

### Describes Rome Clergy's Visits To Basilicas

By REV. JOE J. SULLIVAN  
Rome, Jan. 11 (NC) — With five days of the opening of Holy Year the world might be said to have made the Jubilee, at least through its clerical representatives in the Holy City.

On the very first possible day following the opening of the Holy Door, Monday, Dec. 26, the Holy Father himself led the members of the clergy from every part of the world to the tomb of St. Peter to recite the Jubilee prayers with him. They in turn, on the two days following, went in a body to the other basilicas to fulfill the conditions required for gaining the indulgence, to pray for the Pope's intentions, for the "great return and great pardon" for all men and all nations.

IN FACTORIAL CROSS or surplice, in cloak or cow, bishops, priests and seminarians from practically every country under the sun, went on Tuesday to St. Paul's Outside the Walls, and on Wednesday to both St. John Lateran and St. Mary Major, going from the former to the latter, and final step, in formal procession which stretched almost the full half mile distance of the Via Merulana which joins the two great basilicas.

THE PROCESSION of Wednesday, however, it was with its dramatic parts, was vivid and colorful in the image and reflection it stirred. Here was geography and history as well as theology passing before our eyes. All the countries of Europe walked side by side and in company with Africa and the Middle East.

### Communists' Parody Of Holy Mass Recalls Soldiers' Mockery of Christ

Rome — (NC) — Twenty centuries ago Roman soldiers pushed a purple cloak around an emaciated Christ, thrust a crown of thorns on His head and knelt before Him in mockery, saying "Hail, King of the Jews."

This mockery has had its counterpart today. It occurred in Romania and its details are given by the Information Service of the Oriental Church here. Victim of the satirical was a Greek rite Catholic priest who had repeatedly been tortured for refusing to renounce the Catholic faith and join the schismatic Orthodox Church. Tiring of torture, his communist jailers robed him in a sacred vestments stolen from a nearby church and then forced him—

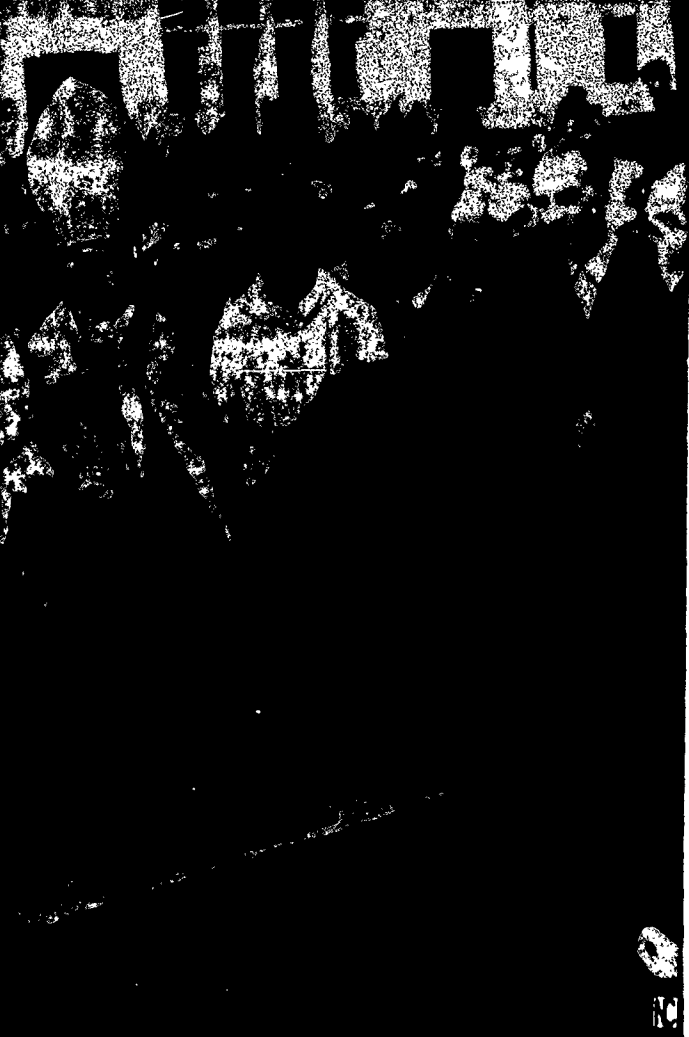
One time when he fell in a dead faint during the long interrogations he was repeatedly pulled up by the hair until the communist jailer had pulled out much of the victim's hair.

