

# Ireland To Observe Proclamation Day

DUBLIN—(NC)—All Ireland has been called upon by the hierarchy to observe November 1, the day of the definition of the dogma of the Assumption, as a day of special solemn devotion.

The call came in a statement issued by the hierarchy after a meeting at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, with Archbishop John Dwyer of Armagh, Primate of All Ireland presiding. It orders that the following statement be read at all public Masses on October 29:

**THE ANNOUNCEMENT** that our Holy Father, Pope Pius XII would solemnly proclaim and define the doctrine of the Assumption of Our Blessed Lady gave great joy to the hearts of the Irish people. In common with the faithful throughout the world they have for centuries held firmly to the belief that the saintly body of Mary, Mother of God, conceived without sin, was not allowed to suffer corruption but was taken up into Heaven and throned above the angels.

The doctrine of the Assumption is not new; it has been enshrined in the liturgy, the art, and the teaching of the Church for long centuries. From the time when the Council of Ephesus defined that Mary is the Mother of God, the devotion and belief of the Church anticipated the full meaning of the privileges of the Immaculate Virgin Mother and of the complete victory over sin and death won for her by her Divine Son. So it is that this doctrine has been firmly held even by the schismatic churches of the East.

**THE FACT** of Mary's Assumption into Heaven, like her Immaculate Conception, is a supernatural fact that can be guaranteed to us not by human testimony but by Divine Revelation contained in Sacred Scripture and in tradition. The teaching authority of the Church aided and guided by the Holy Spirit, is the divinely appointed guardian and interpreter of revealed truth; it is for this authority, and it alone, to declare what is contained in Sacred Scripture and tradition.

The solemn definition of Our Lady's Assumption means that the supreme teaching authority in the Church now declares with infallible certainty that this doctrine is contained in Divine Revelation, that it is vouchsafed for by God Himself, and that we can and must accept it on the authority of Him who cannot deceive or be deceived.

The definition is an event which will have great spiritual and religious value. In a world which has fallen victim to the error of materialism it proclaims in a most striking and effective

manner the essential truths that death is not the end of all and that not merely the soul, but the body also, will, by God's grace, share in eternal life. It declares in a manner that even the simple and unlearned can understand the full meaning of our redemption by Christ and the glory that God has in store for redeemed mankind.

**THE DEFINITION** will affirm and proclaim our faith in Christ's conquest over sin and death. It will draw all eyes and hearts to Mary, the Queen of Heaven, to whom are applied the words of Scripture: "And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun" (Apoc. 12). It will bring all Christians to pray more fervently for Mary's help, that, as formerly she saved Europe at Lepanto and Vienna, so now, in our perilous times, she may defend and protect Christians in every land against the attack of God's enemies.

When the Holy Father defines a doctrine, it is the immediate and solemn duty of all Catholics to give their sincere and full assent. We ask all of our faithful people to observe the Feast of November 1 as a day of special devotion on which all will endeavor to receive Holy Communion and we authorize the Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament in all churches and chapels after the celebration of last Mass on that day, so that the faithful may have the opportunity to join in prayer with the Holy Father and the whole Church on this solemn occasion.

**FURTHERMORE** we direct that on Sunday, November 19, the text of the Dogma of the Assumption be read and explained at all Masses in every church and chapel, so that the congregation may profess its assent to it. That after last Mass solemn Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament be held for some time until a convenient hour of the evening; and that the Rosary be recited and thanks be offered to God for the proclamation of the glorious Assumption of Our Blessed Lady.

We ask all the faithful to prepare themselves for the solemn profession of their faith in the Assumption on November 19 by obtaining absolution of their sins in the Sacrament of Penance and by receiving Holy Communion.

## AT MARIAN CONGRESS



Members at the Franciscan Monastery, Washington, members of the hierarchy and clergy participated in a Franciscan National Congress, October 2-11, in proclamation of the Papal Definition of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Pictured on that occasion are Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani (center), Apostolic Delegate to the United States, who was celebrant of the Solemn Pontifical Mass; Archbishop Patrick A. O'Boyle of Washington (left) who presided the sermon and Bishop Bernard T. Kopske, O.F.M., of Gallup, N. M., who was celebrant of the Solemn Benediction. (NC Photos)

## Dogma Seen Rebuke To Birth Control, Euthanasia

Washington—(NC)—The definition of the dogma of the Assumption by His Holiness Pope Pius XII on November 1 will serve as a remedy for today's "cheap and tawdry philosophies" and in its "own way a rebuke to birth control and euthanasia and all else that demeans and degrades the dignity of a man," Archbishop Patrick A. O'Boyle of Washington declared here.

The prelate gave the sermon at a Solemn Pontifical Mass offered by His Excellency Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, in the famous Franciscan Monastery here, which formally opened a Franciscan Marian Congress intended to acclaim the solemnity of the coming definition of the Assumption dogma.

