

### Church in German Red Zone Stands Strong Amid Trials

By MAX JORDAN

Berlin — (NC) — In more than four years of Nazi rule, the Catholic Church in the German zone of Germany has stood its ground unshakably. This is the first time in a survey that has been conducted in the zone.

"There was the remark of the pastor of a large Berlin parish whom I asked for his frank opinion on the state of things today.

"Like everybody else," said this priest, who is assigned to an outpost in the very heart of an industrial district, "the Catholics here have suffered and suffered, but the forces of their faith in probably even more intense now than it was under the Nazi regime, or prior to the war."

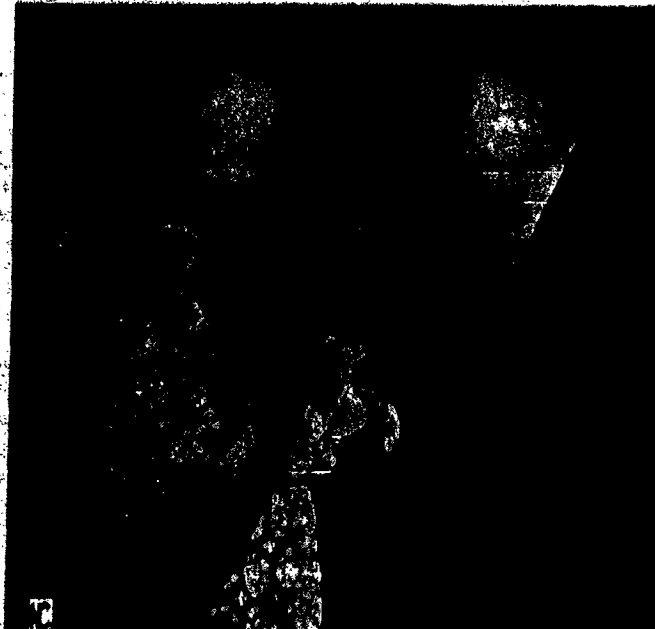
Friends everywhere in the Berlin zone confirm this conclusion. Church attendance has not been affected by Communist propaganda and all the pressure applied by Moscow agents. The faithful continue to receive the Sacraments in large numbers.

"They look to the Church for solace," said another priest who labors in a large district which normally would be split up into ten parishes at least. "The shortage of clergy is probably the most serious problem facing the Church in the Berlin zone. Newburg calls the urgent need for more and more priests and says that they may be met in the future."

In many districts the Catholics are a minority of the population. In Berlin, for example, they are a minority of the population. In Berlin, for example, they are a minority of the population. In Berlin, for example, they are a minority of the population.

There is hardly a day without attacks against the Holy Father, the hierarchy, especially in the United States depicted as the bulwark of "imperialist aggression" and the leaders of the Church in Western Germany.

### FRENCH LEADER GREETED



Robert Schuman, France's Foreign Minister and former President, is shown as he was greeted by His Eminence James Cardinal McIntyre, Archbishop of Toronto, during his recent visit from Washington to the Jesuit Martyrs Shrine and the historic Fort Ste. Marie, Canadian National Railways photo. (NC Photo)

### Los Angeles Pageant Depicts California Mission History

Los Angeles — (RNS) — Memorial Coliseum here was transformed into a vast outdoor cathedral as 35,000 persons witnessed a religious pageant commemorating the arrival of the first Franciscan missionaries, led by Fra Junipero Serra.

The pageant, a highlight of the California Centennial Celebration, included the reproduction of the 14 Stations of the Cross with living characters. Members of Hollywood's Blessed Sacrament parish enacted the stations.

IN THE PROLOGUE, Spanish colonial men, women and children, along with actors playing the part of mission Indians and early day Franciscan padres, portrayed the founding of the City of Our Lady Queen of Angels and the planting of the cross here at the plaza.

Leading Hollywood screen and radio stars served as narrators in describing the historical events and in leading the prayers of the Stations of the Cross. The narrators included Regis Toomey, Gene Lockhart, J. Carol Nalah, Pedro de Cordoba, Stephen McNally and George Murphy.

We relive this evening the humble beginnings of our great metropolis," said Archbishop J. Francis McIntyre, of Los Angeles. "In following Christ the Redeemer on the Royal road of the Cross, we renew our dedica-

### Reds Organize Spy System On Priests

Prague — (RNS) — Orders have been issued by the Communist dominated government to keep almost every Roman Catholic priest in Czechoslovakia under rigid State surveillance, Church authorities charged here.

They said that an official circular had been issued to all government employees ordering them to cooperate in a spy system aimed especially at identifying priests who are actively opposed to the government.

