

President, First Lady Attend Capital Red Mass

Washington — (NC) — President Eisenhower was personally praised for his spiritual example at a time when "a disappearance of the spiritual law is a real danger," as he attended a Red Mass at St. Matthew's Cathedral here.

President and Mrs. Eisenhower, along with hundreds of diplomats, legislators, justices and high government officials, were present at the Mass offered by Archbishop Patrick A. O'Doyle of Washington.

THE ANNUAL event, a traditional petition for God's blessing guidance on the administration of justice in the nation, was sponsored by the Lawyers Committee of the John Carroll Society, an organization of local Catholic business and professional men.

The President's party—which included Bernard M. Shanley, special White House Counsel and a prominent Catholic layman, and William E. Robinson, former executive vice president of the New York Herald Tribune, who was a guest of Mr. Eisenhower at the White House—was met and escorted to the cathedral by John L. Sullivan, former Secretary of the Navy and president of the Carroll Society.

The Eisenhowers were taken to the front pew by Msgr. Philip Hannan, chancellor of the archdiocese, and Msgr. John K. Cartwright, rector of St. Matthew's.

IN A SERMON, Msgr. John K. Cartwright, rector of St. Matthew's Cathedral, said the American people have been encouraged by "the spiritual leadership of their Chief Magistrate." He said that President Eisenhower has added to his heavy constitutional duties the responsibility "of giving your fellow countrymen a good example in paying homage (and not only on this Sunday) to the God 'Who hath made and preserved us a nation.'"

"We pray that He may grant you wisdom and strength for many great achievements," Msgr. Cartwright said. "And we know that when history records them it will put among them the fact that you have given your people this invaluable example."

The traditional Red Mass, so-called because of the colors of the vestments worn at the Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit, was attended by 1,200 dignitaries.

Among those present were Chief Justice Earl Warren and Associate Supreme Court Justices Tom Clark, William O. Douglas and Sherman Minton; Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield; Army Secretary Robert T. Stevens; Navy Secretary Robert B. Anderson; Senate Majority Leader William F. Knowland and 14 Senators; House Minority Leader John McCormack and more than 100 Congressmen; the heads of diplomatic missions of 23 nations, and more than a score of federal and municipal judges.

WHILE FORMER President Truman had attended while he was Vice President, the presence of Mr. Eisenhower marked the first time that a United States President had witnessed the Red Mass.

Following the Low Mass celebrated by Archbishop O'Doyle, Auxiliary Bishop John M. McNamara of Washington read the famous prayer for the "welfare and divine guidance of the President of the United States and those in authority in the government." The prayer was written in 1790 by Archbishop John Carroll, first member of the American hierarchy, in whose honor the John Carroll Society was named.

Diplomat Honored By Church

New York — (NC) — Walter J. Donnelly, former U.S. High Commissioner to Germany and former American Ambassador to Venezuela, has received two Papal decorations, it was disclosed here.

Mr. Donnelly was named a Knight of the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Sylvester on the recommendation of His Eminence Theodore Cardinal Inuitzer, Archbishop of Vienna. It was announced. At the same time Mr. Donnelly received the medal pro Ecclesia et Pontifice, which was presented by His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York.

Mr. Donnelly served for more than 30 years in important diplomatic posts for the U.S. State Department. He is now associated with the United States Steel Corporation in Central and South America.

Eisenhower Meets Catholic Women



Washington, D. C.—President Eisenhower received at the White House members of the Board of Directors of the National Council of Catholic Women who were here for a meeting of the board. Heading the delegation was Mrs. William H. Dalton of Augusta, Me., N. C.C.W. president (left). With her is Mrs. M. C. Mahon of Iron River, Minn. (RNS Photo).

Georgetown U. Awarded \$125,000 Raskob Grant

Washington — (NC) — Father Edward B. Bunn, S.J., President of the Georgetown University, has announced the awarding of a grant by the Raskob Foundation for Catholic Activities. The Foundation was set up by the bequest of the late John J. Raskob.

This particular grant is \$125,000, over a four-year period, and was made to Georgetown University to further medical education. It is not to be used for construction or to take place in part of the university budget, but as supplemental money to increase the efficiency of medical teaching. An unusual aspect of this grant is that part covers scholarships for students, who plan to practice in rural areas. This is to help meet the need for more doctors practicing in rural areas.

Chaplain Named To Medical Center

Washington — (NC) — Father (Capt.) Patrick J. Martin has been named assistant Catholic chaplain at Walter Reed Hospital, the big Army medical center here. A priest of the Diocese of Natchez, Father Martin served a year with the 1st Cavalry Division in Korea, and recently has been stationed in Trieste. He is a native of Glasgow, Scotland, where his father still resides.

