

'We Need The Catholic Church'

(Continued from Page 1)

"Catholic Reformation" was published as a sort of commentary on last year's letter, which has led to intense discussions, especially among Protestants. Its authors are Dr. Amussen, Pastor Richard Baumann of Tübingen, Pastor Ernst Finkbeiner of Frankfurt, Pastor Max Lackmann of Soest and Pastor Wolfgang Lehmann of Offenbach.

ALTHOUGH THEY represent a minority opinion among Lutherans, their influence cannot be underestimated.

Pastor Lackmann, states no less forcefully that "Roman Catholics are the guarantee and realization and measure of everything Catholic." "Catholic being understood by the group in the sense of 'comprehensively Christian.'" In this sense Lackmann goes as far as to say that "one is either a Catholic Christian, or one is no Christian at all."

THE AUTHORS of the book, however, all insist that they are Protestants, and they frankly take exception to various teachings and practices of the Catholic Church, especially in regard to what they consider "exaggerated Romanism and centralism." But the same time, they all concede, as Dr. Amussen puts it, that "church history does not begin as late as 1517" (the year when Martin Luther put forth his 95 theses at Wittenberg, sparking the Reformation).

"What the Lutheran proclamations of those days had to say about the Catholic Church," Dr. Amussen adds, "simply cannot be applied to the Catholic Church

today, and the Lutheran church in its beginnings was much more Catholic than it is now."

Specifically, he says, "the formula (saying) Catholics wanted rather than by the grace of God and their faith, as Lutherans believe, is totally wrong in its simplification."

ON THE STRENGTH of such views the authors demand "a genuine approach to the Roman Catholic Church." As Pastor Lehmann expresses it "the justification of our own position cannot come from a distortion of the position of the other church, or by arousing 'antiisms' among our congregations."

DR. ASMUSSEN notes that Protestants "have widely neglected to find the Church in the Catholic realm, and their antagonistic prejudices are by no means overcome." He adds:

"In the Roman Catholic Church they pray for us Protestants with great fervor; if only we did the same for them, the tongues would soon be loosened, and contacts would soon be established to mutual advantage. The authors find that many Protestants long for the restoration of the sacrament of Penance in their churches and that they would accept a central teaching authority as legitimate, for the 'Protestant doctrine of individual inspiration by the Holy Ghost becomes unorthodox, if it implies doing without episcopal authority of protecting the faithful from teaching errors.'"

GOD LOVE YOU!

By MOST REV. FULTON J. SHEEN

WANTED: DOCTORS, NURSES, CARPENTERS, TEACHERS, ELECTRICIANS, ARCHITECTS, SCIENTIFIC FARMERS, BRICKLAYERS AND ANYONE WITH TECHNICAL SKILL.

WHERE: In Mission lands, such as Africa, Asia, Oceania and other underprivileged areas of the earth.

PURPOSE: To offer yourself to the Bishop of one of these areas for two years to practice your skill for the benefit of the poor of the world.

QUALIFICATIONS: None—only room and board. QUALIFICATIONS: Skill in any profession or trade combined with an ardent desire to spend self and be spent for the sake of the Gospel.

WHO NEED NOT APPLY: Women who would like to go to the Missions because they cannot find husbands at home, and men who think that the Missions are adventures.

Those who cannot make a success of life in prosperous America and therefore think they might just as well give second hand talents to God.

WHO WILL PAY EXPENSES TO THE MISSION LANDS AND BACK?

You will. The best way to prepare for your life of sacrifice is to do a little begging, that you may learn to trust in God and His goodness. Furthermore your sacrifice for Christ must not begin when you arrive comfortably in Mission lands. It begins with one kind of sacrifice in preparation for another. Our Lord brought Peter into the Garden of Gethsemane before He brought him to the Cross in Rome.

SOCIAL BENEFIT: None. You will be with people who are in grave need, as Our Lord had nowhere to lay His head; there will be loneliness as there was in the Garden when Our Lord said: "I am ready to die with sorrow." There will be no salary, no pensions, no social security, no overtime, but there will be the surpassing joy of reproducing the sufferings of Christ in your lives which will lead to glorious union with Him in Heaven.

The Missions are no adventure, except in faith. They are not for second raters; the poor of the world must have the richest in talent and grace.

This is no invitation to see the world, but an invitation to receive Christ on His Cross. As St. Paul told the Galatians, so each recruit must say: "With Christ I hang upon the Cross, and yet, I am alive; or rather, not; it is Christ Who lives in me."

HOW SOON?

It may take at the most a year to investigate your worthiness and to establish contact with the Bishop with whom you will work. Your two years in the Missions will be the most joyful in your life for Our Lord, says that He will give a peace that the world cannot understand.

WHERE TO APPLY.

Most Rev. Fulton J. Sheen
National Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith
366 Fifth Avenue, New York 1, New York

Cut out this column, pin your sacrifice to it and mail it to Most Rev. Fulton J. Sheen, National Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, 366 Fifth Avenue, New York 1, N.Y., or your Diocesan Director, Rev. Geo. S. Wood, 50 Chestnut Street, Rochester 4, N.Y.

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Requiem Mass Offered For Father Michael O'Brien

(Continued from Page 1)

He planned to have the new church-and-school edifice ready by September of this year.

PRIOR to his appointment as pastor in Greece, Father O'Brien served as assistant pastor in four Rochester churches. Following his ordination May 18, 1940, he was named to Holy Apostles Church, then in 1942 to St. Mary's Church. After his three-year term as chaplain he was named in 1946 to St. Thomas Church, and to St. Monica's Church in 1951.

Father O'Brien also held the post of chaplain for the Ancient Order of Hibernians. He personally led members of the order on three pilgrimages to the shrines of Ireland and Europe.