**IN HIS SERMON** at the opening Mass, Archbishop O'Boyle asserted: "The hour is propitious for the Holy Father to place before the minds of men the glorification of the body of Mary. It may well be in the providence of God the remedy for the cheap and tawdry philosophies which today put such a low estimate on the body of a man and on life of a human being."

"It would be in its own way a rebuke to birth control and euthanasia and all else that demeans and degrades the dignity of a man. For the body of a

## Theologian Refutes Protestant Argument Against Definition Of Assumption Dogma

By G. M. BRUNST

Vatican City—(NC)—The argument advanced by Protestant critics of the forthcoming proclamation of the dogma of the Assumption that it constitutes an obstacle to Christian reunion is invalid, according to a prominent theologian here.

The Rev. Joseph Filograssi, S.J., professor of theology at the Gregorian University, states that similar fears of estrangement between Catholics and non-Catholics were voiced on the occasion of the definition of the Immaculate Conception and the Papal Infallibility dogmas, "but the contrary happened."

**FATHER FILOGRASSI'S** statement, appearing in *Osservatore Romano's* Sunday magazine, coincides with a London report quoting the Protestant Archbishop, Dr. Cyril E. Garbett as expressing renewed opposition to the Assumption dogma proclamation as "another obstacle to Christian unity" and "scriptural, historically, and doctrinally without foundation."

It cannot be denied, Father Filograssi says, that so far as non-Catholics are concerned obstacles seem to be rising, and the same was true when the Immaculate Conception and Infallibility dogmas were proclaimed.

"However, all this cannot stop the Church from advancing in dogma, discipline and liturgy," he adds. "In short, the Church isn't lifeless, she has a life of which God Himself is Guide, in the course of her many centuries, she arrives at moments requiring the taking of a firm position, and ours is such a moment."

**ON THE OTHER HAND**, the Church has always declared that, though desiring the unity of all Christians, such unity can only be brought about through unity of doctrine, and the doctrine is that of the Church of Rome.

"Cooling off and estrangement between Catholics and non-Catholics were also feared on the occasion of the definition of the other two dogmas, but the contrary happened. Those calmer and more thoughtful among the non-Catholics cannot help but admire the remarkable fact that a man confronting the modern world affirms with the conscious need of infallibility a truth of faith and that round him thousands upon thousands of hearts beat together in love and devotion. Among them are Bishops, faithful, learned and unlearned,

but forming together a single chaos. And surely that will prove to be a blessing also for the others."

**FATHER FILOGRASSI** also takes issue with the isolated few Catholic theologians opposing the Assumption dogma proclamation, mentioning by name Dr. Altaner, professor of sacred scripture at the University of Louvain in Belgium. They erred, Father Filograssi writes, in not taking into account the strong movement favoring the Assumption dogma which unfolded in the Catholic Church, and in their polemics they have spoken scornfully of that movement itself and have kept silent about the letter of His Holiness Pope Pius XII and the ensuing reply of the Catholic episcopate.

"And this is a basic weakness which prevades their argumentation, because the Catholic must take the light of the Church as guide that light from which they have shut themselves off," Father Filograssi declares.

"In the second place, they allowed themselves to be im-

pressed by that which the others—non-Catholics—could have said and they have been inclined to take their stand on the same level with them. And this, too, is impossible for a Catholic, since Catholics admit the magisterium (of the Church) and non-Catholics do not. Therefore, there cannot be any agreement between the two in this matter."

## Christ The King



This 28-foot statue of Christ the King will adorn the facade of the new \$3,000,000 Holy Cross Diocesan Seminary at La Crosse, Wis. It is the gift of the children of the diocese through a "lollipop collection," in which the children gave their candy money to a total of \$10,000. (N. C. Photos)

## Russians Bar Religious Days In Germany

By MAX JORDAN

Berlin—(NC)—Religious feast days "disturb the democratic order," says the Secretary of the Interior of the Soviet-controlled East zone government in a public statement just released here. On this ground all religious festivals and holidays are to be banned throughout the Soviet zone of occupation soon after the forthcoming controlled elections.

The move is fully in keeping with the avowed policies of the communist leaders, who recently have stepped up their cold war on religion to a point where the basic freedoms of the Christian churches appear to be seriously threatened.

**AGITATION AGAINST** both Protestant ministers and Catholic priests has become more violent than ever before since the failure of the recent communist attempt to enlist the support of the clergy for their regime.

Meantime, the Catholic clergy of the whole Berlin diocese have been ordered by His Eminence Konrad Cardinal von Preysing, Bishop of Berlin, not to go on the air any longer for any program broadcast by Soviet-controlled stations there. The same instructions have been issued by the Protestant authorities to their ministers. Religious speakers were heard over these stations regularly in denominational broadcasts, but recently communist executives have attempted to influence and even censor their texts.