The information service also reports the words — recited at the American here, Nathan Hale — of another Romanian priest held in prison by the regime for refusing to give up his faith. Asked what he would do now that he found himself condemned by the regime, the priest replied: "I have only one life and I wish to give it on behalf of my Church."

He also reached Rome of the death of two leading clergymen in the Church in Romania. Mgr. Octavian Domide, who was vicar general

of the Cluj-Ghera diocese, and the Rev. Teodorico Bonteanu, Basilian monk who had been a high Orthodox churchman before he joined the Catholic Church. Monsignor Domide died at the age of 78. Father Bonteanu is reported to have died in a railway accident. He had written several books fostering the reunion with Rome movement.

### U. S. PILGRIMS TO NOTE



Underprivileged children on outskirts of Rome are beneficiaries of the Cardinal Gibbons Community Center, at Primavalle, where a school and church are fast nearing completion. It has been placed by His Holiness Pope Pius XII under the direction of an American priest, the Very Rev. John Rocella, T.O.R., Minister General of the Third Order Regular. Some 300 children attend the kindergarten there and are fed free. Pictured at laying of the cornerstone a few months ago are Vice-Regent of Rome (left), Archbishop Traglia and Father Rocella, bending over with trowel in hand. (NO Photos)

### Franciscans Offer Plan For Holy Sepulchre

By ANTHONY BRUYA, O.F.M.  
Amman, Jordan — (NC) — Complete details of a proposal for rebuilding the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem according to its fourth-century architectural form are expected to be available to the public by the end of February. A new book giving these details is expected off the press by then.

It calls for a cruciform church to replace the present structure which has been damaged through its 600 years of existence by earthquakes and fire and has been disfigured by unworthy construction. Architecturally, the book proposes a return to the church built in the fourth century by St. Helena, mother of Constantine the Great. It was then known as the Church of the Resurrection.

THE PLANS in the book are proposed by the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land. The book is called, "The Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, Its Glories, Misfortunes and Hopes."

Written partly in Italian and partly in French, the volume is dedicated to His Holiness Pope Pius XII as the "Defender of the Holy Places." It carries a foreword by Archbishop Gustavo Testa, Apostolic Delegate to Palestine, who for the last decade has actively interested himself in the project of rebuilding the basilica.

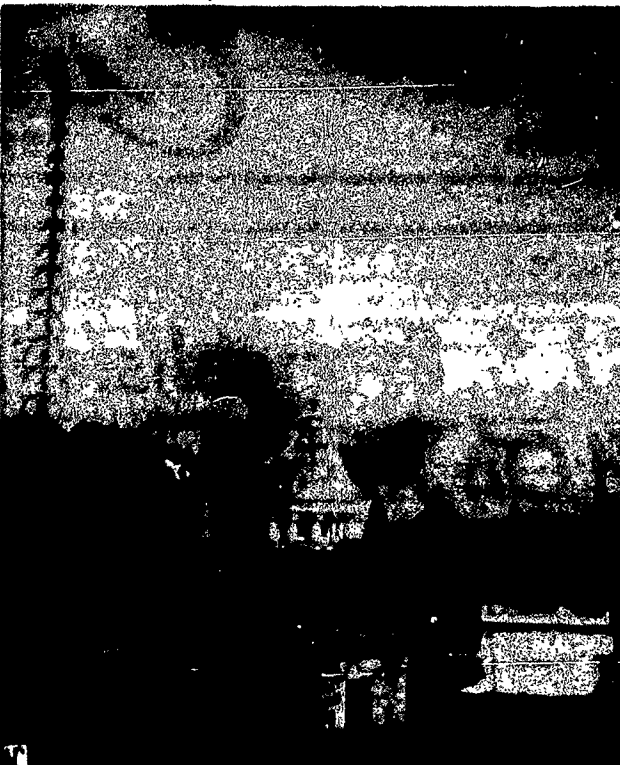
THE BOOK calls for a central edifice surrounding the Saviour's tomb at which all can pray and worship. The edifice would be erected on the tomb but not on the site of the tomb. According to the new plan, Calvary would be marked by a separate chapel east of the church.

