

Shirley Anne's Statue

CATHOLICS PROPOSE HEALTH PLAN



SYRACUSE, N. Y. — Exhausted, eleven-year-old Shirley Anne Martin dozes momentarily while being photographed with the plaster head of a statue of St. Ann which, witnesses claim, weeps when Shirley kisses it. The little girl demonstrated the strange phenomenon endlessly, April 14, for crowds who flocked to her home. (Arnie Photo)

ON GUARD

Bishop's Authority
Boston Story
"Come Quietly"

By REV. P. J. FLYNN

A Bishop is the chief teacher and ruler of his diocese. And that by divine right; by the authority of God. Only the authority of the Holy Father himself is superior to that of a Bishop in his own diocese.

NO INDIVIDUAL Catholic or group of Catholics, whether they be clergymen or laymen, have any right or duty to teach or act in defiance of a Bishop's authority.

The personal brilliance of any priest or layman does not justify them in teaching or acting in opposition to the orders of the Bishop.

The Bishop has the prime responsibility for the teaching and the policies of his diocese and if he deems the activities of some members of his flock as dangerous to the welfare of the Church, he has the right and duty to order such activities stopped. And he should be obeyed.

The result can only be disastrous if every individual who imagines himself inspired by God attempts to usurp the divine prerogatives of the Bishop and do what he likes.

THIS IS WHY the open opposition of Father Leonard Feeney, the noted Jesuit, and the Boston professors to the authority of Archbishop Cushing can only be a source of dismay to Catholics who understand the divine office of the episcopate.

We do not here attempt to pass any judgment on Father Feeney's theological views which seem to be the cause of his involvement with the Archbishop.

We only say that regardless of the merits of Father Feeney's teaching, and even if he be inspired by an angel, his teaching and activity must be subject to the authority of the Archbishop.

Christ has appointed Archbishop Cushing as the chief spiritual teacher and spiritual ruler of the Catholics in the Archdiocese of Boston. In defying the Archbishop's authority, Father Feeney and his friends are rebelling against the authority of Christ.

Even if some of the members of his flock are convinced that their position is a case of conscience which they should submit to the authority of the Archbishop, cases of conscience are best resolved by humble submission to properly constituted authority.

WE WRITE these things in all charity. We are deeply pained at the plight of our fellow priest, Father Feeney, who has worked long and zealously for the cause of Christ in this country, and priests, nuns and laymen, who have been inspired so often by his writings and sermons, are praying that he will soon be back with us again.

As we write these words we see a book on our library shelves. It is a volume of delightful essays entitled "You'd Better Come Quietly."

This book was written by a few priests and laymen, and it is the suggestion of the prayerful plea of all Catholics to him now.

"You'd Better Come Quietly," Father Feeney, Come Quietly to Archbishop Cushing and submit in humble obedience to his authority. You'd Better Come Quietly, and you'd Better Come Quietly and QUICKLY!"

No Answers Established For 'Weeping' of Statue

By REV. JOHN W. LYNCH
EDITOR, SYRACUSE CATHOLIC SUN

(This article which appears in this week's issue of the Syracuse Catholic Sun was made available for simultaneous publication in the Courier-Journal by editors of the Sun.)

To avoid any confusion and to be accurate in the placing of a responsibility, the editor of this Catholic newspaper asks that he be permitted, for the moment, to put aside the traditional plural form of editorial composition and to write about the Syracuse child and the head of the statue of Saint Anne in the grammatical form of the first person singular. This is one man's opinion, and, since it is to be expressed, it is better that it be so identified.

THE SITUATION as of Easter Sunday afternoon is this: sometime, around the end of March, a small statue of Saint Anne was discarded by the Martin family of Hawley Avenue, Syracuse.

The head of the statue was found in a driveway by Shirley Anne, aged 11, who kept it on her person and returned it to her home.

According to her own testimony and the testimony of members of her family, when the child kissed the severed head of the statue, water started from the eyes and flowed down the plaster cheeks as though the statue were crying. This apparent response to the little child's kiss began around the date of April 2nd.

ABOUT THE 13th OF APRIL, a Syracuse newspaper quite properly investigated reports of the child and the statue and printed the resulting story as legitimate and verified news.

