

Spanish Priest Claims Converts from Radio Talks

Madrid — (NC) — The conversion of 2,300 persons is the remarkable achievement of the "radio priest" the Rev. Venancio Marcos, O.M.I. Since 1931 he has been holding weekly religious services which are broadcast throughout Spain.

N. Y. Cathedral Debt Revealed

New York — (NC) — "Nearly eight hundred dollars a day" is required to maintain St. Patrick's Cathedral, Mother Church of the Archdiocese of New York. This statement was made by staff preachers at all Sunday Masses in the cathedral, coupled with an appeal for funds. "We will appreciate any assistance, large or small, from parishioners or visitors," it was announced. It was learned that the cathedral has a debt of \$1,420,000 with carrying charges of \$100,000 a year.

Israeli Demands Judaism Converts

Jerusalem — (RNS) — Israel's Immigration Ministry has announced that non-Jewish wives of new Jewish immigrants will hereafter receive only tourist visas and will have to become converted to Judaism after their arrival in the country. The announcement added that the issue of admitting non-Jewish wives would be a matter for the discretion of Immigration Minister Shapiro. The ministry's announcement evoked strong criticism in some circles. Haklida, organ of the Progressive Party, denounced the ministry's policy as "intolerant and an infringement of freedom of conscience."

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NEW BISHOP'S FIRST BLESSING Oberammergau Prepares For Visitors to Passion Play



In St. Matthew's Cathedral, Washington, where he was consecrated seventh Bishop of Charleston, the Most Rev. John J. Russell gives his first blessing to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Russell of Baltimore, who with other relatives occupied the front pew. The new prelate's uncle, the late Bishop William T. Russell, served as head of the same diocese from 1910 until 1927.

Oberammergau Prepares For Visitors to Passion Play

Oberammergau — (NC) — Seventy Oberammergau Good Sisters have been commissioned to produce 30,000 small Passion Play trinkets to be worn by visitors to the play, this year. With Ernst a woodcutter of Oberammergau, was awarded first prize for his pattern which combines the symbol of the Cross painted red, blue or green, with the one of the holy shroud, painted white with a likeness of the heart to indicate Christian charity. World-wide interest in the Passion Play is growing. The Oberammergau committee receives as many as 200 letters a day with inquiries from almost every country of the world. Among those expected to witness the performances are U.S. High Commissioner John J. McElroy, Henry Ford II, German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer and German President Theodor Heuss.

Alabama Catholics' Negro Aid Cited

New York — (NC) — A disclosure that the 65,000 Catholics among the 1,000,000 residents of Alabama have raised \$3,500,000 over a period of years to help prove the lot of the Negroes of the state has been made by Mrs. O. Palmer, Catholic columnist and author. Writing in the March 28 issue of Look magazine, Miss Palmer points out that one out of every three dollars collected by Alabama Catholics is used to aid Negroes regardless of religion. She attributed the success largely to the efforts of Bishop Thomas J. Tosien of Mobile and pointed out how Catholics are aiding in education, hospitalization, welfare work and other ways to assist the Negro.

In the local churches, the Blessed Sacrament was exposed for public adoration following the final Mass on Sunday. The service closed with a Holy Hour in both churches last night. Rev. William J. O'Brien conducted the Holy Hour service in St. Francis de Sales church. Rev. John Hill was in charge of the service at St. Stephen's church and Rev. Robert Feennessy delivered the sermon. **Try A Courier Advertiser**

Rosary Broadcast From Bishop's Home

Belleville, Ill. — (NC) — A "Family Rosary" program originating in the chapel of the Bishop's House here, will be broadcast every evening during the month of May over radio station WIBV here. Bishop Albert R. Zurovosek of Belleville will recite the Rosary on the 8:45 p.m. program each day during the month. Various groups from schools in the vicinity will assist in the program, giving the responses.

Fr. Keller Plans Movie of Catacombs

Rome — (NC) — The Rev. James Keller, M.M., founder of the Christopher movement, is making preparations to produce a Christopher movie that would open in the Catacombs, he has announced here. The object would be to show "how the early Christians, despite enormous obstacles, succeeded in bringing Christ into the market place."

Geneva Churches Join In Crusade

Geneva — (RNS) — St. Stephen's and St. Francis de Sales parishes joined Sunday in the "Prayer Crusade" for Pax and Unity, sponsored by Pope Pius XII. The Pontiff asked that Catholics everywhere join with him in special prayers for a new world order based on "truth, justice and charity."

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