

After Study, Prayer, We Believe Church's Claims

Husband And Wife Resign Protestant Ministry To Embrace Catholic Faith

East Windsor, Conn. — (CNC) — A husband and wife have decided to leave the Protestant ministry and join the Catholic Church. They will take their two children into the Faith with them.

The couple are Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Barres, both former ministers of the Congregational church. Their children are Mary, Elizabeth, two, and Margaret, three.

MR. BARRES announced they were taking the road to conversion, at a meeting of the Council of the First Congregational Church here, which he served for the last four years as pastor. The 33-year-old minister submitted his resignation as pastor and announced that his wife, 32, also was resigning from the ministry. He announced:

"It is part of the education of a Protestant minister to examine the claims of the Roman Catholic Church. Now, after study and prayer, we have come to the belief that these claims are true. Mrs. Barres and I are therefore resigning from the Protestant ministry in order to take the education of the Catholic Faith. We are deeply grateful to our good parishioners for the four happy years spent here in East Windsor."

Mr. and Mrs. Barres have left here for the guest house at Regina Laus Monastery in Bethlehem, Conn., where they will take formal instruction in the Catholic religion. The Bethlehem monastery is conducted by the French Benedictine Sisters and will be remembered as the setting for the highly successful motion picture, "Come To The Stable."

With them went their two children, who will be baptized in the Catholic Faith, the couple disclosed.

MR. BARRES TOLD the new Windsor News that neither he nor his wife had had formal conversations or instructions concerning the Catholic Faith. "You might say that we read ourselves into the Faith," Mr. Barres said.

He disclosed that about a year ago he was troubled about a Protestant claim that St. Francis of Assisi "was a Protestant saint" and that he made a trip to a Catholic re-



East Windsor, Conn. — This Protestant minister and his wife, also a minister, have announced that they will become converts to the Catholic Church. They are the Rev. Oliver Barres, pastor of the First Congregational Church here, and the Rev. Margaret Barres, mother of two daughters, Mary, Elizabeth, 2, and Margaret, 3. Announcing his resignation from the pastorate, Mr. Barres said, "It is part of the education of the Protestant minister to examine the claims of the Catholic Church. Now, after much study and prayer, we have come to believe that these claims are true." (RNS Photo.)

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Former African Minister Ordained Priest In Rome

Johannesburg, South Africa — (NC) — Catholic circles are rejoicing over the ordination to the Catholic priesthood of a former Anglican minister.

The new priest is Father Charles Runge, who had been headmaster of St. John's College here and senior chaplain in the Union Defense Force. He was ordained last month in the Lateran Basilica in Rome.

Father Runge was born in London and received a B.A. from the University of Oxford. During World War I, he served as a staff officer. After the war he returned to Oxford where he received a Master's degree in 1920. He joined the Community of the Resurrection, an Anglican religious order, and was assigned to South Africa. For some years he was provincial of the order in South Africa.

DURING WORLD War II he rose to the rank of colonel in the Union Defense Force. After the war he was appointed headmaster at St. John's, one of the leading Anglican schools in South Africa.

He was received into the Church in 1932 and shortly afterwards went to the Bida College in Rome to study for the priesthood.

Father Runge will return to South Africa in July and will work in the Archdiocese of Pretoria.

Daylight Time Begins Sunday

Daylight Saving Time in areas of the Diocese of Rochester, where voted, will begin Sunday morning, April 24 at 2 a.m. Clocks should be set ahead an hour the night before. Church services will be scheduled on Daylight Saving Time, Sunday, April 24.

A wedding gift from Thorne's is always in good taste. Clocks by Seth Thomas, Telechron, Westclox, Talcott and clock radios, Wm. S. Thorne, Jeweler, 318 Main Street East, Hamilton 6031—Adv.

Blessing Rites For Babies Set In 2 Churches

Arrangements for the blessing of infants by the two Bishops of the diocese in two separate ceremonies, Saturday and Sunday, April 23 and 24, were being completed this week.

His Excellency Bishop Kearney will impart the blessing on Saturday, April 23, from 2 until 3 p.m. in Blessed Sacrament Church, Oxford St. near Belmont Ave.

His Excellency Auxiliary Bishop Casey will conduct the services in the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart on Flower City Park from 2 until 5 p.m., Sunday, April 24.

Each baby will be blessed individually by the Bishop with the ancient formula, "May the blessing of Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, descend upon you and remain forever."

PARENTS OF each child will receive a card engraved with Bishop Kearney's coat of arms and a medal, blessed by the Bishop, as a souvenir.

At the beginning of the ceremony in the Cathedral, Bishop Casey will lead the parents in reciting the following prayer of dedication:

"To Thee, O Virgin Mother of God, and my Mother, I dedicate this child, and I promise Thee, O Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, to lead my child in the fear and love of Thee, so that when all his sins are purged at Thy throne, mine may be among the Heavenly Hosts, singing and loving Thee, Amen."