**THE COMMUNIST** press attacks pastors almost daily, terming them "saboteurs in cassocks," "sharers of the American fascists" and "slaves of imperialistic capitalism."

In the public schools of the Soviet zone atheistic teachings in accordance with the Soviet pattern are being spread more systematically than ever. The Soviet writer Mishulin's history text-book, which denies that Christ ever lived, is now being sold forcibly in its third German-language edition.

**ANOTHER VOLUME** by Soviet authors, offered for teachers' colleges, describes religion as "incompatible with modern science" and as "a tool for the exploitation of the workers' class by capitalism."

## Animals Blessed In Brussels Ceremony

Brussels (RNS)—Thousands of Roman Catholics lined the old market square here to witness the annual blessing of animals given by the Franciscan Fathers in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals.

The prayers of white-bearded Father Urban as he blessed the animals mingled with the sounds of the crowd as he blessed pets carried by men, women, and children of all ages in a long parade to the door of a red brick chapel. The pets were of all varieties—cats, dogs, pigeons, even snails and tortoises.

## First Mass Aboard Irish Naval Vessel

Dublin (RNS)—Mass was celebrated for the first time on an Irish naval vessel during the recent visit of the corvette, *Macha*, to British and French ports.

Father John Crowley, chaplain to the infant Irish Navy, celebrated Mass daily during the cruise in an improvised chapel in the port alleyway.

## Near East Missions

Francis Cardinal Spellman, President  
Megr. Thomas J. McMahon, Nat'l Sec'y  
Rev. Wm. Keller Dunn  
Rev. Andrew M. Regash  
Rev. Joseph F. Connelly

**A Day at the Zoo**  
... might help you to understand better the world in which the missionary lives and works. But it won't help his work much. As a reminder, and an opportunity, to help the Missions the Holy Father yearly proclaims Mission Sunday, this year on Oct. 22. Do something for the Missions. Give your life, if you feel you have a vocation. Give some alms, if you feel you can afford it. Give your prayers, in any case. A membership for the individual in this association is \$1 annually, or \$20 for a perpetual membership. For the family, an annual membership is \$5, a perpetual membership \$100.

**BENNY THE BEAVER**  
... is quite a busy builder. And well he can be. It costs him nothing God gave him the tools, he supplies the labor and the materials he finds all about him. But the energetic young Curate in Charabiah in Castro finds building more of a problem. To supply himself with living quarters and his 2,000 people with a much-needed center for parochial activities he's making a valiant effort to build. What's he need? \$1,500.

**WILLY THE WALRUS**  
... has a distinctive, but rather scraggly, set of whiskers. Sammy has a truly distinctive and luxuriant beard. But that's the only touch of luxury about him. Sammy is the name we've given to a striking young seminarian whose picture we received lately. We got the picture because Sammy needs \$600 to pay for his 6 years of study in the Seminary. Can you help us?

OCTOBER MARY'S MONTH - GIVE SOMETHING TO MARY'S BANK TO HELP SUPPORT SISTERS AND NOVICES.

**OSSIE THE OWL**  
... is quite a wise creature, so the story goes. And he got that way sleeping all day and staying out all night hooting and screeching. But that's not the formula to make Junior wise, either here or in the Missions. He must go to school. An expensive proposition. The Bastilian Sisters in Tripoli do wonderful school work "on a dime." The dime has grown thinner than usual because two Sisters became sick and their care ate up the little "surplus." \$15 will keep one of the youngsters in school for a month.

ALL SOUL'S DAY IS NEAR... REMEMBER YOUR DEAD

**JERRY THE GIRAFFE**  
... is a lucky fellow. He's got quite a "reach" to grab off whatever food's in sight, whether it be on the ground or on the treetops. Even if they had a couple of giraffes working for them it wouldn't help the good Sisters of Charity in Nazareth take care of their needy orphans and aged. There's not much around for ever a giraffe to pull in. A \$10 gift will help fill their larder.

A MASS KIT FOR A MEMORIAL... DAILY REMEMBRANCE... \$100.

**EFFIE THE ELEPHANT**  
... has a wonderful, big trunk but no wardrobe whatsoever. The hungry, cold Refugee has neither. And the coming winter months will be a painful reminder of this sorry state. We need clothes, badly. Be like Effie—remember. And cut down your wardrobe a bit by sending the old clothing to our CNEYA Warehouse, 52-17 Flushing Blvd., Maspeth, L. I.

**PENNY THE PENGUIN**  
... might sometimes resemble in appearance the dignified figure of the Nun in black and white habit. But these resemblance ends. For instance, the Nun must spend 2 years in the Novitiate... and someone must spend \$300 for those two years. Many of the Novices in the Missions can't meet the cost of their support for 2 years. Will you?

Send all communications to:  
**Catholic Near East Welfare Association**  
480 Lexington Ave. at 46th St. New York 17, N. Y.

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