

# Maryknollers Gain Formosa Converts

By FATHER IVAN MCGRATH

At least one-third of my class is Catholic or taking instruction." This statement was made by a high-school student in the city of Miao Li, Archdiocese of Taipei. It indicates the progress the Church is making in a district where until two years ago there was no resident priest. TWO YEARS ago the county of Miao Li, one of the five counties comprising the Archdiocese of Taipei, was confided to the care of Maryknoll missionaries. There are now eight Maryknoll priests and two Chinese priests ministering in this district, which has a population of 360,000, and the prospects for the Church are excellent.



FATHER HILBERT

In the town of Miao Li, where Father Charles P. Hilbert, of Rochester, N. Y., is in charge, the church built and dedicated one year ago is now too small. Recently, during the third mass celebrated on Sunday, some 30 people had to stand outside. The church seats 250 people.

During their first year in the town the U.S. Maryknollers converted, instructed and baptized 150 people. During the past 12 months they added 350 more. These 500 new Christians plus the numbers still being instructed now pack the church each Sunday.

THE CURRENT interest in religion has spread from Miao Li city through the towns and villages of the county. In the town of Ta Hu, Father William M. O'Brien, of Chicago (who one year in south China instructed and baptized 1,800 people) had been forced to enlarge the church, enclosing a portion of the "backyard" in order to accommodate the Sunday congregation.

Another thriving mission is the parish of Tung Lo, where Father Raymond J. Murphy of Montreal, a missionary with 25 years experience in China, is pastor. The Chinese say that Father Murphy speaks their dialect so perfectly that if they heard him speak in another region they would think he was Chinese.

NORTH OF MIAO LI city is the parish of Tou Fen, with Father James A. McCormick of Scranton, Pa., as pastor. Father McCormick baptized 60 in his first year and now has 150 more instructed and ready for baptism.

Three new parishes have been established within the year: one at Nan Chuang, with Father Donat W. Chagny of Amesbury, Mass., as pastor, one at Shan Ts'a where former air-force chaplain, Father Francis J. White, of Pittsburgh, is in charge, and one at Tung Shiao, where Father Francis Rebol of Cleveland, is pastor.

Five Maryknoll Sisters assist the priests in their work—three at Rosary Convent, Miao Li City, and two at Maryknoll convent, Tou Fen.

## Indian Cardinal Visiting Ireland

Dublin — (RNS) — His Eminence Valerian Cardinal Gracias, Archbishop of Bombay, arrived here on his first visit to Ireland.

The 54-year-old prelate, first native-born Indian to be elected to the Sacred College of Cardinals, was greeted at the airport by Archbishop Albert Levaque, Papal Nuncio to Ireland, and Archbishop John McQuaid of Dublin.

Cardinal Gracias was installed by Pope Pius XII at a consistory in Rome in January, 1953.

## Cardinal Fund Oversubscribed In Toronto

Toronto — (RNS) — Catholics in the Toronto Archdiocese oversubscribed their \$3,000,000 silver jubilee campaign for James Cardinal McGuigan by \$326,000. The campaign marked the 25th anniversary of Cardinal McGuigan's consecration as a bishop. It officially opened on May 15, the anniversary of the date in 1930 when the prelate, at 35, was named the youngest archbishop in the Roman Catholic Church.

LARGEST EVER undertaken by the archdiocese, the drive was conducted in more than 140 parishes and 30 missions. Some 7,500 volunteers participated.

One campaign official said money is still pouring in and may exceed \$4,000,000 by June 17 when the drive ends. The funds will be used to build 10 new churches in the archdiocese to meet the rapid growth of the Church in the Toronto area. They will also help to reduce parish debts, and provide operating funds for St. Augustine's Seminary for the next two years.

Some 20 new churches have been constructed in the archdiocese during the last five years. Cardinal McGuigan recently remarked: "I cannot build churches fast enough for our people."

## N. Y. Released-Time Enrollment At Peak

New York — (RNS) — A record total of 121,488 public school children are attending released-time religious instruction classes here.

