

Cardinal Stritch

'Church Unity' Talks With Other Faiths Not For Catholics

Chicago — (NC) — Samuel Cardinal Stritch today urged Catholics to refrain from engaging in religious unity assemblies or conferences with other faiths.

Instead, the noted Chicago prelate said the Roman Catholic Church is ready to join with citizens of all faiths in a united front against a "common enemy" — atheism.

Cardinal Stritch in his pastoral letter to the laity and clergy of the Chicago archdiocese stated:

"The Catholic Church does not take part in these organizations or in their assemblies or conferences. She does not enter into any organization in which the delegates of many sects sit down in council or conference to discuss the nature of the Church of Christ or the nature of her unity, or to propose to discuss how to bring about the unity of Christendom, or to formulate a program of united Christian action.

Emphasizing that the Roman Catholic Church is "the one and only Church of Christ," the Cardinal continued:

"She does not allow her children to engage in any activity of conference or discussion based upon the false assumption that Roman Catholics too are still searching for the truth of Christ.

"For to do so would be to admit that she is not one of the many forms in which the true Church of Christ may or may not exist... such an admission she can never make, for she is now and she has always been, the one and only Mystical Body of Christ, the one and only Church of Christ."

There is only one way to unity of all Christians and that is through the Roman Catholic Church, Cardinal Stritch declared, stating:

"Now this unity, clear and obvious as it is, exists in the Church of Christ today. It is found in the Roman Catholic Church and in her alone. She and she alone is the true Church of Jesus Christ. There is only one way to the unity, and that is through the Church of Christ, participation in her life, submission, without reserve to her teaching and ruling authority."

The Cardinal said his flock to pray for the return of all Christians to the Roman Catholic Church.

Calling for concerted action by all Catholics against "armed atheism," Cardinal Stritch said:

"There are many things as citizens which we with our fellow citizens can do and should do. We are ready to unite with them in the doing of these things. Their discussion of many of the social problems which confront us in our day will prove helpful to us. We are not an isolated group in our democracy."

"We realize that in this day all men of good will, and particularly all men who kneel and pray to the living God, should unite against common dangers, the danger of atheism, which with specious rhetoric, at least in effect, would banish God from all social thinking."

Catholics Protest

Baccalaureate Rites

Buffalo — (RNS) — Three parish societies of the Catholic Diocese of Buffalo have adopted a resolution expressing "strenuous" objection to "religious-type" baccalaureate services being held in the public schools of nearby North Tonawanda.

The resolution, approved by representatives of parish groups from that community's Ascension, St. Joseph's and Our Lady of Czestochowa churches, scheduled earlier protests by priests of the three parishes and caused some members of the North Tonawanda High School graduating class to refrain from attending its baccalaureate service.

Grandfather Ordained Priest In Austria

Vienna — (NC) — A 70-year-old widower and father of five children was ordained to the priesthood along with 72 other deacons from all parts of Austria.

A former post office official, Father Gebhard Elsterer, O.S.B., will celebrate his first Mass July 12 in the Benedictine Abbey Church of St. Peter in Salzburg, and become the "youngest" member of that Benedictine community. His five children and a large number of his grandchildren will attend the Mass.

In the Solemn Hours, flowers are more comforting than words. In the beauty of flowers as an affirmation of the faith which sustains all who have suffered loss. Blanchard Florist, 31 Lake Ave. — Adv.

French Bishops Hit Novelties In Worship

Paris — (NC) — The French Bishops have warned priests against unauthorized liturgical innovations and reminded them of the exclusive authority of the Holy See in such matters. The Holy See in the form of a statement by the special commission on liturgical questions of the French Bishops' Assembly.

The statement was obviously prompted by certain liturgical innovations introduced by some priests who believe a "rejuvenation of the liturgy" is necessary in order to bring it closer to the masses of the faithful.

THE BISHOPS' statement admits that, in most cases, such innovations arise from the legitimate desire for a "living" liturgy in which the Christian people can actively participate, and which conforms with tradition. But quite often, the Bishops say, the innovations amount to a disregard for the authority of the Church or indicate false notions regarding the meaning of the canonical terms "according to custom."