Maryland Governor Signs Bus Bill

Annapolis, Md. — (RNS) — Governor Theodore B. W. McKeldin today signed a bill providing for the transportation of school children on public school buses in Talbot County.

The bill, which was introduced in the Maryland General Assembly, provides for the transportation of school children on public school buses in Talbot County.

Missouri

Jefferson City, Mo. — (RNS) — Some 3,000 persons attended the "final" hearing on a bill to provide transportation for parochial school pupils at public expense.

The hearing was held by the House public schools committee, to which the bill was referred, early in March by the House after it declined to act on a favorable recommendation by its transportation committee.

Rep. Jennie S. Walsh of St. Louis, the sponsor, said after the hearing that an effort will be made to "take out the flaws" in the measure. The committee indicated it would

take action on the legislation shortly.

A. L. McCawley, a former state Senator, said at the hearing that it was "foolish" for opponents to try to make a religious issue of the matter.

He cited an instance of parochial school children being killed as they walked to classes while public school children "road safely in state buses."

Loud applause followed a statement by another supporter of the measure that "if Catholics should take their children out of the parochial school and put them in public schools it would disrupt the whole public education system."

Public School Gets Parochial Lunches

Cannelton, Ind. — (RNS) — Children at St. Mark's public school here enjoy a hot lunch each day prepared in the modern kitchen of St. Mark's Catholic school, a few blocks away, under a unique program of cooperation.

Women of the St. Mark's parish cook the food in the parochial school kitchen. Members of the public school's parent-teacher association, who pay their share of the food costs, pick it up and deliver it to the parish school.

Some 115 pupils of the two institutions are served a hot meal and a bottle of milk under the plan which is sponsored by the Holy Name Society of St. Marks in cooperation with the school lunch program of the State Department of Public Instruction.

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Catholic Teachers Told:

Watering Down Of Faith Seen 'Betrayal Of Christ'

Atlantic City, N. J. — (RNS) — Watering down of Catholic education "through expediency or apparent necessity of adaptation" was scored here as a "betrayal of Christ."

Msgr. Timothy F. O'Leary, superintendent of schools for the Boston archdiocese, called for an insistence on basic Catholic principle. He spoke to the Elementary School Department of the National Catholic Education Association holding its 52nd annual convention here.

THE PRIEST said that there is "a very real tension between the goals which their environment presents to our students" and the goal of Catholic education. He reminded the educators that "the true Christian must always be somewhat out of joint with his times."

"Perhaps every conscientious experienced teacher has wondered at one time or another," he said, "whether Christ will ever be as real and vital to her students as a television hero—whether the Divine truths can ever compete with the standards of the world."

In this connection, he warned against any relaxation by teachers out of the notion that the conflict between spiritual and temporal values has gone on from century to century and no century is more different.

"For sheer paganism," Msgr. O'Leary said, "no century has ever equaled this twentieth century . . . a time when sin is explained away, and evil publicly condoned."

In other centuries, he said, men did not dismiss their sins by asserting, as they do now, "I am a neurotic," or "I must somehow pay my taxes," or "My psychiatrist says that I cannot be held responsible for my sins until my emotions are unlocked."

Society, too, in past generations, he added, recognized the existence of the objective moral code of a Power Higher than the ego, of a God who possessed the secrets of the universe and ran it well, rather than a wise and more omnipotent Scientific Man, who is supposedly running it better.

MSGR. O'LEARY described Catholic education as cooperation "with God and with Christian parents in fashioning minds, hearts and wills on fire with the mind, heart and will of Christ Himself."

"It means," he said, "to take any child and so greatly to love him just as he is, with honesty, fervor and strength, so that at the end of his training in Catholic schools that child, as an adult, will know what his life is about and face it with eagerness, serenity and joy."

For less than this, the priest said, is betrayal. He warned that "there are none more bitter, more bewailing in later years than those children who have been thus betrayed."

"They have inherited the false gods of time and been denied the everlasting Kingdom prepared for them from the foundations of the world," he said.

MSGR. O'LEARY said that "children do not need the physical and professional paraphernalia of modern education one-hundredth as much as they need to see Christ in every teacher."

"For every student," he said, "education is not primarily facts presented, books read, examinations passed, but a life learned, learning how to live life as it really is by his daily contact with teachers who are living vitally, wholly in God Himself."

POPE GREET'S AUDIENCE



Vatican City — Pope Pius XII, smiling, seems catching as he greets at the Vatican delegates and visitors to the World Congress on Prevention of Work Accidents which met in Rome. The 79-year-old Pontiff looked well and strong while addressing the delegates and later chatting with them during the audience. "Christ alone," the Pope said, "has the power to relieve the misery and torments weighing upon and tormenting human beings." (RNS Photo.)

