

## Home Life Blamed For 'Fallen-Aways'

Notre Dame, Ind. — (NC) — Inadequate religious life in the home and ineffective instruction in the faith are two major reasons why Catholics fall away from the Church.

This is the conclusion drawn from a nationwide survey of the problem of lapsed Catholics, conducted by Ave Maria magazine, Catholic weekly published here.

**THE FIRST CAUSE** of the problem, Ave Maria concluded, is "improper and unhealthy home training in the essentials of Catholic life, and the resulting bad example to growing children and adolescents."

Almost every reply to its survey, the magazine declared, attributed the primary cause of Catholic lapse from the Faith to "invalid or mixed marriages" or to "lukewarm" Catholic hopes.

"The second and more basic important reason why Catholics leave the Church," the magazine continued, is "lack of adequate instruction in their faith."

"One cannot say that Catholic schools have failed to give their students an adequate grasp of the Catholic faith. But many do indeed suspect that a sterile, catechetical and frequently useless approach to religious truth has not fostered the strong faith which a Catholic needs to live in today's society."

Determining the actual number of fallen away Catholics, Ave Maria contended, is all but impossible, since there are few good studies of the problem. Estimates of from 10 to 50 per cent were received from certain areas, it said.

**THE MAGAZINE** proposed this program to reduce the num-

ber of lapsed Catholics:

- "More concentrated investigation of the problem . . . The Church has never gathered systematically, the facts in this matter, but now we can ill afford to do without them."

- "Intensified family programs . . . It is beyond doubt that children of ardent Catholic homes run much less risk of losing the Faith."

- "Deeper religious instruction," at all levels of both home and school.
- "The example of Catholic life." This, the magazine declared, "is the most important means, not only of consolidating the ranks within the Mystical Body, but also of bringing back the strayed."

### Vietnam Reds Attack Cardinal Spellman

Saigon, South Vietnam — (RNS) — The Hanoi Radio in Communist North Vietnam, in several broadcasts, sharply attacked Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, as "an advocate of American imperialism."

The broadcasts came after the Cardinal had left South Vietnam for Singapore to resume his world tour as Military Vicar to Catholics in the U.S. armed services.

They charged that Cardinal Spellman had visited Saigon in an effort "to strengthen the already-shaken influence of the Americans and to help President Ngo Dinh Diem to fight Communism."

### Red Youth Rites Has 'Peace Pledge'

Berlin — (NC) — A pledge to "defend the peace of the world jointly with the Soviet people" has been made a part of the communist youth initiation ceremonies in Red-controlled East Germany.



**READY FOR SISTERS'** college drive—Committee heads for the Sisters of Mercy financial appeal are pictured with Mother Mary Magdalene, mother general. More than 600 volunteers will begin solicitation Tuesday for pledges toward erection of a new building on Blossom Road for the Sister-teacher training college conducted by the Mercy Order. In photo (from left) are: seated—Mrs. Walter Scholand, guild committee; Mrs. Walter B. Hickey, general co-chairman; Mother Magdalene; Miss Marjorie Howland, alumnae; standing—Harold J. Coleman, general co-chairman; Joseph A. Carey, parents; Emmett V. Norton, friends. (Martin R. Wahl, photo)

## Bishop Casey To Keynote Fund Campaign To Provide Needed College For Mercy Nuns

His Excellency Auxiliary Bishop Casey will address more than 600 members of the committee for the Sisters of Mercy financial appeal at a kickoff rally at 8 p.m. Monday Jan. 13, in Our Lady of Mercy Auditorium, Blossom Road.

The rally will inaugurate general solicitation among friends of the Sisters for pledges toward construction of a college building to train young Sisters for teaching in diocesan schools.

Estimated cost of the proposed structure, to be erected as a west wing of the Blossom Road motherhouse, is \$1,250,000. It is planned for completion by September, 1959.

**TO OBTAIN** a permanent state charter for the college, the Sisters must have a new building

by 1959. The college, with nearly 100 young Sisters enrolled, now is conducted in a single basement room in the motherhouse. Not only are additional college facilities needed, but also more space for postulants and for aging retired Sisters. The new building will help answer both these needs.

