

# PRIEST EXPELLED FROM MOSCOW SAYS SOVIETS SPIED ON CONFESSIONS

Paris — (RNS) — Father Jean de la Mathe Thomas, French Roman Catholic priest ordered out of the Soviet Union, said upon his arrival here that "from what I know of Soviet concentration camps I would rather be Hitler's guest than Stalin's."

Father Thomas, a member of the Order of the Assumption, who for the past three years has been serving French-speaking Roman Catholics in Moscow, was recently denied a renewal of his residence permit. He was given 48 hours by Soviet authorities to leave the U.S.S.R. The priest said here that frequently a Soviet police-

man had stood by his confessional in Moscow making notes on people who had knelt there.

He also reported that during his stay in Russia, eleven members of his staff, ten Russians and one Frenchwoman, disappeared. The Frenchwoman's daughter, Miss Alice Ott, who worked at the United States Embassy and was an active church worker, also vanished, Father Thomas said.

"I was continually spied on wherever I went," he added, "as was anyone who entered the church. In Moscow, Russians I knew refused to talk to me on the street.

They used to say, 'We will be seen from over there'."

Father Thomas said they were referring to the Lubyanka police headquarters, which is located opposite the Church of St. Isaac, of which he was the priest.

He said of the police vigilance, he said, "I never had less than 100 Russians at my service. These included members in uniform, as well as civilians in the streets and in the subway. I had the impression the Russians were always talking about me from behind but were afraid to do so. All foreigners are immediately considered as spies, but I was able to have more contact with them than most, as I speak Russian fluently."

Father Thomas said that the only remaining Catholic priest in Moscow, the Rev. Fr. John A. O'Brien, was also expelled from Moscow, and is now in the custody of the authorities in Leningrad.

In letters received in the United States, he said he had written Father O'Brien and told him that he was in Paris, but that he was unable to do so because of the lack of funds to pay for the postage.

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The Going Is Getting Rough  
For Comfortable Optimists  
(Read Grette Palmer, Page 4)

## THE CATHOLIC *Courier Journal* OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE

Chinese Defeat Dominates  
Of Communist Campaign  
(Read Article on Page 2)

67th Year ROCHESTER, N. Y., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1950

### HOLY NAME SOCIETY:

## 'Hour Of Prayer' For Peace At Aquinas Stadium Sept. 24

An "Hour of Prayer for World Peace"—first religious event to be held in Rochester's year-old Aquinas Memorial Stadium—is slated to attract 25,000 persons to a candlelight ceremony there at 8 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 24.

His Excellency Bishop Kearney will preside at the huge public demonstration, to be sponsored by the Rochester Diocesan Holy Name Union, under whose auspices a similar



Aquinas Memorial Stadium will be setting for 'Hour of Prayer'

spectacle last Fall brought 23,000 persons to Red Wing stadium.

Stressed this year will be devotion to the Real Presence in the Blessed Sacrament, which will be the theme of three meditations to be given by the Bishop.

Focal point of the ceremony will be the large high-arched altar which elicited the admiration of last year's attendance. Dismantled section by section, the altar, 50 feet

wide by 60 feet high will undergo changes in design and illumination.

