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# THE CATHOLIC Courier Journal

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE

How Do Catholics  
regard the "Communist Anathema"  
by the World Council of  
Churches? Read "Anathema and  
Hope" by Father McGarry on  
Page 4.

39TH YEAR

ROCHESTER, N. Y., THURSDAY, AUGUST 26, 1948

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## UN Query Sought On Jewish Acts

New York—(NC)—An inquiry by the United Nations into reported maltreatment of Catholics by Jews in the Holy Land and desecration of Catholic shrines and holy places, was requested here by Msgr. Thomas J. McMahon, national secretary of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association.

The association, of which His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, is president, was founded in 1924 to support missionaries working in the Near East. It has members in all U. S. dioceses and in some foreign countries.

IN A LETTER to Trygve Lie, Secretary General of the United Nations, Monsignor McMahon pointed to "documented accusations" of maltreatment of Catholics and violations of Catholic institutions, hospitals and churches, "by Jewish soldiers and others."

Since partition was voted by the General Assembly there has been much bloodshed and damage all over Palestine with great human and material losses for both Jews and Arabs," the letter said.

"During this period there have constantly come to us disturbing rumors of maltreatment of Catholic Holy Places. While these have been denied or ascribed to irresponsible groups, the Associated Press report of Aug. 19, dateline Jerusalem, reports specific charges made by Msgr. Anthony Vergani, Vicar of the Latin Patriarchate for Galilee, and tragically confirmed from other authoritative sources, against the 'criminal acts against 12 Catholic Jewish forces as perpetrating institutions in northern Palestine.'"

Monsignor McMahon's letter, then quoted as follows from the Associated Press report: "Monsignor Vergani reports alleged that seven churches, convents and hospitals have been looted by Jews and others, and forced to express concern that the Jews might start a continued expropriation of ecclesiastical properties which may have not small repercussions in the Christian world."

The letter continued: "In view of this documented accusation the Catholic Near East Welfare Association now respectfully requests you, Honorable Sir, to institute an inquiry, through the medium of the United Nations, not only regarding the outrages reported by the Associated Press above, but also regarding all others of a similar nature in Palestine and particularly in the Jerusalem area."

It is our considered opinion that if these overt acts continue to be explained by ascribing them constantly to irresponsible forces, then the entire Christian world is justified in its apprehension over the disregard of Christian spiritual and material interests in the new born State of Israel," the letter concluded.

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**Ave Maria** was the prayer that rose from hundreds of lips as His Excellency Bishop Kearney led the recitation of the Rosary Sunday in the beautiful convent garden of the Religious of the Cenacle, 685 East Ave. It was the first public gathering of the new women's retreat house, where private and preached retreats will be conducted. Approximately 1,500 were at the garden fête, climaxed with the celebration of Benediction by Bishop Kearney. Story on Page 7.



**PLAN LONDON  
MARTYR SITE**

London (NC)—Plans have been announced here to build a national shrine church of the English Martyrs in the heart of London beside Hyde Park and 100 yards from Marble Arch, site of the infamous Tyburn Tree where many Englishmen and women of Reformation times were hanged, drawn and quartered for their faith.

The church, work on which will begin as soon as building permission can be obtained, will contain many relics of the martyrs and will be within sight of the scene where more than 100 of them died.

HIS EMINENCE Bernard Cardinal Griffin, Archbishop of Westminster, has approved the plan and a national campaign for funds is being launched for the "Tyburn Nuns." Adorers of the Sacred Heart, have acquired four big old houses in Hyde Park place, through donations from friends and intend to build the church in Early English style on their site. The church will cost at least \$120,000.

Their own convent in one of these four houses was for 35 years until its destruction by a flying bomb in June 1944, the center of perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in London.

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## U. S. Supreme Court Ban on Religious Education Programs Spreads Confusion Among the States



**DOCTOR CITES  
LOURDES CURE**

Paris—(RNS)—Details of a cure which allegedly took place at the Shrine of Lourdes last year and which has not yet been officially accepted by the Catholic Church as "miraculous" have been disclosed by Dr. Francois Leuret, president of the Lourdes Medical Bureau.

According to Dr. Leuret, the cure involves a six-year-old boy named Gerard Baillie, who lives in St. Pol St. Omer, near Calais.

BEFORE HIS visit to Lourdes, Dr. Leuret said, Gerard had been totally blind for four years as a result of bilateral choroiditis accompanied by double optic atrophy. The physician said this condition is considered to be medically incurable.

Gerard was brought to Lourdes in September, 1947 by his mother. While saying the Stations of the Cross, Dr. Leuret said the child instantaneously recovered his sight.

Last July his mother brought Gerard back to Lourdes, where he was reexamined by physicians. A British eye specialist who was visiting the famous Shrine City at the time was asked to examine the boy. Dr. Leuret said the specialist discovered "the astonishing fact" that the lesions and atrophy which caused the blindness were still present although Gerard could see.

The youngster will undergo another medical examination in September and the findings will be presented to an international commission for consideration.

With permission of the Boards (Continued on Page 6)

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## Champaign Court Halts McCollum Move To Kill Released-Time Religion Study

Widespread confusion and uncertainty are rapidly clouding the future of religious study programs for public school pupils in most states as a result of the Supreme Court ruling in the McCollum Case banning religious instruction in public schools.

Meanwhile Mrs. Vashli McCollum of Champaign, Ill., self-proclaimed atheist, who won the Supreme Court decision against the use of public schools for religious study, has been blocked in her latest legal move to gain a broader interpretation of the Court's ban.

AS PREDICTED earlier by critics of the Supreme Court ruling, the McCollum Verdict has hit Protestants more severely than Catholics who have their own schools.

