



Soviet achievements America need never imitate are symbolized in fate of Molotov and Kaganovich, once top Kremlin potentates, later exiled to the sticks to run a power plant and cement factory.

Stop Idolizing Soviet Science

Isn't it time we stopped our cringing idol worship of Soviet scientific achievements?

Americans these days are more and more on the march to follow Moscow's lead in anything the Reds decide to do.

EXPERTS BARRAGE us with information telling us that compared with the Russians, our American diplomacy is stupid, our propaganda is ineffectual, our technology is obsolete, our military is inadequate, our education is second rate.

Congressmen on their way to their current sessions were briefed by Allen Dulles, head of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, by the still secret Gaither Report, and by the Rockefeller survey. These reports sent our nation's legislators into the Capitol determined to "do something" about the challenge of alleged Russian superiority.

Two Soviet satellites silent in the sky have now triggered a \$74 billion budget, with \$40 billion earmarked for military expenditure. The proposed billion dollar aid to education appears in comparison almost insignificant.

The pity in all this is the fact that America used to set its own pace. Now we are told at most every turn we must "catch up with the Russians."

The Kremlin has become some sort of idol we are told we must adore by imitating its achievements.

The very spirit of this slavish effort to beat the Soviets at their own game is certainly a sharp break from our inherited ideal that we can stand on our own two feet.

It is unfortunately tragically true that Russia has surprised us by its remarkable satellite launchings and frightened us with its boasts of possessing the so-called "ultimate weapon"—the intercontinental ballistic missile.

To face this threat with complacency would spell destruction of our way of life — but we must face this threat with a sense of satisfaction and security in the possession of weapons even more "ultimate" than an ICBM.

These weapons are our traditions, our freedoms, our ideals, our heritage as Americans.

America still holds the respect of the good, the poor the free people of the world — witness the refugees and immigrants who come to this country rather than to Russia to find a better way of life.

Scientific genius in America, said to be trailing its Soviet counterpart, has preferred to provide better living standards for more people rather than squander itself in a childish impulse to be first with a sphere into space.

America's schools, public and parochial, have produced a citizenry capable of thinking for itself, setting and achieving its own goals, finding happiness in freedom.

TOWERING EVEN above these resources—and where does Russia rate in comparison on this score?—our cities and towns and countryside are dotted with churches filled with freedom loving people who have a faith and conviction that God still has a hand in history.

We have our differences, our disagreements which we debate wherever two Americans meet, whether in the halls of Congress or at the corner soda bar.

But we must never let anyone divide us from our ultimate loyalty — to our country and to our God.

And just by the way, if the atheistic system of the Soviets is so efficient and advanced, how come the Kremlin must periodically send its top-notch key men like Molotov to be ambassador of Outer Mongolia, Kaganovich to run a cement factory, and Malenkov to be boss of an end-of-the-line electric power station on the border of bleak Tibet?

Evidence such as this indicates we aren't so second rate after all!

Week's Prayer Set For Unity

By FATHER ATWELL

A world wide, week long prayer crusade, will swing into action this Saturday.

Called the "Chair of Unity Octave," the eight day devotion seeks the reunion of a divided Christendom and the conversion of all those not yet baptized to the Catholic Church.

Besides Catholics, many Protestant and Orthodox groups observe a prayer week for Christian unity during the same period, January 18 to 25.

Directors of the octave devotion, the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, invite Catholics of the Rochester Diocese to join in the prayers of the crusade.

The Friars suggest Mass and Communion, Rosary, and recitation of the indulgenced octave prayers each day of the devotion.

FOUNDER of the devotion was Father Paul James Francis, an Episcopalian minister who organized the Friars of the Atonement. He also aided Mother Lurana Mary Francis, also an Episcopalian, to establish the Sisters of the Atonement.

Headquarters for both groups are still located at Graymoor, N.Y.

Father Francis began the octave prayer program in 1908, making this year 1958 the devotion's golden jubilee.

In 1909, the two communities, the Friars and the Sisters of the Atonement, became Catholic, the first fruits of their own prayers for unity in faith.

Within two months, Pope St. Pius X, on Dec. 27, 1909 gave official Catholic Church approval to the enterprise and wished it "great success."

Recently, the present Pope, Pius XII, told the Atonement Fathers he personally desired "wider observance" of the now 50 year old annual spiritual campaign.

The octave is the Catholic answer to the frequently discussed topic of Christian hopes for unity. Other religious bodies seek unity in some future church organization. Catholics believe essential unity already exists in the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church established by Jesus Christ with Pope Pius XII as its present day visible head.

This unity is symbolized, say the Atonement Friars, in the throne or chair used by St. Peter during his years as bishop at Rome.