'Moon' Film Quits After Town Protests

Newark, N. J. — (NC) — A scheduled showing of "The Moon Is Blue" was cancelled from a Kearney (N. J.) theater after a conference between town officials and theater managers.

The Kearney Council Knights of Columbus had previously protested the scheduled showing of the condemned film in a newspaper advertisement. Difficulties over showings of the film had been reported in several cities led the Advocate newspaper of the Archdiocese of Newark, to protest attempts "to force on the public a film of such low moral caliber."

"THE SPECTACLE has been added in Jersey City, where a heavily Catholic population has made the presentation of the picture even more unwelcome than elsewhere," the Advocate said.

The newspaper also warned Catholic lawyers "to avoid being used" by promoters of the film in legal cases regarding "The Moon Is Blue."

"Our Catholic people have been understandably shocked to see Catholic lawyers representing interests that are promoting a film that has been condemned in the strongest terms by Catholic authorities," the Advocate said.

The newspaper warned that there is not only a matter of scandal to be avoided by Catholic lawyers in dealing with movie cases, but also the danger of aiding the distribution of a motion picture which might be an occasion to sin to some viewers.

Providence, R. I. — (NC) — A revised and cut version of "The Moon Is Blue" has been licensed for showing in Providence after inspectors viewed the movie and stated that objectionable scenes had been deleted.

Training Course

San Antonio, Texas — (NC) — Seventy-eight priests from 40 archdioceses and dioceses met here for two days and outlined a course of training for lay leaders in scouting that will form the basis for future Catholic Boy Scout work.

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State Censorship Power Nullified, Say Ohio Bishops

Columbus, O. — (NC) — In its recent decision, the U. S. Supreme Court "has practically nullified the right and exercise censorship over the showing of motion pictures," the first joint pastoral ever issued by the Bishops of the Cincinnati Province declared.

The pastoral was issued in connection with the mid-winter meeting here of the Catholic Welfare Conference. It was signed by Archbishop Karl J. Alter of Cincinnati; Archbishop Edward F. Hohman, Bishop of Cleveland; Bishop Emmet M. Walsh of Youngstown; Bishop George J. Rehring of Toledo; Bishop Michael J. Ready of Columbus, and Bishop John K. Mussio of Steubenville.

"A STATE board cannot effectively decide on preview that a film must not be shown because it is immoral, or because it would tend to increase crime," the pastoral stated. "We have been told that the maturity of modern people warrants a new approach to a code of decency or its revision. It would be highly desirable if the motion picture industry itself would attain such a degree of maturity in its presentations so that there would be no need of review or censorship or a production code for decency."

The Bishops said that the Supreme Court decision appears to rest on two points—"first, the right of free expression guaranteed by the Constitution; secondly, the vagueness of meaning conveyed by the terms, 'morality' and 'tendency' to promote crime."

"It might be asked at once whether the Supreme Court is prepared to give a definite and non-vague meaning of the term, 'freedom' both in its general use and as employed in phrases such as 'freedom of expression.' Freedom has same meaning only within the limits of same law," the pastoral said. "If the case were other than this, a man might claim the right under the Constitution, of using, unrestrictedly, speech, press and pictures, to destroy the Constitution itself."

Diocese Reports 593 Converts

Altoona, Pa. — (NC) — A total of 593 adult converts were received into the Catholic Church during 1953 in the Altoona diocese, it was reported here.

U. S. Town Plans National Shrine To St. Patrick

St. Patrick, Mo. — (NC) — The dream of a generation of St. Patrick residents is about to come true. Bishop Charles Hubert LeBlond of St. Joseph has granted his permission to St. Patrick's parish to build a national shrine honoring the patron saint of Ireland in this town named in his honor.

Father Francis O'Duignan, pastor of St. Patrick's, announced that the shrine will be modeled to some extent on the Church of the Four Masters in the hills of Donegal.

FATHER O'DUIGAN said that in anticipation of the Bishop's approval, he'd gone to Ireland to study Celtic architecture last summer, and chose the Donegal church as an example for a church that would "be a little different, and reflect some of that tone which the spiritual sons and daughters of St. Patrick gave to the world and especially brought to this country." The church here, he said, will not be an exact replica of its Irish prototype, but will blend "the magic of the past with the beauty of the present."

The priest added that work is to begin as soon as weather permits, and "since it will be a national shrine to the patron of the scattered Gael, the support of the various Irish organizations, however small, will be gratefully received."

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