THE SURVEILLANCE, the Church officials said, is to be conducted through the local Communist Action committees and the separatist "Catholic Action" organization set up by the government in defiance of ecclesiastical pronouncements branding the group as schismatic.

According to the Catholic authorities, the government circular listed three main objectives for the new spy system. They were:

- (1) To classify every priest on his political attitude, with grades ranging from "progressive" to "reactionary."
- (2) To check on the movements of priests to see whether they carry out Vatican decrees for excommunication of Communists, or spread anti-government information.
- (3) To keep watch on the behavior of vicars and to note their influence on the clergy.

OTHER INSTRUCTIONS, the Church authorities said, were to report priests who read pastoral letters from Archbishop Joseph Beran of Prague and other bishops so that offenders might be jailed, and to make inventories of church property, presumably in anticipation of confiscation measures.

The Catholic officials reported that State agents have complained about finding portraits of Thomas G. Masaryk and Edward Benes, presidents of Czechoslovakia in pre-Communist days, still displayed in class rooms. Meanwhile, they added, hundreds of teachers have been discharged or sent to new posts in an effort to break up alleged "reactionary nests."

### Monk Appointed Federal Official

Geneva — (RNS) — A monk belonging to the Order of St. Bernard has been placed in charge of the isolated post office atop the famous St. Bernard pass in the Swiss Alps. The small station, completely cut off from the rest of the world during winter months, could not be run by a regular Federal Post Office official.

The monk will also serve as a local Justice of the Peace, because the nearest government official is unable to hold enquiries at such a great height. His duties will entail keeping a watch for smugglers who sometimes try to use the windswept pass in moving from one valley to another.

### Lightning Destroys Mission Chapel

New York — (NC) — The Blessed Sacrament Indian mission chapel at Fort Washack, Wyoming, was completely destroyed by fire, the Rev. Bernard A. Cullen, director general of the Marquette League for Catholic Indian Missions, report. A bolt of lightning is said to have caused the blaze.

### India Christian Art For Holy Year



A noted woman artist, from Bombay, Miss Angela Trinidad (left), has arrived in United States to exhibit her paintings of Christian art, particularly Madonnas. Some will be exhibited at the Exposition of Sacred Mission Art, in Rome, during the Holy Year. She is making her American headquarters at the home of the Catholic Medical Mission Sisters, Philadelphia. One of her paintings (right) shows the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin. (NC Photos)

### Pontiff Says Church Defends Rights of Man

Rome — (RNS) — In fighting for its own liberties the Catholic Church fights also for "the primordial rights of man." Pope Pius XII declared at an audience to delegates attending the International Congress of Humanistic Studies.

"If the Church fights to win or defend her own liberties, it is also for the liberties of man," at the same time the Pope said. "In her eyes these essential rights are so inviolable that against them no reason or state no pretext of the common welfare can prevail."

DECLARING THAT "humanism is now the order of the day," Pope Pius asserted that all that is true good and eternal in humanism belong to the "spiritual universe" of "the greatest genius of the Middle Ages, St. Thomas Aquinas." He said St. Thomas' conception of man and of the world has remained essentially unchanged down to contemporary Christian philosophy.

"The Catholic Church," Pope Pius went on, "does not admit that before God man is nothing but corruption and sin. On the contrary, in her eyes, the original sin has not intimately affected man's aptitude and forces. It has left essentially intact the natural light of his intelligence and his liberty."

"MAN ENDOWED with this nature is without doubt wounded and enfeebled by the heavy heritage of a nature fallen and deprived of its supernatural and preternatural gifts. He must make an effort, he must observe natural law — all this with the all-powerful help of the grace of Christ — to live as the honor of God and man's own dignity demand."

### Great Britain Faces Increase Of Divorce Action

By JOHN A. GREAVES  
London — (NC) — The number of divorce petitions in Britain next year is likely to be higher than ever before, probably ten times greater than in any previous year. This conclusion is reached by Frederick Redman and Joseph Garrity, who have been investigating the whole divorce picture for the Sunday Pictorial, a secular tabloid here.

Their forecast is based on the passing by Parliament of the Legal Aid and Advice Act, which has received the Royal Assent, thus becoming law last month. Under the provisions of this measure free legal aid will be available to everyone earning up to eight pounds (\$22.40) per week, a figure embracing perhaps 50 per cent or more of the working population of Britain.

UP TO THE present the average cost of an undefended divorce petition has been around 70 pounds. Now, say these investigators divorce will be available to a great mass of people. The official "grounds" on which the courts grant divorces, they add, are the result of a broken marriage, not the cause. "Our conclusion on the tragic problem of divorce," they report,

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