* * *

St. Peter's chair, cherished as one of the treasured relics of the Vatican, is encased in a huge throne-like cabinet placed behind the main altar of St. Peter's basilica and towering above the throne used by the Pope during solemn ceremonies.

Father Francis in a radio talk in 1939 saw this chair of the first pope as the apt symbol for his octave.

"When you unite with us in the unity octave it should be to pray specifically for all those who, down through the centuries, have been separated from the Chair of Peter at Rome, that they may return to Catholic communion, that is to say, union with the Apostolic See," he said.

Time of the octave observance is significantly scheduled to begin January 18, the Church's feast marking St. Peter's coming to Rome to be bishop there. The feast is indicated in the Church's ritual books as "St. Peter's Chair at Rome." The octave closes on January 25, feast of St. Paul's Conversion to the Christian faith.

EACH DAY of the octave has a special intention to focus prayers in behalf of various groups separated from the Catholic Church.

* * *

Saturday, Jan. 18, has the general intention of "the return of all 'other sheep' to the fold of St. Peter."

An Atonement Friars booklet titled "One Fold, One Shepherd" reports, "Although there are 400,000,000 Catholics in the world, there are 1,700,000,000 who are not members of the true Church.

The conversion of such a tremendous throng is a gigantic task requiring God's grace and the concentrated work and prayer of all Catholics.

Sunday, Jan. 19, is designated as prayer day for "the return of Oriental Dissidents to communion with the Apostolic See." These "dissidents" are usually called "Orthodox" in the United States.

Largest segment of the nationally divided Orthodox groups is the Russian Church.



Chair of Unity — Ancient throne (shown in drawing below) used by St. Peter as first bishop of Rome symbolizes unity of Catholic Church under leadership of Pope Pius XII, twentieth century successor of the Prince of the Apostles. St. Peter's throne is kept in a chair-like cabinet shown above and behind present day papal throne in vast Vatican basilica.

Unity Octave Prayers

That they all may be one as Thou Father in Me and I in Thee, that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me (Jn. 17:21).

I say unto thee that Thou art Peter; And upon this Rock I will build My Church.

Let Us Pray

O Lord Jesus Christ, who saidst unto Thine apostles: Peace I leave with you; My Peace I give unto you; regard not our sins, but the faith of Thy Church, and grant unto her that peace and unity which are agreeable to Thy Will. Who livest and reignest God forever and ever. Amen.

American Catholics and over 50 per cent in England are negligent of Sunday Mass and Easter Communion. In Latin American countries the percentage is said to be even higher, due chiefly to clergy shortages.

Friday, Jan. 24, recalls the compassion of Christ as He wept over Jerusalem because the chosen people rejected their opportunity to be the heralds of salvation to all other nations.

Jews number only 15 million throughout the whole world but their selection by God to be the nation of the Savior mark them as a people holding special claims to the prayers of Christians.

Saturday, Jan. 25, final day of the octave and feast of St. Paul's dramatic conversion, summarizes the eight days of prayer asking for the missionary conquest of the world "for Christ."

Atonement Fathers state, "God's love can overcome all ignorance, apathy, prejudice, hatred." This all powerful love of God must be the spur for those who know His truth to sacrifice, labor, and pray for the spread of God's Kingdom, His Church.

IN THE CHAPEL of the Atonement Friars at Montour Falls stands a distinctive statue of the Blessed Virgin. Called Our Lady of the Atonement, the statue shows the Blessed Mother garbed in a crimson robe — color of the Precious Blood of Jesus — to indicate the role Mary plays in restoring "at-one-ment" in a divided world.

Wednesday, Jan. 22, is dedicated to prayer for the 56-million Protestants in America that they may return to the ancient faith of their ancestors, the Catholic Church.

Thursday, Jan. 23, aims at the return of lapsed Catholics to the practice of the faith. Estimates report 30 percent of

Cardinal Stresses Laity's Mass Role

By FATHER JAMES I. TUCCO
(N. C. W. C. News Service)

Bologna, Italy — "The liturgy is the life of the Church. It is the instrument for conquest."

This was the dominant theme of an interview which His Eminence Giacomo Cardinal Lercaro, Archbishop of Bologna, granted NC News Service. It has also been the dominant theme in the work of this great churchman, a leader in liturgical thought and one who has made more than a few conquests in this capital city of Italian communism.

For the people, liturgy centers on the Mass, said the Cardinal, for here all the faithful come together and worship and pray in community. He emphasized repeatedly the importance of the "Christian community" finding its expression in active participation of the congregation at Mass.

He stated that in the Archdiocese of Bologna a "Community Mass" is celebrated in every church every Sunday. In the Community Mass the entire congregation recites the responses of the Mass, the Creed and the Gloria.

