

## 'Silent Catholicism' Can Be Effective Says Bp. Kearney

New York — (NC) — Fifteen hundred members of the New York Province of the Newman Club Federation, concluding a convention devoted to the consideration of "Vocal Catholicism," were told here by Bishop James K. Kearney of Rochester that "vocal Catholicism need not always be expressed in words because our silence, like the silence of Christ before Pilate, can be very vocal."

Bishop Kearney addressed the young men and women from 32 colleges and universities in this area at their 29th annual Communion breakfast, which followed Mass celebrated by Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, in St. Patrick's Cathedral, where members of the organization made a corporate Communione.

"Very often," said Bishop Kearney, "it is silent Catholicism that counts. In Christ's silence before Pilate there was an effectiveness equal to anything He ever said or did, except hang on the Cross. His silence summed up His work of three years. Vocal Catholicism need not always be expressed in words, because our silence, like the silence of Christ before Pilate, can be very vocal."

**AS A MOST effective means of spreading the Faith,** Bishop Kearney urged "manifestation of our doctrine in our daily lives." The Rochester prelate is Episcopal Moderator of the Newman Club Federation of the United States.

Other speakers were the Rev. Frank J. McPhillips, of the University of Michigan, chaplain of the national Newman Federation; Fulton Oursler, magazine editor; and Gretta Palmer, newspaper woman.

Referring to the theme of the convention, Miss Palmer, a convert, said that "nobody is so vocal about Catholicism as a convert. We rush in where the atheistic doctors fear to tread."

Mr. Oursler, also a convert to Roman Catholicism, urged the need of "recruiting for Christian advertising today."

Catholics, he said, should expose the "deceptions" practiced by communists to gain followers but should be as zealous in our recruiting as they are."

"We can act and live the Catholic life," he said. "By our actions we can change other people's point of view. We don't have to fool people as the communists do. We need only be Catholics, and the results will come with their eyes open."



Bishop James K. Kearney of Rochester, Newman Club Episcopalian chairman, stands with other leaders at the 29th annual convention of New York Province, Newman Club Federation. Also attending the Corporate Communion Breakfast Sunday at Hotel Commodore in New York City are: (from left) Conductor Bishop William A. Scully of Albany; Bishop Kearney, Rev. John Dempsey, Buffalo, and Auxiliary Bishop Thomas J. McDonnell of New York. More than 3,000 Newmans, representing 32 colleges and universities, attended the convention.

## CHURCH-STATE LINK DENIED

Wendover — (RNS) — The Rev.

James M. Gillis of New York, editor of *The Catholic World*, declared here that the Catholic Church is seeking a union of Church and State.

Speaking at Assumption Church, Father Gillis condemned "false statements which allege that the Catholic Church is breaching the wall of Church-State separation because it supports legislation providing bus transportation for parochial school students, and because the U.S. is represented at the Vatican."

"The government would be blind and stupid if it didn't take advantage of the information available at the Vatican, which is a center of important news of the world," he declared. "All roads lead to Rome."

Defending the interest which the Church takes in politics, Father Gillis asserted that "politics is a branch of ethics dealing with the relationship of one nation to another. Ethics deals with morals and as soon as you mention morals, then let the Church in."

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## Jesuit to Observe Eclipse in China

Washington — (NC) — The Rev. Francis J. Heyden, S.J., director of the Georgetown College Observatory here, has been designated to head one of six observing parties to be stationed from the Aleutians to Burma along the path of a solar eclipse to take place May 8.

The project is being carried out under the auspices of the National Geographic Society and aims at determining the shape and size of the earth with greater accuracy than ever before. Father Heyden's station will be set up near Wu-Kang, China, over 100 miles from Shanghai.

## Papal Letter To Poles Aired

Vatican City — (NC) — A statement issued by the Vatican press office characterized as "completely fabricated" reports by secular sources regarding the alleged content of a letter sent by His Holiness Pope Pius XII to the Hierarchy of Poland.

The statement explained that the letter, which the Holy Father had sent to the Polish Bishops through His Eminence August Cardinal Hlond, Primate of Poland, was "purely religious in content, and that it was written in accordance with the Pope's custom to address Bishops from time to time, especially after they have sent him an address or message."