The Bishops refer to the Encyclical Mediator Dei in reminding that, for instance, the right to use the vernacular language in church ceremonies can only be granted by the Holy See.

NO DOUBT, the statement says, certain liturgical usages may, under exceptional circumstances, be tolerated as corresponding to "custom." But in such cases it is required that such practices have been carried on for 40 consecutive years without the Holy See or the local Ordinary ever having objected to them.

The Bishops recall a statement by the late Cardinal Suhard who, concerning liturgical novelties, told priests in 1947: "Never do anything without the necessary authority. Priests would be gravely mistaken if they believed that they render us a service by illegitimate activities."

Priest Escaping Titoland Tells Of Police State

Trieste — (NC) — A story of unbearable police pressure was told here by a priest who had just escaped from the Yugoslav zone of the Free Territory of Trieste.

The escapes in Father Giuseppe Sossa, who had served as parish priest at Salvo in Zone B — the Tito-ruled area. He escaped at night across an unguarded point along the frontier.

FATHER SOSSA stated that he had been subjected to almost continuous interrogations by the Yugoslav police. They attempted to extort from him a statement alleging that there is complete freedom of religion in Yugoslavia and that his superior, Bishop Anton Santin of Trieste, is engaged in political activity when he denounced religious persecution in the Yugoslav zone.

The immediate reason for his escape, Father Sossa said, was the pressure put on him to join the government-sponsored association of Catholic priests.

THE FACT is the official press has reported that the priest "joined" the association. Since all media of information are controlled by the government, the priest had no opportunity to make a denial. He stated that reports of other priests "joining" the organization were probably as false as that about him.

'Iron Curtain' Report

Hungarian Catholic Nuns Work In Factories, Farms

New York — (RNS) — Roman Catholic nuns whose monasteries have been dissolved by the Hungarian Communist regime are working in factories, farms and hospitals, according to the Free Europe Committee headquarters here.

A Committee report, based on "reliable information," said that although most of the sisters work in "harsh, materialistic surroundings, not one has renounced her solemn vows for the secular life.

It said the nuns were not popular with Communist officials but were tolerated because they were good workers. They are not allowed to wear religious habits but "still manage to accomplish real missionary work in the new environments."

The report added that religious life, which has been forced underground in Hungary, is now "having a revival and faith is stronger than ever."

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These Hear Christ's Call To Follow Him



THE HOLY GHOST—Impressive moment during reception rite of Sisters of St. Joseph above young novices.

Pope Pius Receives Boston Pilgrims

Rome — (NC) — In the first audience of its kind since his illness in January, the Pope received the U.S. Marian Year pilgrimage led by Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston.

It was termed an exceptional privilege granted to the Archbishop and the largest United States Marian Year pilgrimage to Rome so far.

His Holiness made no attempt to ascend the throne as he received the group in Consistorial Hall. He simply addressed a few words of greeting to the group from the floor level and then gave his blessing. He did not chat with Archbishop Cushing and other Bishops who were present. And he posed for a group picture.

French Withdrawal In Vietnam Places 200,000 Catholics Behind Iron Curtain

Hanoi, Vietnam — (NC) — The Iron Curtain cut off another 200,000 Vietnamese Catholics on June 30. It happened when French forces evacuated the southern part of the Red River delta in northern Vietnam, formerly Tonkin. This includes some of the most densely Catholic districts in the Far East.

It is a land of countless villages on flat plains where I have

minh one of the most populous and fertile regions in Asia. Thus it assures them of an abundance of rice for their armies and non-population from which to conscript troops. It gives them a clear field to attack Hanoi and its port of Haiphong from the southeast as well as from the west and north.

IT IS THE most serious step in reverse the French high command has taken in eight and a half years of the war in Indochina.

It means the heaviest single blow the Church has received in the Far East since the fall of China.

