

Assumption Dogma Definition Marks Great Hour In Church

By G. R. BRUNST

Vatican City — (NC) — The proclamation of the dogma of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin into Heaven was the outstanding event, in a religious sense, of the last 96 years in the Church's history. At the same time, it brought in a climax in a very respect that Holy Year 1950 with its many stirring manifestations of religious life.

Looking back upon these recent memorable days in the Eternal City, two impressions are uppermost in the minds of those privileged to have witnessed them.

One, THEY furnished an unimagined demonstration of the unity and universality of the Church in a disrupted world.

Two, they manifested in a truly remarkable degree the intense happiness and active participation of the people as a whole in the glorious event.

If any evidence were needed to show the "popularity" of the dogma's definition, it was amply furnished by the thousands of people making their way to St. Peter's Square soon after midnight, some hours before the ceremony began, and the countless throngs filling the square during the afternoon and late into the night after the ceremonies had ended.

Again and again the crowd called for the Holy Father, who almost every half-hour appeared at the window of his apartment high above the square, waving graciously to the faithful and blessing them. Thousands of shooting lights illuminated the colonnades and buildings surrounding the square, while the flashes of St. Peter's Basilica were floodlighted.

Throughout all of Rome — in the humble sections even more so than in the fashionable ones — lights burned in windows, lanterns swung from wires stretched across narrow lanes and flowers decorated shrines of the Madonna on many street corners. One of the most striking sights of the city was the ancient Castel Sant'Angelo, whose walls were bathed in an ethereal light and the contours and battlements and turrets outlined by thousands of flickering torches.

Blessed Virgin Mary Hailed Among Nations

Dublin — (NC) — Scenes reminiscent of the Dublin International Eucharistic Congress in 1932 marked the observance of the proclamation of the dogma of the Assumption of Our Lady here.

Special ceremonies, Masses and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament were held in parish churches in all Ireland's dioceses. Special Masses and ceremonies were held for the military. President Sean O'Kelly attended the solemn Mass for the military at the Arter Hill Church.

Thousands of families added their own observance of the great occasion in their homes, illuminated and dressed up with bays and streamers dedicated to Our Blessed Mother.

Vatican City — (NC) — His Holiness Pope Pius XII received in private audience members of special missions from six countries who were delegated to attend the proclamation of the dogma of the Assumption here.

The missions came from Italy, Ireland, Spain, Peru, the Dominican Republic and the Quebec provincial government in Canada.

Belgrade — (NC) — Church bells throughout Hungary rang for a half hour to announce the things that Mary's Assumption had been proclaimed a dogma of the Church.

Although the Hungarian hierarchy has designated Sunday, December 16, as the official date for commemorating the proclamation of the dogma, the actual day of the event was observed with great devotion by Hungarian Catholics.

New Orleans — (NC) — The Consul General of the Republic of Panama, Senor Juan Brin, Jr., stationed here, has revealed that the Congress of Panama declared a national holiday on November 1, this year, in commemoration of the solemn Papal proclamation of the dogma of the Assumption that day.

Worcester, Mass. — (NC) — The first pastoral letter issued in the Diocese of Worcester by Bishop John J. Wright, was published on All Saints' Day and dealt with the definition of the dogma of the Assumption.

"The historic definition," the Bishop wrote, "has been an occasion of world-wide joy to the Church. It is welcomed with particular happiness here in the Holy Diocese of Worcester. Our diocese was created in this same Holy Year which has seen the fulfillment of the hopes of all who love Mary, the Mother of Christ."

Windsor, Ont. — (NC) — Four thousand Catholics here staged a candle light procession on All Saints' Day through streets surrounding three local institutions dedicated to the Assumption of Our Lady, paying honor to the Blessed Mother of God and commemorating the proclamation of her Assumption.

FOR INTERRACIAL JUSTICE



A U. S. Cabinet officer and a Negro statistician were presented with the 1950 James J. Hoxey Award for outstanding promotion of the cause of interracial justice. In ceremonies in New York's Carroll Club Auxiliary Bishop Stephen J. Donohue of New York, acting for the Cardinal, presents the Catholic Interracial Council's medals to Attorney General J. Howard McGrath and Leo Montgomery, of Hartford, Conn., statistician for the Royal Typewriter Co. (NC Photos)

Death Fells Forger Expert In Card. Mindszenty Trial

Paris — (NC) — László Sulner, 80, who claimed he and his wife were forced to forge documents used by Hungarian communists at the "trial" of His Eminence Josef Cardinal Mindszenty, Primate of Hungary, died here in the American Hospital, victim of a heart ailment.

Mr. Sulner and his wife, Hanna, were the official handwriting and document experts at the "trial" of the Cardinal in Budapest in February 1949. Eventually they escaped from Hungary to Paris.

In a series of articles published last summer by The New York Herald Tribune and also in THE COURIER-JOURNAL, Mr. and Mrs. Sulner disclosed how they were forced by the Hungarian communists to forge documents and other evidence used against the Cardinal at the trial. The Cardinal was sentenced to life in prison.

Before the Mindszenty trial, Mr. and Mrs. Sulner were widely known as handwriting and document experts throughout central Europe. Mr. Sulner was a native of Budapest and an alumnus of the Hungarian Scientific University. He became a handwriting expert about four years ago, at a time when his wife already was established as an authority in that field. The Sulners had planned to come to the United States for a lecture tour. Besides his wife, Mr. Sulner is survived by a three-month-old son, Andrew.