The proposal provides for separate chapels for the three religious groups now enjoying a right to services at the site of the tomb: Catholics, Greek Orthodox and Armenian Orthodox. According to the book, these groups alone would continue to have services at the tomb and to share in the schedule of hours there. These chapels would encircle the new church and have passageways connecting them with it. There would also be chapels for the Syrian Orthodox, Coptic Orthodox and Abyssinian Orthodox faiths who now enjoy minor rights in the Basilica.

THE PLAN would further allot a chapel to the Anglican Church, as a representative of the Protestant bodies, which at present have no rights in the shrine. The Lutheran Church of the Redeemer nearby would be brought into the overall exterior scheme by allotting it a special passageway to the new basilica.

This proposal, it was pointed out, is being made to His Holiness Pope Pius XII during the eighth centennial year of the consecration of the Basilica of the Crusaders. The Vatican, it was said, welcomes this plan to surround with more respect the holiest of shrines, to foster peaceful relations among religious bodies having rights there, and to permit other churches to have their own chapels for worship near the Lord's sepulchre.

### 'VOICE OF THE VATICAN'



High above the Vatican gardens framing the graceful dome of St. Peter's, towers of the radio mast of Station HV-2, the "Voice of the Vatican." From this station will be broadcast many of the ceremonies of the Holy Year of 1950. Installed during the reign of Pope Pius XI, by Guglielmo Marconi, inventor of radio, the latest technical developments have been added recently, so that the "Voice" in many languages, may reach the greatest number of people. The modern radio station is near the remains of the old wall built by Pope Leo IV in ninth century.

### India's Bishops Gathered For Plenary Council

Bangalore — (NC) — India's Archbishops, Bishops, and leading canonists and theologians gathered here for the Plenary Council which opened formal sessions January 8. This is the first plenary council headed by a Cardinal Legate in the history of the Church in India.

In all there are 52 heads of Indian Sees at the meeting, including the Vicars Capitular of four dioceses without a Bishop and four Prefects Apostolic. They arrived here by car, train and plane.

HIS EMINENCE Norman Cardinal Gilroy, Archbishop of Sydney, Australia, and Papal Legate to the Council, arrived from Australia by plane and then came to this city in a special train car accompanied by 20 Indian Archbishops and Bishops. Archbishop Leo P. Klerkels, C.P., Papal Internuncio to India, had also arrived.

Before establishment of diplomatic relations between India and the Holy See in 1948, the Apostolic Delegation was located in this city. After the diplomatic exchange the internunciature was set up at Delhi nearer the Indian capital.

INCLUDED IN the preliminary events was a public reception for the Papal Legate at the city stadium, which more than 50,000 people were expected to attend and the liturgical inauguration of the council at a ceremony in St. Francis Cathedral here.

Bishop Thomas Pothacumary of Bangalore was scheduled to read the address of welcome to the papal legate in the name of India's Hierarchy, clergy and faithful. Several Mysore state ministers and legislators and leading citizens of the Hindu, Moslem, Jewish and Parsi community here were expected to attend the public reception.

### Israelis Fix Marriage Age

Tel Aviv — (RNS) — A decision to fix the minimum age at which a girl may marry at 17 has been made here by the Israeli government.