Reports went to the Martin home and observed the child kiss the statue. They saw the drops of water form on the face.

They also reported the fact that the child had made a visit to the Rectory of Our Lady of Pompeii Church and had been interviewed by three priests.

The child kissed the statue in the presence of the priests and the three clergymen also testified that they saw the consequent drops of liquid.

During the days of Holy Week many people some three or four hundred, congregated in the street before the Martin home in the desire to see Shirley Anne and to see the phenomenon of the tears. A police detail was assigned to the street to direct traffic.

THE APPARENT TEARS continued for several days and were seen again by reporters by photographers, and by the staff of the Syracuse invasion station who had arranged to bring the child and the statue to the studio. It is reported that the apparent tears were observable through the television broadcast. National attention had been aroused. The report of the phenomenon was given a coast-to-coast publicity.

Then, at the end of last week, the kiss of the child no longer seemed to produce the tears. The Martin family expressed gratification that the incident had ceased. The child was rescued to some seclusion and a staff of newspaper cameramen seemed to have made a trip to Syracuse for nothing.

However, on Saturday of last week a lesser appearance of tears returned and some motion pictures were made and, again, a reporter testified that he had seen and touched with his own hand the liquid that came on the face of the statue when the child kissed it. Such are the reported facts in the case as of this date.

Now, I honestly believe that the first observation that ought to be made in this case is that the Syracuse community, and people in general, were eager to know what the Catholic Church, as a Church, had to say about it.

There was here, apparently, something that could not be accounted for by natural means. Fraud seems to be ruled out.

The little girl, her family, the reporters give evidence of a decent and simple honesty, and the mind, confronted with the situation, begins to seek an answer. I think it significant that the answer awaited was the answer of the Church.

It was not that plaster of this and that of a side water but that the reported flow of water was beyond the capacity of the head. Many wondered about the source of the water, and others thought the business to be grotesque and undignified. Some scoffed.

The newspapers, the radio and the wire services presented the facts as they found them and, obviously, judged the situation to be news of high human interest. Some were inclined to find in the situation an evidence of the power of God. This seemed to them to be miraculous.

But would the Church say it was supernatural? Would the Church accept the answer of the miraculous? Would the Church

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Boston Archbishop Acts In College Controversy

Jesuit And Professors Censured

Boston — (NC) — Entering the dispute involving three Boston College faculty members and one instructor in the high school for teaching "ideas leading to bigotry and intolerance," Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston, disclosed that the Rev. Leonard Feeney, S.J., who espoused the teachers' cause, "has lost the right to perform his priestly functions" and the St. Benedict's Center, in nearby Cambridge, which he directs, "is henceforth without ecclesiastical approbation and attendance at it is strictly forbidden to Catholics."

The Archbishop took his action after the four professors called on him Monday in connection with the dispute. The professors are Dr. Fahkri Maluf, assistant philosophy professor; James R. Walsh, philosophy instructor, and Charles Ewasko, assistant physics professor, of the college, and David D. Supple, German teacher in the high school.

In addition to a public statement on the matter, the Archbishop also issued an official decree concerning the status of Father Feeney and warning Catholics against frequenting the center.

THE STATEMENT issued by Archbishop Cushing reviewed the dispute and outlined his action. The statement issued Monday night reads:

"This morning four professors who have been publicizing their disagreement with alleged teachings at Boston College finally called upon me. I read in the newspapers that they had written to the Holy See, the General of the Jesuits and others. I had also heard that they and a few misguided partisans had been neglecting churches thus vandalizing the community during Holy Week."

Many persons had asked me for comment but I declined to do so. Any declaration which might make it more difficult for those members of my flock and those whom they had influenced to straighten out the problems which they had created for themselves and their friends.

Moreover, I had frequently reminded the center in Cambridge that it appears to share the blame and to support their present unreasonable actions. So had my assistants in the work of the Archbishop.

"NOW THAT THEY have finally come to me and have published to the press the fact of their visit, I am obliged to state that I deplore the actions they have taken and the serious scandal which they have caused. Weighty points of dogma are not debated in headlines nor made the occasion of recriminations and immoderate attacks on constituted authority."

