

# Requiem Offered In London Cathedral For Flood Victims

London—(NC)—A solemn Requiem Mass was sung in Westminster Cathedral here Sunday for the more than 500 persons lost in the floods which struck the North Sea coast of England last week.

His Eminence Bernard Cardinal Griffin, Archbishop of Westminster, presided at the Holy Sacrifice and pronounced the absolution for the victims of the disaster—the worst since the Middle Ages.

Hardest hit areas were the low-lying towns of Norfolk along the Wash and the coast of Essex just north of the Thames estuary and directly across from the still worse-off Netherlands.

PRIESTS AND Sisters all along the suffering coast joined with organized civil and military rescue workers to stand their ground against the onslaught of the sea. Churches, rectories and schools—often sited in the prevailing bungalows and trailers in the smaller fishing and vacation towns—served as temporary havens for the refugees fleeing the waves.

While priests went about consoling the thousands of injured and homeless, and offering Mass and the Sacraments wherever possible, nuns helped turn their schools into emergency hospitals, rest centers and canteens.

CLOSE TO 100 persons were believed lost on the Island of Carvey in the Thames, and 13,000 other residents were evacuated to the main land. Among them were the Sisters of Mary, who had been literally swamped. But Father Bernard Manning remained at his church of Our Lady of Carvey and the English Martyrs despite the fact that his factory was in four feet of water and the River Medway, however, the church itself was partly flooded.

A report from the office of Bishop George A. Beck of Brentwood, whose diocese includes Essex, indicates that damage to Catholic property at Carvey and elsewhere is considerable. At nearby Tilbury, the church and convent of the Sisters of Mercy were braving the waters, and the same had to be evacuated because food and drinking water were cut off.

ALL SCHOOLS throughout the

## British MP's Query Eden On Tito Visit

London—(NC)—A small group of Members of Parliament and other well-known people, mostly Catholics, have called on Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, to express concern at the attitude to religious liberty in Yugoslavia.

They asked Mr. Eden to bring to the attention of Marshall Tito, during his forthcoming visit to Britain, the strong feeling of many people in this country on the matter.

The deputation was led by Richard Stokes, leading Catholic member of the Labor Party. It included Lord Pakenham, former socialist member of the House of Commons (now in the House of Lords), Hugh Fraser, Conservative Member of Parliament; Christopher Hollis, Conservative Member; and Dr. Leticia Fairfield, doctor and barrister, and Graham Greene, the author.

Tito is due here as the official guest of the British government at the beginning of March.

## CARDINAL AIDS FLOOD RELIEF



New York—His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, presents his personal check for \$10,000 to Baron J. A. De Vos van Steenwijk, Netherlands Consul General. The money will be used to help the flood-stricken areas of Holland.

### German Cardinals Help Flood Areas

Cologne, Germany—(RNS)—Church leaders of West Germany have called upon Christians to aid victims of the flood disasters in Northwest Europe.

His Eminence Joseph Cardinal Frings of Cologne and His Eminence Joseph Cardinal Wendel of Munich issued special pastoral letters asking German Catholics to contribute generously to relief collections.

Earlier, Cardinal Frings, in his capacity as head of the German Catholic hierarchy, sent telegrams of sympathy to His Eminence Jon Cardinal de Jong of Utrecht and Bishop John Peter Huibers of Haarlem, whose dioceses belong to the hardest-hit flood areas.

## U.S. Catholic Aid Reaches Lowlands

New York—(NC)—Emergency shipments of clothing, blankets, shoes and other relief materials, totaling 250,000 pounds and valued at \$435,000, forwarded to victims of rav-

generosity by American Catholics. When word of the devastating floods reached this country, a shipment of relief materials from WRS-N.C.W.C. was on the high seas, bound for Germany. In view of the emergency, Archbishop Alter directed that the shipment be diverted to assist the flood victims and that a later shipment be made to Germany.

In accordance with the prelate's instructions, it was explained at WRS-N.C.W.C. headquarters here, 29,900 pounds of the shipment valued at \$35,000 was diverted to England to aid the flood victims; 36,000 pounds valued at \$58,000 went to Belgium, while the bulk of the shipment, 200,000 pounds valued at \$350,000 went to Holland, which was hardest hit by the floods.

Archbishop Alter received a cable from Bishop William P. Mutsaerts of S'Herengobosch. It advised that the shipment reached Rotterdam last week-end, was unloaded and was being distributed by a Catholic emergency relief committee of which Bishop Mutsaerts is the head. The cable added:

"In the name of the Cardinal-Archbishop, the Bishops and our people please accept our heartfelt thanks to Your Excellency and the N.C.W.C. board for the generous gift. God bless all our American benefactors."

War Relief Services—N.C.W.C. is financed by the Bishops' Fund for Victims of War. Through the agency, relief is administered solely on the basis of need, regardless of race, creed or color. The agency, for ten years, has given assistance to war-sufferers, refugees, displaced persons. In more than 60 countries throughout the world, the annual \$5,000,000 appeal for the Bishops' Fund for Victims of War will be conducted in parishes throughout the nation on Laetare Sunday, March 15.

### Soviet Zone Lacks Churches

Berlin—(RNS)—Forty-three Roman Catholic parishes in the Soviet Zone district of Magdeburg have no church buildings. It was disclosed by Auxiliary Bishop Friedrich Rintelen of Paderborn.