"The report attributing to the above letter a political significance is therefore without foundation," the statement said.

The dispatches referred to in the statement by the Vatican press office said that the Holy Father in his letter had backed the Polish Catholic hierarchy in demanding that the Polish government allow Poles freedom of speech, press and conscience as a step toward possible renewal of diplomatic relations between Warsaw and the Holy See.

Persons who know Matt Talbot or who can give information concerning favors attributed to his intercession, have been requested to communicate with the Vice-Pontifex of the cause, the Very Rev. T. O'Donnell, of the Dublin archdiocese.

## Matt Talbot's Cause Advanced

Dublin — (RNS) — Preparations for the Process of Inquiry into the cause for canonization of Matt Talbot, Dublin working-man and one-time drunkard who afterwards became known as "the holy man of Dublin," have been started by the Postulator of the cause here.

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## Church Above Politics, Spanish Pastoral Says

Madrid — (RNS) — The Catholic Church is "above all political parties" and does not show preference for any particular type of government, the Most Rev. Enrique Vives, Spanish Cardinal and Vicar General, said yesterday.

Cardinal "Piedra" had just returned from the papal audience of Feb. 8, 1948, Pope X and Pope XI, especially in regard to the attitude of Catholic Action and other religious associations toward political matters.

It declared that each religious Church "will and must" observe the Roman Pontiffs by maintaining a strictly neutral attitude toward political parties and advised that priests, in order to promote their spiritual ministry and serve the Church effectively should remember that "the Church cannot be the tool of any party."

The other graduate, J. W. Martin, of Washington, served in his first year of priesthood at the Pontifical House of Studies here. Mr. Lynch graduated from West Point in 1938 and entered the Faculty midshipmen the following Fall without surpassing his comrade.

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At THE SAME time, Bishop Villanueva warned the temporal and spiritual life are inseparable, and the Church "must intervene in the domain of politics when it is necessary to defend the liberty of Catholics against impious attacks of the laicized power, to fulfill the principles of Christian morality which govern public as well as private activity."

The bishop emphasized that, as a general rule, "Catholics should accept the established regime in their country," and should not seek to make a disturbance between the status of Christians and as citizens. He said they have a duty toward civil society and should not hold aloof from efforts to promote the general welfare.

"As regards their duty toward the Church, the bishops advised, they should, as citizens, do what is demanded, but of a wounded nation," the Bishop of the Central Diocese of Madrid, Don Miguel A. Ronda, of Orihuela, warned in an interview.

Taking up his theme the Most Rev. Francisco Telleria, Bishop of Madrid, added: "There we are in the same situation; we must defend the laicized status of Christians, and as citizens, we should help the political sphere."

In addition, to Catholics, they should work for the Christianization of all life and personal relations.

## Austria Births Divorce Up

Vienna — The efforts of the postwar generation and of the postwar period to attain social, moral and physical health within the framework of Austrian life were revealed in statistics presented here to a conference attended by priests from all parts of the country.

That great results can be achieved by international cooperation among Catholics on youth projects can be gathered from the fact that the Christian Brothers alone, with a membership of 38,000, influence the lives of 450,000 students in 40 nations.

Regarding the birth rate, Father Strobl stated that during the past two years it had been rising steadily, while the result that in 1947 the number of live births surpassed that of the deaths by 50 to 60 per thousand, a satisfactory rate that had not been established for many years previously.

On the other hand, divorce has set a new record in Austria, a fact which largely attributed to the introduction of compulsory civil marriage under the Nazi regime. In 1947, 13,000 marriages were dissolved in Austria by judicial decree, most of them in Vienna alone. About three to four times as many divorces still are still pending in court.

For My Parents

Card Game  
Alice in  
Wonderland

FOR DOLPHINS

Peter Steele — Steele  
always tries to carry on the spirit of their spiritual life.

He believes that the Most Rev. Msgr. John L. McCormack, president of Boston College, has done much for the development of Boston College and its various departments.

He also believes that the Most Rev. Msgr. John T. Murphy, president of Mount Saint Mary College, has done much for the development of Mount Saint Mary College and its various departments.

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