This is true in strong Protestant communities, particularly in the South and in rural areas where public school religious study programs and Bible reading classes have enjoyed long-established existence under Protestant auspices.

A halt to Mrs. McCollum's war on religious education came last week when a Champaign Circuit Court refused her demand for a writ outlawing released-time religious instruction classes.

REPLYING TO the demand of Mrs. McCollum, Judge Grover W. Watson in Champaign County Circuit Court issued a simple writ of mandamus ordering local schools to adopt and enforce rules prohibiting religious instruction in the "manner heretofore conducted."

The order was without positive significance, since the schools had taken this action last March, after the high court ruled in Mrs. McCollum's favor.

Mrs. McCollum expressed "complete dissatisfaction" with the ruling. What her attorney had sought from Judge Watson was an interpretation of the Supreme Court decision which could be used as a guide to halt religion classes of all types, on or off public school property, throughout the nation.

ACCORDING TO the Champaign News-Gazette the woman who won the celebrated "released-time" case before the Supreme Court only five months ago said that she was "right back where I started from three years ago" and that she was considering going to the high court again.

"I have wasted all this time and money without an order prohibiting the schools from aiding and abetting in carrying on these classes. The schools should be definitely ordered against carrying students for religious classes," she was quoted as saying.

Typical of the confusion created by the Supreme Court's McCollum verdict are reports from such representative states as Indiana, Kansas, Alabama, Virginia, Pennsylvania and New York.

RELIGIOUS CLASSES in Fort Wayne's city and suburban public schools, unless halted by an injunction, will be conducted in buses during the 1948-49 school year, Andrew G. Berry, president of the Associated Protestant Churches, has announced.

To satisfy restrictions of the U. S. Supreme Court ruling barring such classes in public school property, Fort Wayne will become the first city in the country to adopt this plan.

With permission of the Boards (Continued on Page 6)

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## Fr. McKay Requiem Held at Corning

Solemn funeral services held yesterday morning (Wednesday, August 25) at 10:30 in St. Vincent De Paul's Church, Corning, for the Rev. James Edward McKay marked the final tribute of his parish and the Rochester Diocese for the victim of a tragic auto accident last Sunday morning.

Father McKay, ordained from St. Bernard's Seminary June 9, 1928, had been assistant pastor at St. Vincent De Paul's since 1943.

Previously he had served as assistant pastor at St. Augustine's, Holy Apostles and St. Charles Borromeo churches in Rochester. He became administrator of St. Catherine's Church, Addison in 1937 and then was assigned to St. Mary's Church Elmira for six years prior to his Corning appointment.

THE VERY REV. MSGR. GEORGE C. LAMBERT, pastor of St. Monica's Church, Rochester, was the celebrant of the Solemn Requiem Mass. He was assisted by the Rev. Edward H. Hartman, pastor of St. Mary's Church, Scottsville, and the Rev. John J. Burke, pastor of St. Vincent De Paul Church, Churchville, as Deacon and Subdeacon.

The Rev. Donald M. Cleary, chaplain of the Newman Club of Cornell University and classmate of the dead priest, preached the sermon. Priestess of Father McKay's ordination class filled other minor offices of the Mass.

The body lay in state in St. Vincent's Church from Tuesday afternoon until the funeral with members of the 4th Degree Assembly of the Knights of Columbus providing the guard of honor. Tuesday evening a group of diocesan priests headed by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. William M. Hart, F.A., V.G.

chanted the Office of the Dead. BURIAL WAS IN the family plot in Calvary Cemetery, Canisteo. Final prayers were recited at the grave by Monsignor Hart.

In his eulogy of the departed priest, Father Cleary described the priesthood as "an organism shot through with the divinity of Christ yet carried in the frail vessels of weak human nature."

"To the non-Catholic mind," Father Cleary declared, "the idea of a priest as a mediator between God and man is an alien thought. To the Catholic it is one of great comfort and consolation. No Catholic is ignorant of the frailty of the priest, yet he realizes that God chooses men from among"

(Continued on Page 6)

## Holy Land Struggle Causes DP Problem In Middle East

Jerusalem—(NC)—The Holy Land warfare has created a refugee and displaced persons' problem in the Middle East which charitable institutions find it impossible to cope with.

The total of Palestinian Arabs who have left their homes during the Holy Land fighting to seek safety in other parts of Palestine or beyond its borders is estimated at about a half million.

THE POPULATION of Jerusalem's Old City has been swollen by refugees—many of them Arab Christians—from outlying suburbs that they have been forced to seek shelter in the sacred shrines and in religious houses of both Catholic and Orthodox communities.

The Franciscan Casa Nova pilgrim hospice, not far from the New Gate, at one time sheltered as many as 1,200 inmates—four times its proper capacity. The Terra Sancta Biblical Institute at the Flagellation Monastery is filled to overflowing with refugee families. Other institutions within the Old Walled City are similarly crowded, including the residence of the diocesan clergy of the Latin patriarchate.

As the situation has worsened, families have begun living in store rooms just off the rounds of the Holy Sepulchre Basilica, and one family sleeps in a small organ-loft of the Basilica.

THE ARMENIAN Catholic Church, located between the third and fourth Stations of the Cross on the Via Dolorosa, has its small guest house and its rectory filled with refugees; the Armenian Orthodox monastery of St. James is sheltering several hundred people, with some of

## Cardinal Starts Babe's Stadium

New York—(NC)—His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, has announced that a Babe Ruth Memorial Stadium will be built on the grounds of Archbishop Stephen F. High School in White Plains, N. Y. He said a "California friend" who did not wish his name disclosed, had sent him \$10,000 as the first gift toward the building fund.

The Cardinal pointed out that the once mighty baseball home run king lies buried in case of Heaven Cemetery, Valhalla, N. Y., not far from the site of the new school.

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