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Bon Voyage To Rome And Home



Following celebration of Pontifical Mass Easter Sunday at the Pro-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, His Excellency Bishop Kearney poses with two priests who will accompany him when he sails April 28 on his "ad limina" visit to Rome. Left to right with the Bishop: Rt. Rev. Magr. Edward M. Lyons, president of St. Andrew's Seminary, and the Rev. John E. Maney, S.T.D., Dr. Maney is secretary to the Bishop.

BISHOP AWAITS ROME SAILING ON APRIL 28

His Excellency Bishop Kearney this week completed final arrangements for his trip to Rome to report diocesan affairs to the Vatican as required of all Bishops each five years by church rule.

Accompanied by the Rt. Rev. Magr. Edward M. Lyons, rector of St. Andrew's Seminary and the Rev. Dr. John E. Maney, the Bishop sails from Pier 40, New York City on the SS Saturnia of the American Export Line at noon on Thursday, April 28, and will arrive in Naples, Italy, on May 6.

THE BISHOP'S PARTY will be driven from Naples to Rome by the Very Rev. Magr. Richard K. Burns of Rochester, vice rector of the North American College in Rome. They will remain in the Eternal City from May 8 to 18.

The Most Rev. Walter A. Porey, Bishop of Syracuse and the Rt. Rev. Msgr. David F. Cunningham, vicar general of the Syracuse Diocese, will travel with the Rochester group from New York to Rome and return.

THE HIGHLIGHT and climax of the Roman stay will be a private visit with His Holiness Pope Pius XII at the Pope's offices.

Leaving Monsignor Lyons and Father Maney vacationing in Europe, the Bishop will sail from Naples with Bishop Porey and Magr. Cunningham on May 18 aboard the SS Saturnia and will reach New York City on May 28.

He will return to Rochester immediately for the Jubilee Mass of the Rochester College Alumni at the college on Sunday morning, May 29.

Two New York Episcopal Ministers Join Catholic Church

New York — The former rector and assistant rector and four lay members of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, on East 74th Street, have been received into the Catholic Church, according to an announcement made this week by the Rev. Damasus Winzen of Regina Laudis Monastery, Bethlehem, Conn.

Heading the unusual group of converts was the Rev. Gordon B. Wadhams, who resigned on March 15 as rector of the Church of the Resurrection. He made his profession of faith in the Catholic Church at the Regina Laudis Monastery Saturday night, the eve of Easter.

He had been authorized to announce the conversion of the six former Episcopalians. Officials of the Church of the Resurrection, where Mr. Wadhams had been the rector since 1936, said they knew nothing officially about his action, but added that rumors about it had been circulating for some time.

ERNEST FREDERICK Eidlitz, senior warden of the church, said floral arrangements for any occasion always properly styled, always the best showing for your money at Blanchard Florist, 68 Charlotte colored deliveries available Ave. Call Main 1886—our clerical sections every day.—Adv.

Monsignor Gabbani Funeral Rite Held

Auburn — Attended by a throng of Auburnians and other friends, Solemn Mass of Requiem was celebrated in St. Francis of Assisi Church, Rev. Magr. Adolpho L. Gabbani, pastor of that church for the past 14 years.

Monsignor Gabbani, 76, died Easter Day, April 17, 1949 in Mercy Hospital where he had been a patient since Monday of Holy Week.

THE SOLEMN MASS was celebrated by the Rt. Rev. Magr. John A. Conway, V.F. with the Rev. John B. Crowley, Deacon and the Rev. Frederick G. Straub, assistant.

Assisting were: Master of Ceremonies, the Rev. Joseph Hafley; Censor Bearer, the Rev. Eugene McCarthy; Acolytes, the Rev. Vincent Collins and the Rev. Nicholas Alletto.

BEARERS WERE the Rev. Fathers Nicholas Alletto, Vincent Collins, Francis Turner, Anthony Calmeri, Joseph Marangola, and Irwin Sullivan.

A choir composed of priests and seminarians was directed by the Rev. Charles Langworthy. The many priests attending were headed by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. William M. Hart, P.A., vicar.