The previous high was in 1949 when 119,539 attended the classes. The released-time program was introduced in the city's schools in February, 1941, when 3,151 children in Grades 3 through 8 pioneered the project.

It is administered by the Greater New York Coordinating Committee on Released Time of Jews, Protestants and Catholics.

Under the plan, elementary school children whose parents so request are released from school one hour weekly to attend religious instruction in their own churches or synagogues.

The 121,488 pupils participating in the program this year represent 28 per cent of the boys and girls registered in Grades 3 through 8.



Maryknoll, N.Y. — Sister Mary Joseph, O.S.B., of Shawnee, Okla., receives the first blessing from her son, the Rev. William W. Statham, M.M., following his ordination in the chapel here of the Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America (Maryknoll Fathers). Sister Mary Joseph formerly Mrs. Margaret M. Statham, entered the convent at St. Gregory's Abbey, Shawnee, following her husband's death. Waiting to receive their blessing are the wife's two other sons, also priests. They are: the Rev. Charles W. Statham of Tulsa, Okla. (left), and the Rev. Denis Statham, O.S.B., of Shawnee. Father Statham has been assigned to the Maryknoll missions in Formosa. (RNS photo)

## Woman Doctor, Convert, Becomes Missionary Nun

Norfolk, Va. — (NC) — Sister Mary Salus Linn, a German convert doctor, was one of three nuns taking their final vows as Missionary Benedictine Sisters at the Immaculate Convent here.

Sister Mary Salus, who was born in Potsdam in the Berlin diocese, began studying religion at the same time she began training to be a physician.

SHE WAS received into the Church in 1943 and later that year was confirmed by the late Cardinal Konrad Von Preysing, Bishop of Berlin. In 1945, she received her doctorate cum laude and then did her internship in a Potsdam hospital. She joined the Missionary Benedictine Sisters at Tuzing in 1950. She will serve in Taegu, Korea.

## Portuguese Soldiers Renew Consecration

Lisbon — (NC) — A large number of Portuguese soldiers renewed their consecration to the Blessed Virgin on the last day of May in Our Lady of Fatima Church here.

The troops placed a large bouquet at the feet of Our Lady's statue.

## Gen. Mark Clark Predicts Longterm Strife With Reds

Chicago — (NC) — Loyola University graduates were told that America's struggle with communism will never be over in their life-time. The warning was given by General Mark Clark, who gave the commencement address here.

The general said the western powers are "being anaesthetized at the present time by Russia's sweet statements regarding hopes for world peace."

"Russia is softening us up in preparation for the Four Power meeting and a request for Red China's admission to the United Nations," General Clark, president of the Citadel, Charleston, S.C., military school, declared.

He said that the communists still have a great number of Americans as prisoners, in effect holding them for ransom.

"Small groups of prisoners will be turned loose from time to time to soften America further," General Clark stated, "and a forgetful public will regard each release as another communist effort toward world peace."

## Priest Sculptor

Cincinnati — (NC) — Good pictures or statues of the Sacred Heart are "almost impossible to find," a priest-sculptor, declared in Cincinnati today.

Father Anthony Lauck, C.S.C., art teacher at the University of Notre Dame and winner of major prizes for his own work, made this complaint to nuns attending the Conference on Devotion to the Sacred Heart at the Academy of the Sacred Heart, Clifton. The conference was sponsored jointly by Xavier University and the Apostleship of Prayer.

FATHER LAUCK said that "although over two centuries have elapsed since the devotion came to flower," an authority on religious art recently had told him "I have never come across a good painting of the Sacred Heart."

## Vatican Decree

### How To Gain Indulgences From Family Radio Rosary

Montreal — (NC) — Indulgences obtained from reciting the Rosary in a family group may also be obtained by reciting the prayers along with a radio broadcast, according to a decree of the Sacred Apostolic Penitentiary, the Vatican body which decrees the form of granting indulgences.

THE SACRED Penitentiary was asked to rule on this by His Eminence Paul-Emile Cardinal Leger, Archbishop of Montreal. To gain the indulgences, it is necessary for one person, at least, in each house to recite the beginning of the prayers—for example "Our Father, Who are in Heaven" and so forth—at the same time that the speaker does it on the radio. The others, in the home give the responses. It is not enough for all the listeners merely to answer—to finish the prayers begun by the radio speaker, the decree said.