Bishop Rintelen, who resides at Magdeburg and is the Administrator of the Soviet Zone portion of the Paderborn Archdiocese, stressed the urgent need for priests and churches.

He said that regular Catholic services in his district are being held in 1,273 temporary places of worship set up in public halls and Protestant churches.

The Soviet Zone part of the West German Catholic diocese of Paderborn has similar conditions, according to its Auxiliary Bishop Adolf Bolle, who said that some parishes of 2,000 worshippers have only two priests.

"Nevertheless," Bishop Bolle said, "religious life in the Soviet Zone is more active than in the West German part of our diocese."

## Pope Sends Funds To Low Countries

The Hague, Netherlands—(NC)—Pope Pius XII has sent \$50,000 to be used on behalf of the flood and hurricane victims in the Low Countries.

AT THE HOLY Father's request a shipment of oranges and tangerines have been dispatched to the low countries for the children afflicted by the disaster. The Pope has promised that a relief center for children will be established under papal auspices.

In addition, the Pontiff has ordered a representative, Msgr. Emano Righi Lambertini, to make a personal inspection of the flood-ravaged areas and discover in what new ways the Pontiff can aid the victims. Monsignor Righi Lambertini is an official of the papal nunciature in Paris.

These steps were taken by the Pontiff from his sick bed where he was still recuperating from a serious attack of influenza and bronchitis.

A SPECIAL collection for the flood victims was taken up at Sunday Masses in churches throughout the country, at the orders of the Netherlands Hierarchy. The offerings were made as the Lowlands were bracing themselves for a possible new onslaught by the raging sea. This new fury from the devastating waters was expected on February 14 when the ocean reaches its highest tide.

Catholics in all parts of the country were reported to be contributing generously to the relief of the flood sufferers. Miners in the Limburg Province, which is 100 per cent Catholic, raised over \$260,000. In many small towns, contributions by Catholics amounted to more than \$750 a head.

## Cardinal Spellman Gives \$5,000 To England's Victims

London—(NC)—His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, has personally donated \$5,000 for aid to victims of the floods along England's North Sea coast, it was announced here.

The announcement was made by the British Foreign Office, which said that the Cardinal's contribution was forwarded through Sir Roger Makins, British Ambassador in Washington, D. C.

## Pope Pius IX Life Eyed For Sanctity

By MSGR. JOSEPH J. SULLIVAN

Rome—(NC)—Hopes that the cause for beatification of Pope Pius IX may be formally introduced by the Sacred Congregation of Rite in apostolic processes by 1954 were voiced here on the 75th anniversary of the Pontiff's death. The year 1954 will mark the centenary of Pope Pius IX's definition of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception.

THE ROMAN Vicariate, or chancery of the diocese, last week concluded the "non cultus" investigation of Pope Pius IX's case. This means that they determined that there had never been any public veneration of the Pontiff in advance of the Church's official pronouncement.

Pope Pius X personally gave the order to open the process for Pope Pius IX, on February 11, 1907, according to an official of the Congregation of Rites.

Marking the 75th anniversary of Pope Pius IX's death were several Masses at his tomb, and one Solemn Mass in the Basilica of San Lorenzo. Later in the day, a group of students at the North American College in Rome made a special pilgrimage to the basilica to pray at the tomb of the founder of their college.

Leading the pilgrimage were Bishop Martin J. O'Connor and Msgr. Richard H. Burns, rector and vice rector respectively, of the American College.

It was recalled that not only did Pope Pius IX found the United States College in Rome, but presided at its inauguration on December 1859, and later paid a visit there.

These are only some of Pius IX's many connections with the United States, which he recognized as important for the future of the Church.

POPE Pius IX established some 50 dioceses in the United States, and named the first U. S. Cardinal—Archbishop John McCloskey of New York—in 1875.

(Pope Pius IX established the Diocese of Rochester on March 3, 1853.)

Pope Pius IX had a universal reputation for sanctity, even while alive, not only among the faithful and high prelates, but also among non-Catholic scholars. His Cardinal Vicar Patrizi once said that if he outlived Pope Pius IX he had enough documents in his possession to secure his canonization. He was referring to testimonies and unusual evidence of the tribunal.

## Rome Studies Cure Reputed To Bro. Andre

Rome—(NC)—Introduction of the beatification cause of Brother Andre, C.S.C., founder of St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal, Canada, moved a step nearer the opening of the apostolic process action just taken by the chancery of the Rome Diocese. The action was concerned with the investigation of a miracle attributed to the intercession of the saintly Brother.

OFFICIALS HERE said it is hoped to open the process before the end of 1953. The Rome chancery's action was taken in the name, and with the authority, of the Montreal Diocesan Tribunal since the witnesses were nearer to Rome than to the Canadian See.

Among the miracles attributed to Brother Andre's intercession was the instantaneous cure of a dangerous knee infection suffered by Sister Mary of St. Prodebert, Franciscan Missionary of Mary, then living in Montreal.

THE CURE took place on the day following Brother Andre's death in 1937, just before an operation was to have been performed. So completely cured was the Sister that she has now been a missionary in Tunisia for several years.

Since the closest witness to this miraculous event was another Sister, now stationed at Marseilles, the Rome Vicariate consented to act for the Montreal tribunal. Both Sisters were ordered to proceed in Rome to give testimony. While in Rome Sister Mary was scheduled also to be examined by local medical experts on behalf of the tribunal.

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