Funeral of Monsignor Gabbani was preached by the Rev. Joseph A. Cirrincione, pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church, Rochester, who had known the Auburn pastor for almost thirty years.

FATHER CIRRINCIONE said there are three times in a priest's life when he is the subject of a special sermon. The first is usually preached by an older brother priest. The second, usually by a younger brother priest. The third, always by the Eternal High Priest Himself.

Following the church services (Continued on Page 11)

Mr. Wadhams had announced his intention to resign in December, giving as his reason that he had been with the congregation more than ten years. The rector explained then that he thought no minister should remain in a pulpit more than ten years.

However, no public announcement was made when Mr. Wadhams did resign in March. His assistant, Mr. Liggett, left at the same time, it was reported.

MR. EIDLITZ said neither man had given a reason for leaving in the letters of resignation. He described their departure as "perfectly amicable."

Truman Plan Rejected As Monopolistic

Washington — (NC) — Warning against "the monopoly which would be the inevitable result of the government system" of compulsory health insurance proposed in legislation now before Congress, three Catholic agencies this week advanced an alternative plan described as "A Voluntary Approach to a National Health Program."

The Catholic agencies offer their proposal "as an illustration of a sound public policy to promote the health and well-being of the people of the United States." "Health care," they say, "should be made available to all people not only in terms of institutional facilities and trained personnel, but also in terms of reasonable cost to the public."

The program is presented by the Bureau of Health and Hospitals of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, the National Conference of Catholic Charities, and the Catholic Hospital Association of the United States and Canada.

A foreword to the statement is written by Bishop Kerr J. Altier of Toledo, Episcopal Chairman of the Bureau of Health and Hospitals, N.C.W.C., and Chairman of the Administrative Board of the Catholic Hospital Association.

THE CONTROVERSY attending discussion of an adequate national health program, Bishop Altier says, "revolves in large part around the issue of an exclusive and compulsory government health system versus private and voluntary efforts supported by government assistance instead of control."

"Many competent authorities," the Bishop says, "feel that an exclusive state system under a compulsory tax will inevitably involve a loss of freedom for the voluntary health agencies and put an end to private initiative to the ultimate detriment of the health of the nation. There is no controversy of disagreement concerning the advisability or advantage of a pre-payment plan to meet the cost of medical care."

"The rights and duties of society, the state and the individual," the Bishop asserts, "must be considered in relationship to one another."

BISHOP ALTIER states that "society is a much broader and more comprehensive concept than that of the state." He adds that "the state has a definite responsibility to help protect and promote the health of the nation," but that "voluntary agencies, however, have a definite right and responsibility to exercise an important function in planning as well as executing such a program." "It is especially undesirable to neglect the contribution of either the one or the other," the Bishop declares.

In expressing their opposition to existing proposals for a national health program, the three Catholic agencies say "it is not so much the principle of taxation for health protection which is opposed." "Rather," they add, "it is the monopoly which would be the inevitable result under the government system, and the manner of calling the tax an insurance."

"THE IDEA of personal individual responsibility for one's spiritual and material welfare is (Continued on Page 6)



MONSIGNOR GABBANI

This second sermon today, said the preacher, "finds us united in sorrow: the sorrow of his loved ones who have lost a member of the family; the sorrow of his parishioners who have lost their pastor; the sorrow of brother priests who have lost a friend."

FROM MONSIGNOR Gabbani's life Father Cirrincione urged parishioners to learn to carry the cross of life as cheerfully as he did. "For he has had to carry the cross of physical infirmities as long as I have known him, and that goes back almost thirty years," he said.

Priests may learn, he said, from the fact that Monsignor Gabbani was a priest over fifty years and retained to the last the humility and simplicity of a child.

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Official Vatican City

Bishop Kearney Rochester, N. Y. The Holy Father expresses his grateful appreciation for your devoted messages and prayerful felicitations on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of his ordination. His Holiness has graciously accepted your offerings and has placed them in the apostolic treasury.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS were received by the Holy Father from the Bishop of Rochester, N. Y., and his clergy on the occasion of his Golden Jubilee of his ordination.