

## Priests Urged To Study New Mass Decree

Collegville, Minn. — (RNS) — An official of the Sacred Congregation of Rites, in an article published here, urged all priests and church musicians to obtain "a thorough and first-hand knowledge" of the Congregation's recent instruction on lay participation in the Mass.

Father Josef Loew, C.S.S.R., said the document was issued before the death of Pope Pius XII, and its importance was indicated by the fact that the Pontiff read it through carefully twice and added some notes of his own.

Writing in Worship Magazine, the Vatican official said the instruction set down as a principle that "every effort must be made to have the faithful assist even at Low Mass, not as detached and silent spectators, but that they exercise the kind of participation that is required by the very nature of the Mass mystery and which is truly fruitful for Christian life."

## Prelate Boosts Boy Scouts

Worcester, Mass. — (RNS) — The program of the Boy Scouts of America "sees youngsters through the growing years of adolescence in a spirit of true democracy," a Roman Catholic prelate declared here.

The speaker was Bishop John J. Wright of Worcester.

Addressing Scout chaplains and adult lay leaders representing the 124 parishes of the diocese, Bishop Wright stressed the importance of cooperation between Catholic and non-Catholic Scout leaders.

He also advised the avoidance of such terms as "Catholic Scouting."

"All Scouts are members of the Boy Scouts of America," he declared.

## School Board OK's Bus Rider

Plymouth — (RNS) — The public school committee here approved subsidization of bus rides for students of private schools within a limited area by a 4 to 2 vote.

The action ended a five-year legal contest involving bus rides for pupils in two schools staffed by Roman Catholic Sisters of Divine Providence. One is Sacred Heart School here and the other is a control school of the same name in Kingston, Mass., a few yards from the Plymouth boundary.

## New Cardinal Sets Lisbon Rite

Lisbon — (RNS) — Archbishop Fernando Cento, Apostolic Nuncio to this country, who was named a Cardinal by Pope John XXIII, is expected to receive the red biretta from President Americo Tomas of Portugal.

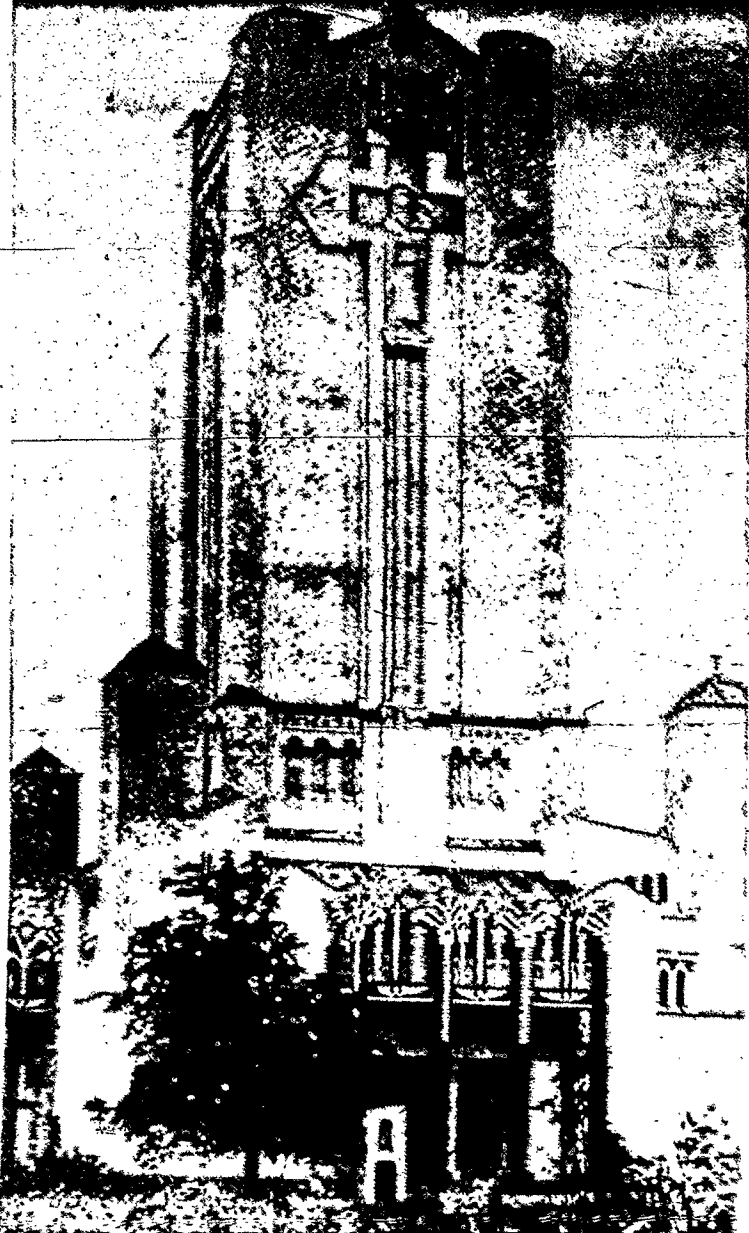
This is in accordance with an ancient tradition which grants the heads of Catholic nations the privilege of investing his ministers of their dignity or representing lives of the Holy See who are raised to the purple. Archbishop Cento was one of 23 prelates appointed to the Sacred College by the Pope on November 17.