MP In Britain Becomes Catholic

London — (NC) — Mr. John Cyril Maude, 49, Conservative Party Member of Parliament for Exeter, Devonshire, has been received into the Church in London, it was announced here.

During the World War, Mr. Maude served in the British Intelligence Corps and spent a year in Washington as security officer for various British missions.

He is the son of Sir Cyril Maude, well-known actor. He was educated at Eton and Oxford.

Coptic Rite Cites Many Conversions

Asiut, Egypt — (NC) — Coptic Rite Bishop Alexander Habib Scandar of Lyopold (Asiut), Upper Egypt, reports great success in the conversion of the Coptic Orthodox (schismatic) villagers in his diocese.

The entire population of Adadma with 218 inhabitants and Balaia with 210 inhabitants were received into the Catholic church, he states, while converts from the important town of Dalgia which has a population of 7,700.

Cardinal Gilroy Defends State School Aid

By BRIAN DOYLE

Sydney, Australia — (NC) — Public interest in the question of public finance of non-public schools has been heightened by a forthright statement of the Catholic case by His Eminence Norman Cardinal Gilroy, Archbishop of Sydney.

A lessening of the heavy burden being borne by Catholics in order to provide a Christian education for their children was sought, not as a favor, but as a right, said His Eminence in a speech after he had blessed the foundations of a new parochial school in a Sydney suburb.

THE CARDINAL'S statement, one of the most important he has made on the subject of education, contained a forthright reply to those who object to the State reimbursing Catholics for the large sum they saved the taxpayers annually by conducting their own schools.

His Eminence made it clear that Catholics were not asking for the full amount they saved the State each year.

"The claim that is made for simple justice. The actual saving to the State by the functioning of the Catholic schools is something colossal. It is true that the cost of conducting our schools is less than the cost of conducting public schools. Our claim is not that the amount paid from taxes for each child attending our schools should be equal to that paid for each child attending the public schools," he continued.

"BUT EACH child attending our schools is a future citizen of the nation just as much as each child attending the public schools," said the Cardinal.

"For each one there should be some payment made. The amount should be an equitable one for the service that is thereby rendered to the nation. The task of a school is to educate the future citizens of the nation. The task of a State that imposes compulsory education is to set a standard and see that it is maintained. Since the imparting of education costs money the State has the right to tax its citizens for that money. The tax should be sufficient to pay for the education of all the children of the State, not a favored number," he stated.

"The place where the education is imparted is the concern of the natural law. It is included in the Charter of Human Rights," concluded His Eminence.

Hospital Addition

Fort Dodge, Ia. — (NC) — The new \$1,000,000 addition to the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital was dedicated here with Bishop Joseph M. Mueller of Sioux City officiating.

Pontiff Prays For Persecuted Peoples

Vatican City — (NC) — A prayer for persecuted Catholics was the first of three intentions entrusted to the intercession of Mary outlined by His Holiness Pope Pius XII in a Latin discourse to 25 Cardinals and 561 Bishops he received here on Nov. 2 in audience in the Hall of Benediction.

Methodists Laud Archbishop O'Hara

Atlanta — (NC) — A warm tribute to Archbishop Gerald P. O'Hara, Bishop of Savannah-Atlanta, was paid editorially by the Southern Methodist Laymen, which is published monthly by the Laymen's Organization for the Preservation of the Southern Methodist Church.

In an article headed "Archbishop O'Hara—A Great Man," the publication stated: "For many months thousands of friends of Archbishop Gerald P. O'Hara have been hoping and praying that he would get out of Savannah and return to Georgia where he holds the highest office in the Catholic Church and where he is beloved by Protestants and Jews as well as Catholics. Atlanta gave him a great welcome, and thousands of us rejoice that he came out safely."

The magazine also published a story of the protest, lodged by Archbishop O'Hara with the Romanian Foreign Office following his expulsion from Bucharest, where he served as Regent of the Apostolic Nunciature.

Vatican Doubts Bishop's Release

Rome — (NC) — Competent Vatican authorities declared that their information contradicts recent reports that the Tito regime had set free Bishop Peter Cule of Mostar, Yugoslavia.

Reports stated that he had been released by the regime and sent back to Krusevo, his birthplace. The Tito regime was said to have released the prelate because he had developed an advanced case of tuberculosis during his two years' imprisonment and the Yugoslav Reds feared possible repercussions in world opinion should the prelate die in prison.

Urges Israelis To Repair Monastery

Jerusalem — (RNS) — Father Terence Kuehn, Roman Catholic Patriarchal Vicar for Southern Israel, criticized the Israeli Ministry of Religion for alleged delay in completing the repairs at the Franciscan monastery on Mount Zion. The shrine was damaged during the Arab-Jewish conflict.

Father Kuehn said that although the ministry had carried out some work at the monastery, Franciscan monks there have been kept waiting for some time for the repairs to be completed so they can reoccupy the building.

Urges Israelis To Repair Monastery

Also Bishops Michael J. Ready of Columbus; George L. Leach of Harrisburg; Joseph H. Albers of Lansing; Daniel Ivancho of the Byzantine Rite from Pittsburgh; Ambrose J. Sensyshyn, O.S.B.M., Auxiliary of the Ukrainian Byzantine Rite; Francis R. Cotton of Owenboro, and James A. McNulty, Auxiliary of Newark.

Priests and theologians who participated in the recent International Mariological Congress and the Marian Congress, whose great success very much pleased His Holiness, were also permitted to attend this morning's special audience by the express wish of the Pope.

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