Cardinal Leger also asked if the inclusion of some short meditation on the mysteries of the Rosary or on the liturgical feast for some short prayer prevented the listeners from gaining the indulgences.

THE SACRED Penitentiary answered that these inclusions did not prevent the gaining of these indulgences.

The indulgences in question were granted in a decree of October 11, 1954. At that time the Sacred Apostolic Penitentiary decreed, in the name of the Pope, that in families where the Rosary was recited daily, the family could gain a plenary indulgence three times a week and on two other days at their choice in addition to all the Feasts of the Blessed Virgin on the universal Church calendar.

## Deplores Paintings Of The Sacred Heart

The Notre Dame priest also cited the comment of "one of our best known makers of stained glass," who wrote: "You will have difficulty in finding good examples of the Sacred Heart in Christian art."

Describing a recent Catholic magazine cover as "a gaudy, superficial, colored picture supposed to represent the Sacred Heart," Father Lauck said one reader had remarked that "it looks like Bing Crosby with a beard."

"When there is an association of ideas like this," said Father Lauck, "surely the whole attitude of the artist needs to be changed before he attempts a sacred image."

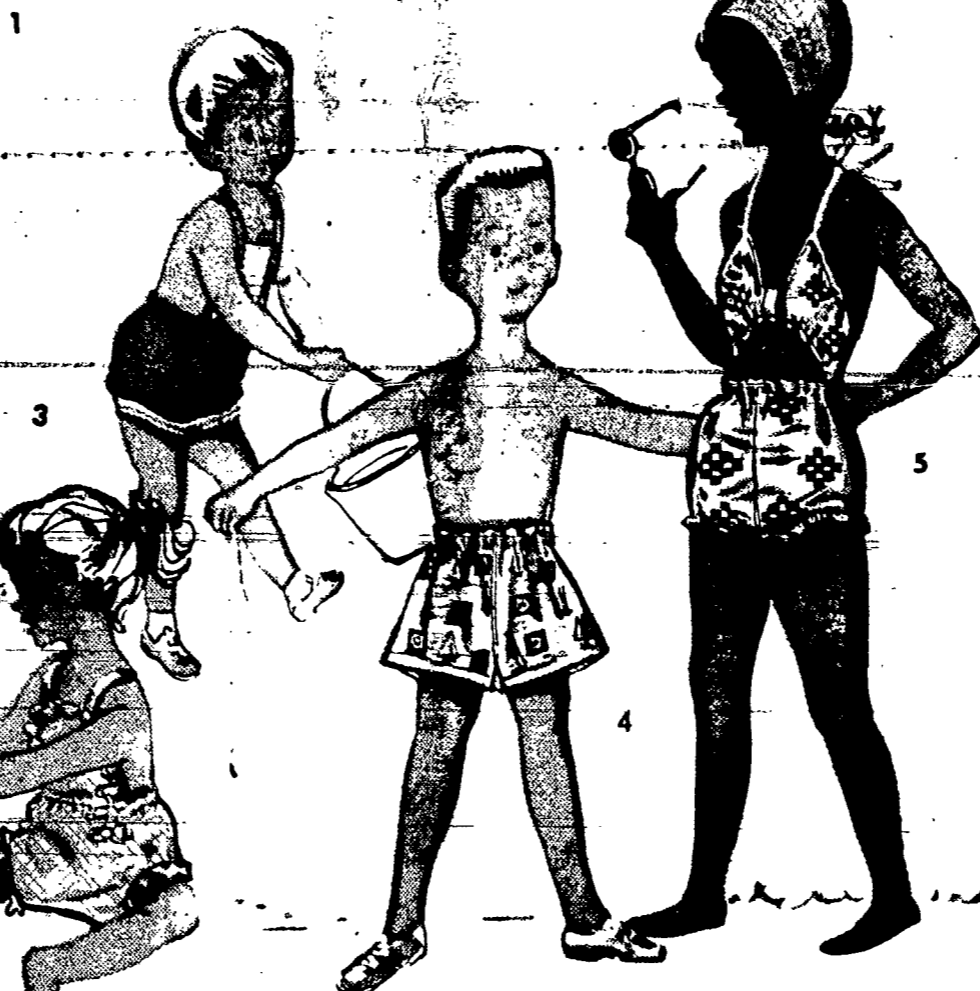
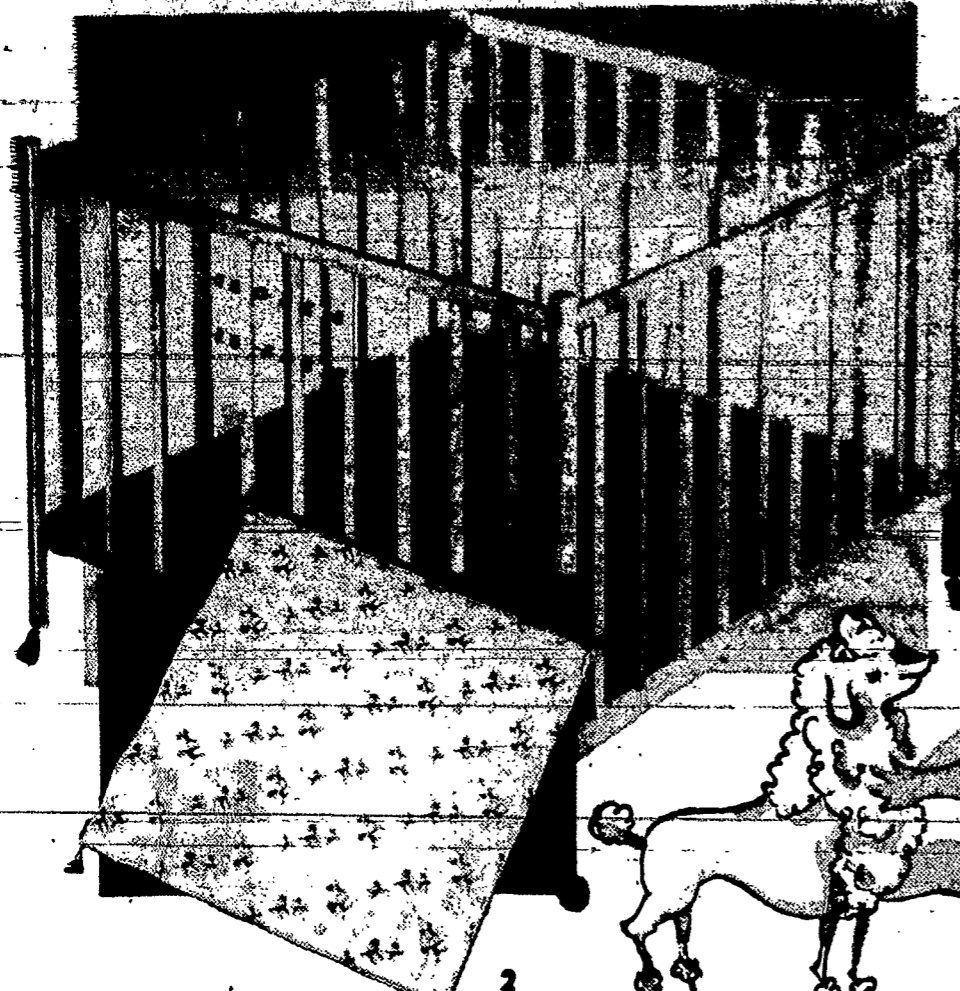
FATHER LAUCK also declared that sentimental and effeminate art work may be a factor in keeping worshippers—especially men—away from devotions in a parish church.

He criticized the "sentimentality and forced emotions dripping from pictures and statuary—powerful angels shown as awkward babes; women saints with Hollywood makeup; men saints with doll's eyes, feminine features and languishing postures."

"Few figures of the Sacred Heart," he said, "possess a truly manly spirit with vigor and power and nobility."



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