

PRAY FOR MORE NATIVE CLERGY



A day of prayer for the success and increase of native priests in mission lands will be held throughout the United States on Sunday, February 21, the eve of the Feast of St. Peter's Chair at Antioch, one of the great patronal feasts of the Society of St. Peter the Apostle for Native Clergy. Monsignor Thomas J. McDonnell, of New York, is National Director of the Society. Pictured: A newly ordained Korean priest gives his first blessing to his old theological professor. (NC-Flies photo.)

Card. Villeneuve Discusses 'The Catholic And The War'; Cites U. S. Bishops' Stand

QUEBEC (NC)—War in principle is repugnant to the Church, which is a society of peace, concord and charity, but the Church has ever been the most vigorous defendant of justice and that is why her Doctors, particularly St. Thomas Aquinas, have recognized the right of war. His Eminence Rodrigue Cardinal Villeneuve, Archbishop of Quebec, declared in opening a series of radio broadcasts on the subject, "The Catholic and the War."

The Pope has always preached peace, taught its profound principles and suggested the practical means to it, but the Pope's intentions and prayers are not for any kind of peace, "but for a peace based on justice and charity in the true Christian sense." His Eminence declared. "The inseparable words, justice and charity, are in the text of each allusion of the Vatican to the war since the month of September, 1939."

Attitude of U. S. Bishops

Cardinal Villeneuve made reference to the Bishops of the United States, among whom, he said, before the United States entered the war, there were varying judgments on the present war. Since then, however, following previous pronouncements similar in character at their annual meeting last November they had adopted what they called "The Bishops Statement on Victory and Peace," which began with the words: "Our country has been forced into the most devastating war of all time."

That statement had pointed out, His Eminence said, that the war, which today absorbs the entire world, undoubtedly would determine the gravest moral issue of the present hour. Certain nations, he said, had united to lead peoples into slavery, to destroy human liberty and religious liberty, in a word to deprive man of the dignity with which he had been endowed by God. The American Bishops in their statement had declared there could be no compromise with such ideas, the Cardinal remarked. That statement was a concrete and absolute judgment and not one voice had been raised against it among the Hierarchy of the United States, he noted.

The Bishops, His Eminence continued, were not unaware that there were mixed up in this war other views and other ambitions than those of the Axis peoples; they did not ignore the perils, aims and interests of Communism in these combinations of circumstances, but they omitted underlining the secondary strokes to obscure the fundamental lines of the picture, without ignoring them or betraying them they felt that particular problems might be regulated in less-troubled times.

What, His Eminence asked, had created this unanimity of sentiment among the members of the American Hierarchy? Evidence of the facts? Perhaps. The trench-

ery of Pearl Harbor, the belief most commonly held in Canada's great neighboring republic? Perhaps. "But, in our opinion, a still more definite criterion was the declaration of war by the American Government," Cardinal Villeneuve said.

Responsible Authorities

The decision of making war, in each nation, is within the power of the political authority according to the constitutional determinations of the country, Cardinal Villeneuve declared. It follows that, excepting in evident cases of injustice or error, the Church accepts the judgment of the responsible authorities whose role it is and who often have information which is not available to the observation or analysis of particular persons, he said. In doubtful cases, His Eminence continued, the benefit of the doubt is in favor of the constituted authorities. When the individuals cannot of themselves judge of the legitimacy of a war—and how can they do it?—the faithful can always, in their moral judgment in the matter, hold to the decisions taken by leaders of their nation, His Eminence declared.

Furthermore, His Eminence added, once such a declaration has become formal, it is law, and obligates all citizens; otherwise sedition would be made legitimate.

The Bishops of each country accept these principles, he continued. They do not wage war; they collaborate, unless there is evident injustice, with their country. They support the established, legitimate authorities, to safeguard public order, to recall to their flocks their duties, and to contribute in full measure to the national strength.

Cardinal Villeneuve said that is why in Canada the Bishops have accepted the war once it was decided by competent authority. They

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

have praised the faithful for their loyal cooperation and their voluntary participation in the various war services.

The Canadian Bishops, he pointed out, have not believed it their duty to discuss publicly, as do the elections, elected representatives, parliament and journalists and officials in general, the movements taken by the respective officers of the government or the issues before to arrive at their ends. All these things remain in the political order and the Church does not consider them her affair except under their moral aspect, he said. As regards the moral aspect of these matters the Canadian Church through her Bishops has not failed to live up to her supreme responsibility, the Cardinal noted, declaring that her admonitions have been for the public good rather than to blame the public men whose burdens are heavy enough, and she has not been concerned with party interests nor has she sought to inflame political passions.

Allied Duty Cited

It was thus, he stated, that the Bishops protested against the defense of religion, and especially against the neglecting of the duties of Sunday observance, except for the strict necessities of public safety. The Bishops too had protested against immoral pleasures, blasphemy and alcoholism. They also had, from a moral viewpoint, voiced grave concern about the employment of women in factories, the abandoning of children at the home, and above all of night work for mothers and girls. Other matters which had caused their expressed concern included the premature recruiting of youth.

Finally, said Cardinal Villeneuve, the Bishops have not ceased to emphasize that if the Allied nations have the duty now of winning the war, they must also look to the economic, family, social and moral future of their country. The concern and aim of all Canada must be to reconstruct a public order after the war conforming to the duties of man towards God and towards his fellow men, and where justice and charity can be exercised in peace and prosperity, His Eminence said.

Catholics Urged To Take Part In Contest

BUENOS AIRES (NC) - The Brotherhood of Our Lady of Luján, Patroness of Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay has asked all Catholics in Argentina to take part in the lottery contest at Luján in the Province of Buenos Aires, in May, 1943 on the fifty-sixth anniversary of the coronation of this image of the Immaculate Conception. The contest will include lottery

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