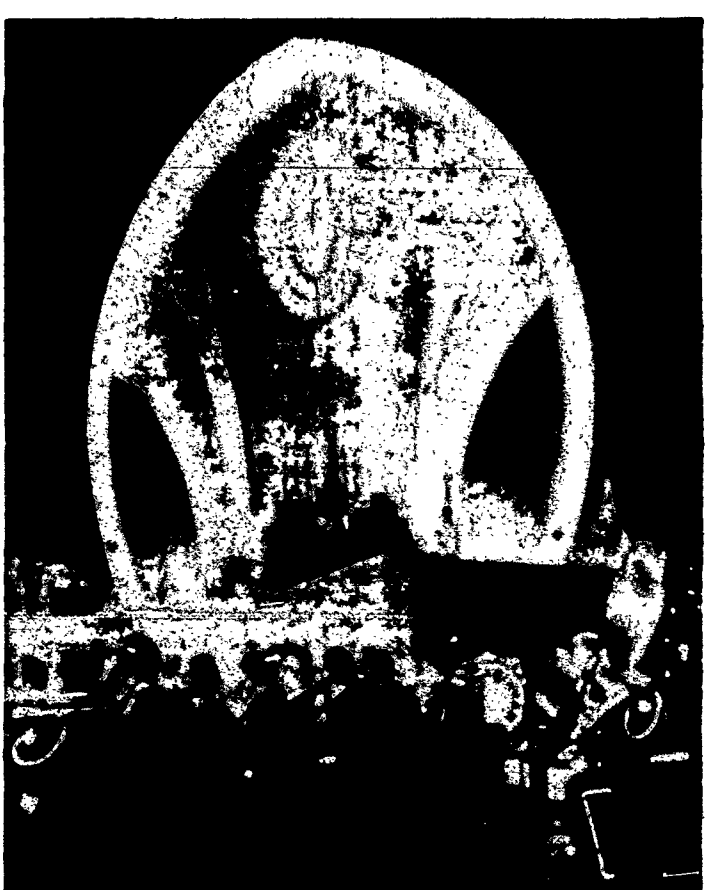
Bishop Kearney will extend a special invitation to entire families to attend as he did last October when hundreds of children joined their parents at the rally.

DANIEL E. MACKEN, president of the Holy Name Union, announced that Martin Q. Moil, chairman of last year's committee, will be in charge of arrangements for the program. The Rev. Patrick J. Flynn, Diocesan Union spiritual director, will handle spiritual aspects of the rally, including recitation of the Rosary and Benediction.

A committee of 1,000 men from parish Holy Name Societies throughout the diocese will work on details for the ceremony, Moil said. Among them will be 600 ushers.

HE POINTED out that the horseshoe shape of the stadium is ideal for the program which will get under way at exactly 8 o'clock. Special lighting will completely illuminate both the stadium and the parking areas around it.

Need for prayer for peace in the present world crisis, Macken declared, is expected to assure a capacity crowd at the ceremony, which will be climaxed by a display of thousands of flickering candles during Benediction.



Erection of beautiful altar for 'Hour of Prayer' rites on September 24 began this week at Aquinas Stadium.

## Retreats Held In Spanish Factories

Madrid — (AP) — In the first half of this year 12,000 workers attended spiritual retreats in Vizcaya factories during working hours, according to the Rev. Jose Maria Azpiazu, S.J., who started the factory retreats in 1943.

Sessions are held in factory halls. Father Azpiazu maintains that workers must be won to God in their factories or workshops without waiting for them to take the initiative to go to church by September. Attendance at the retreats is expected to have risen to 17,000.

From 1948 to 1949 thirty-seven retreats were held in the industrial zone of Vizcaya, with an attendance of 7,548.

Select her diamond engagement ring from Thorne's, Wm. S. Thorne, Jeweler, 315 Taylor Bldg.—Adv.

## First Parish School Opens In Pittsford With 100 Pupils

A stately, 142-year-old mansion, became the first Catholic school in Pittsford history this week as 100 children of St. Louis parish began classes in the historic Briggs estate on South Main Street.

Remodeled to accommodate a fully equipped kindergarten and four large classrooms for grades one to eight, the graceful old residence also provides comfortable living quarters for six Sisters of Mercy on the ground floor. Three acres of landscaped lawn and garden offer tree-shaded space for the children's outdoor activities.

HIS EXCELLENCY Bishop Kearney will bless the new school this Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Parishioners and friends are invited to attend the ceremonies, and inspect the building.