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## Lithuania Shrine To Mary

Shilva — (RNS) — This chapel, nine years under construction, marks the spot where the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to some children here 350 years ago. It was completed in 1921. Knowledge of the apparitions, closely similar to those in Lourdes, France, 250 years later, has been little known in other countries since Lithuania was ruled by Russia from 1795 to 1918 and again since 1919. It is not known whether the shrine has been closed or not.

## Jews Said New Target Of Red Persecution

New York — (RNS) — Jews in Russia are being gradually squeezed out of educational, economic, political and social life, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith declared in a report released here.

Entitled "Anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union Today," the report claimed that a nationwide anti-Semitic campaign was under way in the Soviet press and that the religious life of Jews was continuing to be repressed.

JEWISH MEMBERSHIP in the Soviet parliament has declined drastically in recent years, the report declared.

## Nuns Garb Stirs Tumult

Watertown, Ohio — (NC) — This small rural town is the center of statewide attention because nuns teach in its public school. But the practice seems all right to residents, including parents of the school children.

School board officials and parents, including all Protestant parents, indicated in interviews they are puzzled by the tumult in newspaper columns in Ohio's bigger cities and by a "protest meeting" in Cleveland of Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State (POAU).

Four nuns teach in Watertown's school. They have been hired by the public school board and are paid with tax funds. The story behind their presence is this:

The Watertown school district, about 95 per cent Catholic, had about 55 school children. Until 1954, they were taught in two one-room wooden buildings in different parts of the school district. Each building had eight grades.

In 1954 the Watertown school board closed its schools because of their bad physical condition and rented the hall of St. John the Baptist parish here for \$1 a year. A single school with two laywomen teachers was established in the hall.

The school district is not well off financially. Its annual tax income for schools is only \$3,175. Needing a new school, the district school board accepted the offer of Father Charles Highland, St. John's pastor, to have his parishioners build a school and rent it to the board if they could depend upon having Sisters teach.

The State Board of Education in Columbus also agreed to the offer. In 1956 a new \$118,000 school was completed, but Sisters to teach were not available. Laywomen taught, but both left the district voluntarily in June 1958.

Father Highland then was able to get four Irish Missionary Sisters of the Assumption to come from South Africa to teach. On their arrival this September 56 children who are members of St. John's parish transferred from other public school districts to attend the Watertown school.

Eight of the nun's 115 pupils are Protestant. Religion is not taught during regular school hours, but during a half-hour of the lunch period. Five of the Protestant children are ex-

cluded and the other three study religion at the request of their parents.