Legislation embodying the decision is expected to be submitted to Parliament shortly. It is anticipated that the proposal will encounter opposition from Oriental Jewish communities.

### Matthews Backs Navy's Presence At Church Events

Oakland, Neb. — (RNS) — Secretary of the Navy Francis Matthews said here it was "long established naval policy" to send Naval units to take part in religious observances.

His announcement was made in reply to protesting letters based on a recent editorial in the Christian Century, undenominational weekly, entitled "Has the Navy Joined the Catholic Church?"

The editorial said a Naval squadron was sent to the convention of the Knights of Columbus in Portland, Ore., last August, and that airplanes were dispatched in October to scatter roses over a Catholic procession honoring St. Teresa at New Columbia, Pa.

Matthews said it was standard Navy procedure to cooperate, where feasible, with fraternal and other organizations, without regard to denomination. He said it was considered good public relations, and good for the morale of both the men of the service and the community.

### Christian Reunion Questions Asked By British Archbishop

London — (NC) — Three questions which should be put to non-Catholics urging Christian reunion were suggested by Archbishop William Godfrey, Apostolic Delegate to Great Britain, when he spoke at the 48th anniversary of the opening of the Church of Our Lady and St. George, Walthamstow, Essex.

THE ARCHBISHOP, who was referring to the recent correspondence in The Times here on "Catholicism Today," framed these questions:

"1. Did the Protestant countries in the 16th century cut themselves off from the divinely commissioned society to which — and to no other — Christ Jesus gave His abiding authority and the security of His guidance in faith and morals?"

"2. Were not the oldest cathedrals and churches in this realm built primarily for the sake of the Mass, the central act of worship which was repudiated and banished from the worship of the newly-es-

tablished Elizabethan church?"

"3. That being so, can it be claimed that a national and established church is one with the Church of our forefathers?"

The Archbishop added "We must be clear also on another point. It is beyond question that Christendom is divided. If by Christendom you mean the multitude who profess to follow Christ."

"Yet it is of the highest importance to note that the unity of the Church is not a thing in the making. Christendom, in the sense explained, is divided. The Church is not divided. It is for those who have left the unity established and never destroyed, to return to it. It is for those who have never known it or found it, to seek for it."

Canon Law Society  
Cleveland — (RNS) — The Very Rev. James P. Kelly, Judge of the New York Archdiocesan Tribunal, was elected president of the Canon Law Society of America at the group's national meet-

### Labor School Graduates Told To Seek Leadership

Baltimore — (NC) — The Rev. John F. Cronin, S.S., assistant director of the Department of Social Action, National Catholic Welfare Conference, called for a constant influx of properly trained leaders for the labor movement. Leaders trained in Catholic principles could bring about an era of harmony between labor and management.

HE MADE THESE remarks to the first graduating class of five labor relations schools, conducted by the Maryland Action Guild, a lay organization. The exercises were conducted in the Sacred Heart of Jesus School, Baltimore, Md.

Father Cronin stated that labor had become a powerful force in this country, and union members must be ever alert to make sure that organized labor maintains good leadership. He said that in the few cases where union leaders have gone wrong, the basic reason was rank and file indifference. Failure to attend union meetings and unwillingness to run for office on the part of many is bound to weaken a union, he said.

HE URGED THAT all union members take an active and continuing interest in matters having to do with the welfare of the laboring man.

### New Church In Tierra del Fuego

Ushuaia, Argentina — (NC) — The southernmost church in the world, newly constructed through the efforts of the Salesian Fathers and dedicated to Our Lady of Mercy, replaces the humble chapel which for half a century served inhabitants of the remotest region of Argentina. It is in Tierra del Fuego, at 54 degrees south latitude, where the average winter temperature is 32 degrees above zero (Fahrenheit) and summer temperature is 52 above.

The Government contributed toward the cost of the church.



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