In announcing the establishment of the new school, the Rev. Dr. Louis Edelman, pastor of St. Louis Church, cited the efforts of women of the St. Louis Guild of the parish in remodeling and

## Pope Warns Druggists on Moral Duty

By REV. JOSEPH SULLIVAN  
Rome — (AP) — His Holiness Pope Pius XII reminded the International Convention of Catholic Pharmacists of the high moral responsibility of their profession, and the need of applying Christian teaching and practice in pursuit of it. The Holy Father spoke special words to them during a general audience in which they took part in St. Peter's Basilica, Saturday evening.

The Sovereign Pontiff warned the pharmacists about "the importunities and urgencies and the needs of customers who come to you with a view to make you accomplices in their immoral intentions."

"But as you already know," His Holiness said, "the moment a preparation by its nature and in the intention of the customer is meant to be used for an immoral purpose, no matter what the pretext, no matter how pressing the entreaty, you cannot allow yourselves to take part in their attempts against the life or the integrity of the individual, or against propagation, or against the corporal or mental health of the human race."

Rather than yield to such customers' importunities, His Holiness told the druggists, "on the contrary, from your heart you must unite your efforts with the purpose of rallying public opinion to Catholic teaching and practice, which cannot do other than promulgate with the authority of religion the doctrine which is identical with that of reason, of moral theology and of simple honesty."

THEIR RESPONSIBILITY, however serious in the simple technical sense, Pope Pius told the pharmacists, goes much further than that and "takes on a moral aspect to which the uncertainty and disorder of consciences today give a seriousness greater than it ever had before."

His Holiness concluded his remarks by declaring that "with great confidence, we expect of you to awaken and enlighten consciences" in these matters, and extended his Apostolic Benediction.

## Syracuse Priests Named Monsignors

Two priests of Syracuse Diocese, graduates of St. Bernard's Seminary, Rochester, have been elevated to the rank of Monsignor, it was announced Tuesday by the Most Rev. Walter A. Flery, Bishop of Syracuse.

They are the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Robert E. Dillon, chancellor of the diocese, and the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph B. Toomey, diocesan director of Catholic Charities. Both are natives of Birmingham.

Monsignor Toomey was ordained June 7, 1938, at St. Patrick's Cathedral by the late Bishop John F. O'Hern. Monsignor Dillon was ordained in the Cathedral June 1, 1938, by the Most Rev. Archbishop Edward Mooney, then Bishop of Rochester.

## Nuns Bring Pope's Wishes To Emperor

Tokyo — (AP) — Mother Teresa, German-born foundress and Superior General of the Japanese congregation of the Sisters of the Sacred Heart, has returned from Europe with sister Justitia of the same congregation. The two nuns had been in Rome on their Holy Year pilgrimage.

The Sisters were received in audience by the Emperor and Empress of Japan at Hayama, and extended the personal greetings of His Holiness Pope Pius XII and presented them with Holy Year medals from the Holy Father.

## 100,000 Lay Religious Workers Eligible For Social Security Benefits

(Religious News Service) — As many as 100,000 lay workers employed by religious organizations and institutions will be eligible for Federal Social Security coverage beginning January 1 under the bill recently signed by President Truman.

This is the first time that religious workers have been covered. For some years a debate was carried on in church circles as to whether it would be desirable to have employees of religious organizations covered by some religious grant system such as the Federal Social Security Act of 1935.

During the past few years there has been a growing demand by laymen for social security coverage similar to that provided for employees of secular organizations.

The new law extends coverage to all lay workers and members of religious orders and societies who are covered by the Federal Social Security Act of 1935. Coverage will be provided for lay workers and members of religious orders and societies who are covered by the Federal Social Security Act of 1935.

## Assumption Of Blessed Virgin Tied To Immaculate Conception

Vatican City — (AP) — The most convincing of all the arguments proving Our Lady's Assumption is that which is deduced from the Immaculate Conception, the Rev. Gabriele Roschini, Servite theologian, said in a lecture over Vatican Radio. He stated that "the Assumption is so closely connected with the Immaculate Conception that it is possible to say logically: she was assumed because she was immaculate."

