, 1917, the very day of the first apparition of the Blessed Virgin at the Iria grotto near the village of Fatima to three children 10-year-old Lucia de Jesus and her two cousins Francisco eight and Jacinta Marto seven.

The children were tending sheep on a plateau about two miles from Fatima and according to their daily custom, were reciting the rosary at noon. A sudden flash of light, which they mistook for lightning, caused them to run towards the grotto for shelter. A gentle voice assured them they had nothing to fear, but this voice, coming apparently from nowhere, frightened them all the more. Lucia, first to recover from the shock was the first to discern the figure of a woman dressed in white and holding a white rosary in her clasped hands. "Who are you and what do you want?" Lucia asked. Recite Daily Rosary.

The vision first assured the children of their eternal as well as momentary safety, then exhorted them to perform acts of mortification, to make sacrifices, and to

accept with good grace the hardships which the Lord sent and to do this in reparation for the sins of the world to obtain the conversion of sinners and in compensation for blasphemies and offense to her Immaculate Heart. She asked the children to recite their daily rosary devoutly to obtain peace for the world, and to return to the grotto on the thirteenth of each month.

Prophecy— Made By Our Lady of Fatima, July 13, 1917

"You have seen the inferno where the souls of sinners end. To save souls, the Lord desires that devotion to my Immaculate Heart be established in the world. If what I tell you is done many souls will be saved and there will be peace. The war will end but if they do not cease to offend the Lord, not much time will elapse and precisely during the next Pontificate another and more terrible one will commence."

"When a night illuminated by an unknown light is seen know that that is the signal that God gives you that the castigation of the world for its many transgressions is at hand, through war, famine and persecutions of the Church and the Holy Father. To prevent this I ask the consecration of the world to my Immaculate Heart and Communion in reparation on the first Saturday of each month."

"If my requests are heard, Russia will be converted and there will be peace. Otherwise, great errors will be spread through the world, giving rise to wars and persecutions against the Church; the good will suffer martyrdom, and the Holy Father will have to suffer much, different nations will be destroyed; but, in the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph and an era of peace will be conceded to humanity."

—La Madonna di Fatima, by the Rev. Luis Novaco

On June 13, some 50 persons accompanied the children. On this occasion the apparition taught the children a prayer. When Lucia asked whether she would take them back to Heaven with her the apparition replied that she would come soon for Jacinta and Francisco but that Lucia would live to extend knowledge of and veneration for the Mother of God. Francisco died on April 5 of the following year, Jacinta on Feb. 20, 1920, Lucia still lives and is a Sister of St. Dorothy.

A month later the crowd had increased from 50 to 5,000. On this occasion, in addition to prophesying a worse war to follow the one then going on, the apparition announced that in October she would reveal her identity and that there would be a great miracle so that all might believe.

Through Vist Scene

On Aug. 13, the crowd was there but the children were forcibly kept away by the authorities. Six days later the apparition appeared to them, but at a different site. On Sept. 13, between 25,000 and 30,000 were present and witnessed a strange phenomenon, a luminous sphere. The sixth and last apparition occurred on Oct. 16. There was a terrible storm that morning and torrential rains fell incessantly but no less than 60,000 persons were on hand to witness the great miracle. Just before noon the sun shone in all its splendor for a few moments, then, suddenly, it paled and seemed to revolve, emitting from its periphery a light that surpassed all the colors of the rainbow. Some described it as a wheel of fire. This prodigy occurred three within ten minutes.

Ecclesiastical authorities were sceptical and aloof, but ever-increasing crowds came to Fatima. Between 1923 and 1928 more than 2,000,000 pilgrims had visited the site and 215 miraculous cures were claimed. As at Lourdes, a medical commission was set up and a hospital was opened near the shrine to accommodate those who had not been cured yet desired to remain there. But it was not until October 1930, that the apparitions were declared by ecclesiastical authority as worthy of belief and devotion to Our Lady of Fatima was officially authorized.