He served a two-year term as state chaplain of the A.O.H. and a three year term as state historian of the order.

He was a member of the Rochester Council, Knights of Columbus, the Organized Reserve Corps of the U.S. Army, and the Burton Miller Post of the American Legion.

He served as post chaplain and also county chaplain in the American Legion.

He was the son of Martha McAnally O'Brien and the late Michael O'Brien. Born in Glasgow, Scotland, Dec. 13, 1914, he came as a child to Rochester where he attended Sacred Heart parochial school, St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's Seminaries.

Besides his mother, he leaves four sisters, Mrs. Vera Calman, Mrs. Eita Connelly, Frances O'Brien and Mrs. Rose Marie Schulz; a brother, John P., and several nieces and nephews.

Prayers of the Diocese chanted the Office of the Dead for him at Sacred Heart Cathedral Tuesday evening.

ASSISTING BISHOP Kearney who offered Father O'Brien's Requiem Mass was the Rt. Rev. Msgr. James C. McAniff, assistant pastor; Rt. Rev. Msgr. John E. Maney and Rt. Rev. Msgr. Charles Boyle, deacons of honor; Rev. William Nolan, deacon of the Mass, and Rev. John Hayes, subdeacon.

Masters of ceremonies were Rev. Edward McAniff and Rev. John Morgan.

Acolytes were Rev. Joseph Donovan and Rev. Bernard Kuchman.

Rev. John Murphy was thurifer, Rev. William Schiffrill, book bearer; Rev. Vincent Collins,

candle bearer; Rev. Richard Quinn, miter bearer; Rev. Edward Tolster, gremialle bearer.

Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence B. Casey attended the Mass in the sanctuary and imparted final absolution at the grave in the priests plot of Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Also attending Father O'Brien's Requiem Mass were the Rt. Rev. Monsignors George Predmore, Arthur Florack, Maynard Connell, Richard Burns, Wilfred Craugh, John Duffy, George Eick, Charles Mahoney, Arthur Ratigan, Gerald Lambert and Charles Shay.

The Very Rev. Monsignors Joseph Sullivan, Leslie Whalen, John McCafferty, Patrick Flynn, Dennis Hickey, and Edward O'Connor.

Other attendees were the Rev. Fathers Leo Matusewicz, Robert Feneay, George Cusani, William McKee, Gerald Dunn, William Charbonneau, Leo Smith, Edward Waters.

Fathers John P. O'Malley, John J. Albert, Richard Murphy, Daniel Brady, Albert V. Ryan, William E. Davis, Edward A. Hartmann, William H. Shannon, J. Kenneth Davis, John V. Koska, Gerald J. Whelan, C.S.B., John Mallory, Roy B. Morphy, Charles A. Bennett.

Fathers James Callan, John F. O'Drury, James F. Schlichter, Donald Murphy, James F. Dooly, John R. Kinsella, Richard Thomas, William H. Hickey, Francis Harrigan of Providence, R.I., Albert H. Schneck, David F. Coffey of Providence, R.I., John V. Koska, Robert G. Smith, Edward F. Dolan, Joseph F. Brennan, Bruce F. Amann.

Fathers John B. Gallahan, C.S.B., J. J. Haffey, William J. White, George J. Ventura, Daniel V. Hogan, Robert Kanka, C. E. Albanese, S.V.D., John V. Koska, Joseph H. Voss, Joseph Sullivan, Robert McGreevy, C.P. of Union City, N.J., W. Harry B. Ryan, James C. Lane, Raymond M. Wozniak, Frank Valakewicz, Robert J. Egan, James A. Hickey, Hogan, Joseph Beattie, William J. Spence, Edward Murphy, Walter P. Robinson, William J. Amann, William M. Roche.

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Fathers Robert J. Down, Edward E. Szymanski, Gerald T. Conroy, Charles A. Schenkel, C.S.B., John W. Ryan, John J. Tracy, Robert A. Kellogg, E. Leo McManis, Eugene H. McFarlane, David Fink, Raymond D. Moore, Joseph J. Mately, Paul J. O'Leary, John P. Norris, Edward J. Conroy, Charles L. McCarthy, Thomas M. McLaughlin.

Parish Brothers were in charge of the funeral arrangements.

Ogdensburg Diocese Bans 'Reader's Digest' In Schools

Ogdensburg, N. Y. — (RNS) — The Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg has stopped the use of the Reader's Digest magazine in all its high and elementary schools because of "certain articles on sex carried in two recent issues."

Msgr. Floyd J. Brown, the diocese's secretary of education, said the articles were "contrary to Catholic teachings and principles as well as offensive to good taste."

He said he had instructed school principals to stop subscribing to the magazine and cancel current subscriptions.

There are 14 high and 32 elementary schools in the diocese, which comprises the counties of Lewis, Jefferson, St. Lawrence, Franklin, Clinton and Essex and part of Herkimer and Hamilton counties.

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Two Irish Villages Boast 45 Priests

Dublin — (RNS) — Two Irish townships whose combined population is under 6,000 are boasting of the number of Catholic priests among their native sons who are now serving in Ireland and other parts of the world.

When Father Denis Cahill of Loughrea, County Galway, was ordained by Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston, the town totaled up the number of its priests and discovered it had 22 ministering in five continents. It claimed it was a record for a town with only 3,000 inhabitants.

Within a week, however, Middleton, County Cork (population 2,800) was able to announce that 23 local-born priests — among them seven parish priests — were ministering in Ireland, England, Africa and Australia.

Slovak Priests Reported Arrested

Vienna — (NC) — Czechoslovakia's political police have arrested more than 80 priests throughout Slovakia and sent them to jails in Prague, Brno and Theresienstadt, according to reports reaching here.

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