Before the Sisters arrived, the school board—whose five members are Catholic—offered to pay tuition and transportation for any Protestant child whose parents objected and wanted him transferred. None wanted to transfer their children.

As an additional check on the legality of the Sisters teaching, the school board sought a ruling from Ohio Attorney General William Saxie. He said there was no objection.

But after publication of the attorney general's ruling, the tumult started. It has puzzled Watertown residents, including the three Protestant families who send children to the school.

One of them, Mrs. Frank Burns, accused newspapers of trying to stir up trouble. "What concern is this to people in Cleveland or anywhere else—except to give a lot of numbskulls something to talk about?" she asked.

"For years our children walked to that school in snow up to their hips and nobody cared. No newspaper sent anyone down here asking how it felt. Now we have a good school, so leave us alone," she said.

Mrs. Ruth Conrader, another Protestant parent, said she has no objection to nuns teaching her two school-age sons. "What difference does it make what they wear? They don't teach religion and as for other subjects, I guess they're as good as any other teachers."

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ecklister, the other Protestant parents, said at first they were skeptical about Sisters teaching, but when assured religion would not be taught during school hours, enrolled their daughter.



## Marian Award

Dayton — (RNS) — Winifred A. Feely, who was cured of a serious illness at Lourdes in 1950 and has since spent her life working at that famed shrine, will receive the University of Dayton's 1958 Marian Award at ceremonies on Dec. 10. The first woman to receive the award since it was established in 1930, Mrs. Feely will come to Dayton from France to accept the honor.

## Indian Bishops

Bangalore — (RNS) — Pope Pius XII sent his blessing to the Bishops of India as they prepared for their annual conference here.

## Schism Gulf Grows Under Red Pressure

By FATHER MORGAN J. VITTENGLI, M.M.

Hong Kong — (NC) — The first news of the persecuted Church in Red China to reach here in several months brings word of further illicit consecrations and elections of "patriotic bishops."

News sources from communist China report the July consecration of two schismatic bishops and the election of two more yet to be consecrated.

It has also been learned here that a number of public prayers have been ordered suppressed in Catholic churches in communist China.

Communist news sources report that the anti-Vatican Patriotic Association of Chinese Catholics has suppressed the recitation of the prayers after Mass in many sections of the country. According to their reasoning, these "reactionary prayers" were instituted by the Church in 1884 to combat the workers' movement throughout the world. The article alleges that the "Salve" mentioned in the prayers refers to the Communist party and thus this prayer should be abolished.

The legitimate Ordinary of Paoing is Bishop Peter Fan, who was deposed by the communists only a few weeks after he was reported to have made a full "confession" of guilt and to have demanded the "socialization" of the Church in China, and the "breaking" of all ties with the Vatican.

The communist press further noted that Fathers Li Liqou and Chou Kiwei were elected "bishops" of Yo-Yang, Hunan, and Ningpo, Chekiang, respectively. (The Pontifical Yearbook lists no Yo-Yang diocese.)

The total number of Chinese priests reported to have been "elected bishop" is now 32. Of these, 15 are known to have been illicitly consecrated.

Among other prayers suppressed in various parts of China are the public recitation of the Prayer for Peace, the Consecration and Act of Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and the Prayer for the Pope.

ACCORDING to a recent issue of the bi-monthly review, Kwang-Yang, published by the Vatican-consecrated Patriotic Association of Chinese Catholics, Father Li Hsi Tsiang was illicitly consecrated Bishop of Chengtu, Szechwan, on July 16 in the Chengtu cathedral.

The Kwang-Yang also reports that Father John Wang was il-

## Thousands At Shrine

Unknotown, Pa. — (RNS) — More than 100,000 made a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help at Mount St. Maria near here.

For the 24th consecutive year, members of the Byzantine (Greek Catholic), Latin and Maronite rites participated in the six-day demonstrations of devotion to Mary.

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