By virtue of her Immaculate Conception, said Father Roschini, the Blessed Virgin was found completely removed from the atmosphere of fault, and from this it follows that she should have been found completely outside any atmosphere of punishment, of death, which was introduced into the world by original sin.

"THE SINGULAR nature of her mission (that of Virgin Mother of God the Redeemer) required the singularity of her privileges," the Immaculate Conception, her virginal motherhood and her bodily assumption into Heaven, Father Roschini continued. In the present plan of Divine Providence, he stated, the connection between original sin and death is so necessary that death is ever the penalty for sin, either for one's own sin, as in ourselves, or for the sin of others as in Christ the Redeemer and Mary the Co-Redemptrix.

Father Roschini reminded his hearers of St. Paul's words to the Romans (5:12): "Wherefore as by one man sin entered into this world, and by sin death; and so death passed upon all men, in whom all have sinned." He said that "it follows from this, therefore, that one who has not sinned in Adam—as Mary Immaculate—should not be subject to the dominion of death."

This causal connection between original sin personally contracted and death is "the undeniable fact, which so unites the Assumption to the Immaculate Conception as to authorize us to say that she was assumed because she was Immaculate. She who began her life in the light of the cradle could not terminate it in the shadows of the tomb."

In the practical order Father Roschini saw several beneficial lessons deriving from the Assumption. The great need of our own age—as indeed of every age—is for faith, hope and charity, he said. "The Assumption is in fact a pressing invitation to faith in the resurrection of the body, to hope in life everlasting and to charity, which is the indispensable condition for a glorious resurrection and happy eternal life," he went on.

MARY'S ASSUMPTION into Heaven necessarily supposes the survival of the soul after the body and the body's reunion with the soul to constitute the complete human person, the Servite theologian illustrated, and observed that it "impels us to repeat with the Church: 'I believe in... the resurrection of the body.'" "As Christ our Head is risen, as Mary, the neck of the Mystical Body, which unites all other members to the head, is risen, so must our bodies also rise and be reunited to their

our future life be happy, it is necessary to merit this with a life completely penetrated by love. For this the glorious Assumption of Mary is also a pressing invitation and a life of sincere and practical love for God and neighbor, a love which constitutes the synthesis of the whole law," he said. Mary assumed recalls to all her children that death is the gate of life, and that to a life of love a death of love cannot fail to correspond, he concluded.

The "Assumption of the Blessed Virgin" as depicted in masterpieces of El Greco, famous Spanish painter.

As the Assumption teaches us to reconcile the spiritual with the material—and in proper order of importance with soul coping first—so it also teaches us to harmonize the heavenly with things earthly, and life of the spirit with the life of the body so that there will be true hope for the life of eternity, Father Roschini said.

Finally, in order that the resurrection of our bodies and

## Father Shamon Appointed To Seminary Staff

His Excellency Bishop Kearney has appointed the Rev. John J. Shamon, S.J., to the staff of St. Andrew's Seminary, Rochester, the Chancellor announced today.

Father Shamon taught at the St. Vincent Seminary and Church Mission at St. Vincent, N.Y., from 1946 until June. Currently he is pastor of the parish of St. Vincent in the City of Rochester.

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## Where I Found Christ

by  
Father John A. O'Brien  
Notre Dame University

The fervent movement in the United States has made impressive strides in recent years. More and more the Catholic laity is asking: "What can we do to help? How can we attain well-ordered freedom in the Church?" In response to these questions, Father John O'Brien of Notre Dame has prepared a series of informative articles based on the experiences of such noted converts as Bishop Francis Spellman, Archbishop Jockey Taylor, Cardinal Gaidano, Bishop Augustin Bea, Marcellino and Thomas Martin. These articles, beginning this week in THE COURIER-JOURNAL.