As a result of this evacuation of all of the three vicariates of Phat-Diem, Buichu and Thai-Binh, and part of that of Hanoi are under Red Vietnam rule. Bishop Thaddée Le Huu Tu of Phat-Diem escaped by boat. The French navy reportedly evacuated 10,000 civilians from Phat-Diem. Bishop Peter Pham-Hgoc-Chi of Buichu is now in Hanoi. Spanish Dominican Bishop Santos-Vienna is reportedly still in Thai-Binh.

All the Sisters were evacuated, also, the Canadian Brothers of St. John of God from Buichu.

K of C In Dixie Admits Negroes

Jacksonville, N.C. — (NC) — For the first time in the history of the Knights of Columbus, Negroes were admitted to membership in a non-segregated Council south of the Mason-Dixon Line.

Four Negroes were included in a class of candidates received in the infant of Frigate K of C Council of Jacksonville, thus becoming the first of their race in the area to attain membership.

Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to all practicing Catholics, whatever their race or national origin. However, apart from councils in the big industrial centers, very few have accepted Negroes as knights.

TV Mass Wins Family Of 13 To Faith

Sturtevant, Wis. — (NC) — It all started with Midnight Mass last Christmas evening. The Holy Sacrifice on television set Herman Wehler to thinking. Six months later he, and his family — 13 strong — were received into the Church.

For a long time the Wehlers had felt a definite void in their lives, and the TV Mass brought Mr. Wehler to the conclusion they'd lived without religion too long a time.

After that a long struggle. The father contacted a neighboring Catholic who in turn introduced him to Father Chester Ojowski, O.F.M., pastor of St. Sebastian's, parish.

According to Mrs. Wehler, the first day her husband received a catechism, he read almost the whole book before going to sleep. He talked to the children about the Faith, and had them go off to the kitchen so they could discuss religion in their own homes. As a result, the whole family came into the Church.

St. Joseph Sisters Receive 25 Young Women Into Community

Twenty-five young women received the habit of the Sisters of St. Joseph on the Feast of the Visitation (July 2) in the Nazareth Motherhouse Chapel in Pittsford.

In the presence of their parents and friends, the young women entered the chapel as brides to offer themselves to Christ. Presenting themselves to His Excellency, Bishop Casey, who presided over the ceremony, they knelt at the altar rail to ask for the holy habit. Upon their urgent request, the Bishop blessed the habits, veils, rosaries and cinctures which they were about to don and sent them forth to exchange their bridal finery for the black habit of the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

THE NEWLY garbed Sisters returned to the chapel as the Novitiate choir sang "Veni, Sponsa Christi." Again kneeling at the altar rail, they were given the names by which they will be known in religion. After a special blessing imparted to the novices, Bishop Casey offered the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

In his sermon at the close of the Mass, Bishop Casey spoke of how dramatic is the reception ceremony, and with the crucial shortage of teachers in our Catholic schools at the present time, how far more dramatic are the implications of that ceremony today. "Because it has hap-

pened," he said, "thousands of boys and girls, many of them yet unborn, are assured of a Catholic education who otherwise would be deprived of it. The Church is grateful that these young women have willingly offered their services."

"The Church is grateful to their parents," the Bishop affirmed, "who, after God, have done the most to make possible this scene this morning. The simple truth is, a religious vocation begins in the home." He told the parents that this day should be a happy one for them since they are assured by Christ's own words that their daughters will be happy in fulfilling the wish that God has placed in their hearts and that "through the years she is the one who will remain close to you."