Therese Neumann

Pope Sends True Cross Relic To German Stigmatic

By FATHER ELACID JORDAN, O.S.B. (Correspondent, N.C.W.C. News Service)

Munich, Germany — His Holiness Pope Pius XII has sent a relic of the True Cross to Therese Neumann, stigmatic on Konnersreuth, Bavaria. The relic was sealed into the base of a huge stone cross recently set up in the cemetery of that village. The cross was made by Karl Schmitz Wickmann, an artist from Seuchlein in the Rhineland, who was cured of a spinal ailment 22 years ago after a visit to Therese Neumann.

Miss Neumann herself suggested that the sculpture be made to represent the vision of the Cross of Christ on Calvary as she has had it on numerous occasions.

THE RELIC WAS sent by the Holy Father in a small silver box bearing the papal seal. The sculptor deposited a document of his own near the relic telling the story of how he came to make the cross.

Miss Neumann had frequently told him of her visions of Christ's Passion. She described the cross Christ bore and on which He

was crucified. She had seen it, not as it is usually represented with the two bars crossing at right angles, but with the horizontal bars diagonally bent to conform to the outstretched arms of the Saviour, in an upward direction to the left and to the right.

Also, she said, there was a footprint on the cross, the footprint of Our Lord's body by one of the soldiers with his spear appeared on His right side, not the left, because the soldier approached the cross from the left.

Mr. Wickmann did the sculpture in accordance with Miss Neumann's detailed description. "After my death," she told him, "there will be an even larger number of visitors to Konnersreuth than during my lifetime. They will see this cross as I saw Christ in His agony."

THE CROSS is made of black Swedish granite and weighs 100 tons. The corpus has a height of more than seven feet. Both the corpus and the cross were carved out of one solid block each. At the foot of the cross there is a figure of Mary Magdalen in a position of adoration.

Miss Neumann often visits the statue, which she calls "my cross" and like Mary Magdalen remains in prayer and meditation for long periods.

More Stations Ban Off-Color Tunes

Steuenville, O. — (NC) — Two stations in this area have pledged their support in the nationwide campaign to keep questionable tunes and lyrics off the air. Members of the staffs of stations WSTV in Steuenville and WEIR in nearby Weirton, W. Va., in interviews with The Steuenville Register said both stations have long had a policy of not allowing objectionable recordings to be broadcast.

The Blessed Event, somebody new, in pink or blue, darling flower arrangements that are different and yet not expensive. At Blanchard Florist, 83 Lake Ave. Nue, BA. 9494, open evenings—Adv.

Former Olympic Swimming Star Takes First Vows As Cenacle Nun

Lake Ronkonkoma, L. I. — (NC) — Mother Clara Lamore, holder of 19 swimming titles and competitor in the 1948 Olympics in England, pronounced her first vows of poverty, chastity and obedience in the Society of Our Lady of the Retreat at the Cenacle here.

By the time the Providence, R. I., girl turned professional swimming teacher after the 1948 Olympics, she had won five national titles and 19 New England and all-Rhode Island titles besides the Olympic honor. Before joining the Cenacle Society in September, 1952, she taught swimming at the Providence Boys Club and to members of the Catholic Youth Organization.

At meets around the country, the champion was easily recognized because she always knelt to bless herself before

the start of the competition. Mother Lamore is currently assigned to the Cenacle, on Lake Street, Brighton, Mass. Members of this congregation use the title "Mother" instead of "Sister." The Cenacle Society provides facilities for retreats for lay women.

Catholics Gain In Calvin's Town

Geneva — (RNS) — The City and Canton of Geneva, where Calvin preached the Reformation, now has almost as many Catholics as Protestants.

According to results of a census just published, there are 100,290 Protestants, 91,620 Catholics, 3,243 Jews, 2,569 followers of other faiths and 18,350 people who declare themselves to be without religion.

Marian Stamps From Saar Voted Best



Prize-Winning Marian Year Stamps Issued By Saar

Paris — (RNS) — A set of three postage stamps issued by the Saar in honor of the 1954 Marian Year have been voted by Catholic stamp collectors the world over as the most beautiful set of stamps ever to honor the Blessed Virgin.

Results of a world-wide ballot conducted among members of St. Gabriel's International Society for Collectors of Christian Motives on Stamps were announced here.

THE 10-FRANC stamp of the Saar set depicting Rafael Sanzio's famous "Sistine Madonna" received the largest number of votes. The other two stamps of the set, picturing famous paintings of the Madonna, also rated high with the collectors, leading the society to give the prize to the set.