Asked if the Community Mass was an antidote against communist influence, he smiled and answered:

"The Community Mass—the faithful praying the Mass with the priest — is an antidote not only against communism, but against Catholic egoism. By spirit found among some Catholics which is opposed to the Christian community spirit. Egoism is introversion. It is material instead of spiritual and is not in keeping with the sense of the Church."

The Cardinal was asked what changes might be expected as a result of the International Liturgical Congress held in Assisi, Italy, a year ago.

He replied that every real liturgical change must, of course, originate with the competent congregations of the Holy See. But as far as the Liturgical Congress in Assisi is concerned, said its greatest value lay in the impetus that it gave to the students and writers of things liturgical.

"My own contribution to the Liturgical Congress," Cardinal Lercaro said, "was a treatment on possible reform of the breviary."

The Cardinal outlined the average priest's daily devotions.

A priest begins his day with morning prayers. Then follow meditation, preparation for Mass, celebration of Mass, thanksgiving after Mass, examination of conscience at noon, hearing confessions during morning Masses and sometimes in the afternoon, giving conferences and instructions and working with parish organizations. It often happens, he said, that the priest's day is so full that his breviary must be read hurriedly.

"The priest's life of prayer and his pastoral life should be parallel," Cardinal Lercaro went on. "The priest should not be confronted with a conflict between the two. The priest's prayer should go along with his apostolate, should be a preface and an inspiration to it."



CARDINAL LERCARO
"liturgy for conquest"

"A reform of the breviary might make it possible to combine the two, so that he could recite a shorter canonical hour at various intervals throughout the day, giving strength to his labors. A reform of the breviary could retain all the priestly ideals and pious practices and integrate them with his pastoral duties."

He observed that some priests read through the complete breviary at one sitting in the morning or late in the evening. But, he insisted, this is not the ideal method of saying the breviary and perhaps the time will come when its recitation may be adapted to modern pastoral practice.

ON THE problems of communism itself, Cardinal Lercaro said that the Italian Communist party is making an all-out effort to preserve its capital in Bologna. It has a very strong economic base and maintains its strength through a highly developed program of social works.

"Italians are communists," he said, "not by conversion but by persuasion. They become communists only through a material outlook on life after they have abandoned their spiritual outlook."

JOSEPH BREIG

Jittery? Then Listen To Pope

Pope Pius XII's Christmas message was a strong rebuke to those who would like to see the free nations enter into a colossal Munich and hand over the universe, in the name of "peace," to communist baphemism and slavers.

There was no comfort in the Holy Father's words for cowardly, dishonest or deluded souls. On the other hand, there was magnificent encouragement for brave people who refuse to surrender God's world to organized hellishness.

"God's world." That was the central theme of this very great Pope's address. Time and again he alluded to the "divine law of order and harmony" which God built into creation and instilled in the hearts and the intellects of human beings.

This divine ordinance, the Holy Father said, "strictly imposes on all rulers of nations the obligation to prevent war." Further, he contends that God imposed a special task upon his pontificate—that of forging true brotherhood among nations.

TRUE BROTHERHOOD, he warned, is not the "iron disci-

pline of the collectives" which the self styled "comrades" offer. It is "a life of brotherly cooperation, of mutual respect for the rights of others."

Pius XII is as far as possible from being an appeaser of evildoers, a pietistic martyrdom-fancier, or a fog-brained wishful thinker. From the beginning, he has insisted that peace is the work of justice. No peace can be found in refusing to combat injustice.

The Holy Father counseled the leaders of nations not to reject "approaches aiming at peace agreements." But he warned them not to be fooled by communist doubletalk or frightened by communist threats.

He reiterated that a durable peace demands certain prerequisites. One is the existence of international organizations able to protect peace. Another is reduction of armaments—but this under "a system of effective inspection."

Still another peace necessity is this: there must be sufficient power to "deter whoever would aim at disturbing the nations which sincerely desire" reduction of armaments under effective inspection.

The Holy Father approved of the fact that the NATO nations had shown that, "at the first sign of danger," they were

capable of rallying together and strengthening their bonds for the defense of justice.

AT A TIME when many public officials, publications, writers and speakers were afflicted with failure of nerve because of sputnik, Pope Pius spoke with calm courage and serene confidence in the providence of God.

He cautioned against the panicky tendency to over-concentrate education upon the production of scientists and technologists.

Indeed, said Pope Pius, the brutalities in the modern world—the very things we are trying to correct—are largely the result of too much emphasis upon material progress, with accompanying neglect of the humanities and the things of the spirit.

THE HOLY FATHER reminded us that the Creator gave man dominion over the cosmos—including the heavenly bodies—and decreed that we were to cooperate with Him in establishing universal harmony.

God has not gone back on His word, said Pope Pius. "How can a creature despair of the world," he asked, "if God Himself does not despair? ... Man's work on earth is not doomed to discord, but is intended to show forth the eternal harmony of God."

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