THE YOUNG WOMEN who received the habit and their names in religion are as follows:

- Miss Shirley Carter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry J. Carter, St. Joseph's parish, Cayuga — Sister M. Eustace.
- Miss Pauline E. Tabor, daughter of Mr. Morris L. Tabor, St. Mary's parish, Washington, New York — Sister M. Alicia.
- Miss Jeanne E. McCarrick, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stewart McCarrick, St. Felix parish, Clifton Springs — Sister Norberta.
- Miss Mary Virginia Hanson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Milliken, St. Patrick's parish, Elmira — Sister Marie.
- Miss Patricia McNamee, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William McNamee, St. Monica's parish — Sister M. Angelina.
- Miss A. Kathleen Burns, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Burns, Sacred Heart Cathedral parish — Sister M. Ursula.
- Miss Gloria J. Brown, daughter of the late Mr. George Brown and of Mrs. Anna Hanna, Immaculate Conception parish — Sister M. Gertrude.
- Miss Patricia J. Nicholas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Nicholas, St. Mary's parish, Auburn — Sister M. Beata.
- Miss Patricia A. Gidycz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Gidycz, St. Ambrose parish — Sister M. Rose.
- Miss Mary Ann Buzala, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Rutke, St. Casimir's parish, Elmira — Sister M. Rita.
- Miss Barbara J. Lee, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lee, Francis de Sales parish, Geneva — Sister M. Cora.
- Miss Diane M. Muldoon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Muldoon, St. Mary's parish, Auburn — Sister M. Columba.
- Miss Lorraine A. Nimtz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. August Nimtz, St. Casimir's parish, Elmira — Sister M. Eugenia.
- Miss F. June Aurelio, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gaetano Aurelio, St. Augustine's parish — Sister M. Tecla.
- Miss Charlene F. Chappel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Anderson, St. John the Baptist parish, Elmira — Sister M. Hortense.
- Miss Ann L. Lafferty, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Leo Lafferty, St. Augustine's parish — Sister M. Anselma.
- Miss F. Jacqueline Robinson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis J. Robinson, St. Cecilia parish, Elmira — Sister M. Constantia.
- Miss Barbara A. Lum, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald A. Lum, Sacred Heart Cathedral parish — Sister M. Eleanor.
- Miss Mary Dolores Ceris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Ceris, St. Anthony's parish, Elmira — Sister M. Anthony.
- Miss Ermina E. Casanova, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Casanova, St. Mary's parish, Elmira — Sister M. Josephine.
- Miss Mary E. Martin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Martin, St. John's parish, Geneva — Sister M. Hildegard.
- Miss Marie Guiliano, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Guiliano, St. Lucy's parish — Sister M. Lucette.
- Miss Helen Norwood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Norwood, St. Peter and Paul parish, Elmira — Sister M. Dolores.
- Miss J. A. C. Conner, daughter of the late Mr. John Conner, St. Peter and Paul parish, Elmira — Sister M. Constance.
- Miss Mary Ann Buzala, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Rutke, St. Casimir's parish, Elmira — Sister M. Rita.

Brides of Christ—Attired in bridal white, 25 young women enter in procession the Nazareth Motherhouse Chapel for solemn ceremonies marking their reception as novices in the Sisters of St. Joseph community.

'Silence Conspiracy' Against Dying Wrong Nurses Told

Sheffield, England — (NC) — Catholic nurses should always tell a patient frankly and plainly — be he a Catholic or a non-Catholic — if he is in danger of death.

Bishop John Heenan of Leeds, in giving this advice to 200 nurses, said this would enable the patient to prepare himself properly and in good time "for the most important event in life — death."

The Bishop condemned the "conspiracy of silence" that seemed to be growing of not telling a patient he was dying. Catholic nurses should never be parties to this policy, he said.

Catholic nurses must also have the determination to resist the modern tendency to doubt whether it is worthwhile to keep alive a sub-normal child. "God is the only Judge of this. We must defend every child's right to live," the Bishop declared.

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According to Mrs. Wehler, the first day her husband received a catechism, he read almost the whole book before going to sleep. He talked to the children about the Faith, and had them go off to the kitchen so they could discuss religion in their own homes. As a result, the whole family came into the Church.

Mr. Wehler and the five oldest children were baptized conditionally, as they had been previously baptized in a Presbyterian church in Onaska, Wash. The six youngest children had never been baptized before. Mrs. Wehler had never been reared in her religion. But all were received into the full Catholic faith. Father Ojowski said the next day nine of them — all but the four youngest — lived up to the Communion rite.

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