Also to be housed in the new college building is the Reading Laboratory and Testing Clinic conducted for the last six years by the Sisters. It assists pupils with reading difficulties, and provides vocational testing guidance for both students and industry.

Other speakers scheduled at Monday's meeting include the Rev. Richard T. Torrey, Sisters' chaplain, and Mother Mary Magdalene, mother general.

**GENERAL** solicitation in Monroe County is slated through Jan. 30. Near-completion is the special gifts canvass, by a committee headed by Henry J. Kearse.

Committees have been formed in other communities where the Sisters of Mercy teach. Kickoff dates are as follows: Elmira, Jan. 14; Corning, Jan. 15; Auburn, Jan. 17; Clyde, Jan. 21; Newark, Jan. 22; Hornell, Jan. 24.

Mrs. Antonia Manzari is chairman of the social hour which will follow the business session. Assisting Mrs. Manzari will be Mrs. Matilda Piscitelli, the Misses Catherine Doran, Marie McGrain, Louise Cafolla, Mesdames Antonette Cerza, Beatrice Cerza, Mary Deraddo, Mary Robbinette, Sadie Kukiel, Maura Lucchesi, Miss Yolanda Barbi, Mesdames Amelia Martello, Phyllis Morganti, Lena Antenucci, Angela Piscitelli, Pauline Pennacchio, Mary Sinicropi and Rita Laughlin.

**Waterloo** — Mrs. George DiPronio was appointed chairman for the month of January at the meeting of Court Theresa, Catholic Daughters of America of Waterloo. Others on committee are: Miss Jane Kenny, Mrs. Ray Kremble, Mrs. Fred Laun, Mrs. Della Manwaring, Miss Pauline Marianna, Miss Blanche Fuller, Mrs. Harold Young, Mrs. Roscoe Bartran and Mrs. Pat Simbole.

Two social evenings were scheduled for the month. The first will be on January 13 and the other on Jan. 27. On Saturday, Jan. 18 at 6:30 p.m. the annual tureen supper with the Knights of Columbus will be held at the rooms.

Everyone attending is asked to bring their own table service and a dish to pass. Entertainment will follow the supper.

At this meeting it was voted to send a donation to the state organization of Catholic Charities. Several letters showing acknowledgement and appreciation of the Christmas gifts given by the Court were read.

It was also decided to have the study club discussion during the Lenten season. Mrs. James VanNortwick, lecturer, will be in charge of these meetings.

### American Funds Aid New Norway Church

Lillestrom — (NC) A new church, built largely through the contributions of American Catholics, was blessed here by Bishop Jacob Mangers of Oslo.

In 1956, Bishop Mangers made a tour through the United States, giving sermons and lectures on the state of the Church in Norway, where only about 5,000 people out of a total population of 5,400,000 are Catholics.

It was through the response of American Catholics to the Bishop's plea that the construction of the new church was possible.

## Foreign Student Speaks At First Ithaca Breakfast

Ithaca — Wolfgang Englander of Santiago, Chile, South America was guest speaker at the First Saturday Breakfast which was started in Ithaca this month. He is attending Cornell University as a graduate student.

He spoke of devotion to Mary in his native country, Chile. He told of the Virgin of Carmel, the patron of Chile, how she became their patron and of the shrine now being built in that country honoring her.

**ONE OF THE** devotions which he related is called the Month of Maria which starts Nov. 7 and ends on the feast of the Immaculate Conception, Dec. 8.

He told how every evening they have services in Church during this month which is a time of special prayer and repentance. As the month progresses attendance at this service increases considerably.

He also mentioned shrines and points of interest about Catholics and priests in his country. He stated that about 95% of the population is Catholic. Regarding priests, it is customary for them to be always seen wearing their cassocks and that their mode of traveling is done usually on foot or bicycle.

**ABOUT 33** attended this breakfast which was held in Parish Hall, Mrs. Richard Fisher arranged a shrine honoring Our Lady of Fatima. Mrs. Paul Scott and Mrs. John Churey were chairmen.

The next breakfast will be held on Saturday, Feb. 1, following the 8 a.m. Mass in Parish Hall. All parishioners are invited.

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