

# GOD LOVE YOU!

By MOST REV. FULTON J. SHEEN

THERE APPEARED RECENTLY in England a book by a soldier who had been in a Nazi prison. One beautiful description is that of the sacrifice made by a fellow prisoner.

Captain P. died of malnutrition in the infirmary. Eighteen months ago, a few days before he was captured by the Germans in France, he had bought three bars of chocolate for his children.

The three chocolate bars followed him into deportation and hunger. He kept them all the time in the shreds of his mattress, taking them out to look at once in a while and thinking of his children's joy.

He died of malnutrition, clutching the chocolate bars in his hand.

IF IT WERE THIRST he died of he would not have touched a cup of water destined for his children. Our Lord refused meat when He was tired at Jacob's well, because He was more hungry to do the will of His Father which to Him was meat and drink. Such self-denial by the Son of God inspired this soldier to die of malnutrition while clutching nutrition. His three children never received those chocolate bars, but the world has received the example of devoted self-sacrifice.

BEGGING AS WE DO for the Holy Father Pope John XXIII we constantly meet the moral descendants of this soldier. For example: last week our devoted workers posted a sign in the office asking everyone at the Propagation of the Faith office to forgo sending Christmas cards to their associates in this Mission work. All agreed to send the money instead to our own office at 300 Fifth Avenue for the Propagation of the Faith. So far there has been realized over \$65. In a certain sense, The National Office of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith has no employees; we have only missionaries, men and women who sacrifice whatever they can for the Holy Father and his Missions.

WE READ OF TEN of men in the desert who died of thirst a mile from an oasis, but here is a soldier who died of starvation with chocolate in his hand, because he loved his children more than his life, even the memory of his children. My dear Catholic people, those three bars of chocolate probably cost the equivalent of what each Catholic gave to the Holy Father last year to aid his 300 Mission Societies, namely 30 cents. It really should be \$30 each per year we give instead of 30 cents. The Adventists give \$33 each per year to their Missions. Make a sacrifice each day and at the end of the month send it to the Holy Father Pope John XXIII through his Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

GOD LOVE YOU to M.E. for \$5 "I submitted a question to your local newspaper to be asked of 'the man in the street' and was his money" . . . to M.E. for \$5 "I am enclosing \$5. I got it for saving for a neighbor's dog when they were on vacation. I am 13 years old" . . . to Mrs. F. for \$3 "This is \$3 just because I am thankful" . . . to Mr. & Mrs. J.B. for \$100 "This amount is a portion of the money we received as wedding gifts. We received so many things that we want the poor to share them with us."

IF YOU ARE WONDERING about Christmas gifts why not sacrifice something for the Missions, order a statue of Our Lady of Television and send it to a friend. You will be happy because your shopping is done, your friend will be happy because a meaningful gift has been received and the Missions will be happy because your sacrifice offering of \$3 for the statue helps the missionaries to bring the pagans the good tidings of the greatest Christmas gift of all—The Gift of Christ Himself. Send us your offering along with your request and we will send the statue to you.

Clip out this column, give 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 17, N.Y. or your Diocesan Director Rev. George S. Wood, 60 Chestnut Street, Rochester 4, New York.

## Britain Eyes Christmas Rites To Focus On Relics In Rome Church

### To Schools

London — (RNS) — A White Paper issued here by the Ministry of Education was seen holding out promise of an increase in state building and maintenance grants to Britain's denominational voluntary secondary schools. Anglican and Roman Catholic authorities have been asking the government to raise grants under the 1944 Education Act from 50 to 75 percent. Catholic authorities especially have complained that the denominational schools are penalized through restrictive grants and economic factors not foreseen when the 1944 legislation was enacted.

THE WHITE PAPER, entitled "Secondary Education for All," said the government "recognizes that the Churches may need some further help if they are to be enabled to play their full part in carrying out their share" in the country's expanding educational structure.

It said the government will invite the interested parties to discuss the possibility of increased aid to the denominational schools.

The London Times interpreted this as meaning that both the Conservative and Labor Parties will take part in the negotiations, thus leaving the issue out of party politics.

The White Paper announced that the government plans to spend \$1,120,000,000 on building and improving schools over a five-year period beginning in 1960. The building program envisages a first-year outlay of about \$154,000,000 on major projects, and in the second year of about \$163,000,000.

### Catholic Editor On 5-Station

Baltimore — (NC) — "Editorially Speaking," a program featuring Gerard E. Sherry, managing editor of the Catholic Review, Baltimore archdiocese newspaper, has been inaugurated on five Maryland radio stations including Baltimore, Cumberland, Annapolis and Cambridge.

Sherry will give three commentaries each week on important happenings of the day for an initial period of 26 weeks. The radio programs are sponsored by the Maryland State Council of the Knights of Columbus.

### Two Priests Named To Safety Board

Springfield, Ill. — (NC) — Two priests were among eight churchmen named by Illinois Gov. William G. Stratton to a Religious Leaders Traffic Safety Advisory Board. They will assist in developing education campaigns aimed at emphasizing the moral aspects of safe driving.

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### Christ Child Image In Rome

Rome — (RNS) — An image of the Christ Child, covered with jewels, is placed in a Nativity scene at the Church of St. Mary on the Altar of Heaven here, where it will remain during the Christmas season. The legendary statue is believed to have been carved from olive trees from the Garden of Gethsemane by a Franciscan friar during the middle ages. It is venerated by pilgrims who visit the church throughout the year, especially by prospective mothers and children because of its traditional miraculous powers of curing sick youngsters.

Scholars believe the pieces of wood were supports for a stone manger, which was probably carved out of the wall of the stable itself.

Despite the scholarly theories, the Catholics of Rome consider the magnificent decorations of the ancient pieces of wood as the great basilica and the ornate crib of the Christchild. During silver of the reliquary form a the ceremonies on Christmas Eve, contrast to the plain pieces, of hundreds and thousands of Ro-wood, and the miles re- all vivid man children are brought to pray by the sur- round-ly of the surround- before the exposed relics. mings of the birth of Christmas.

### Baptism Rites Irk Polish Reds

Warsaw — (RNS) — A Communist youth publication complained here that although many Polish newlywed couples profess to be non-believers, the vast majority of children born to them are christened in church.

### Father Of 15 To Be Ordained

Oosterhout, The Netherlands — (RNS) — A 74-year-old former shipping executive and the father of 15 children will be ordained to the Roman Catholic priesthood here on Dec. 20.

He is F.E.M. Lucaszen, who entered the Bonifratelli monastery in this Noord Brabant town two years after the death of his wife in 1951.

All his children — eight sons and seven daughters — will attend the ordination. Four of the daughters are nuns.

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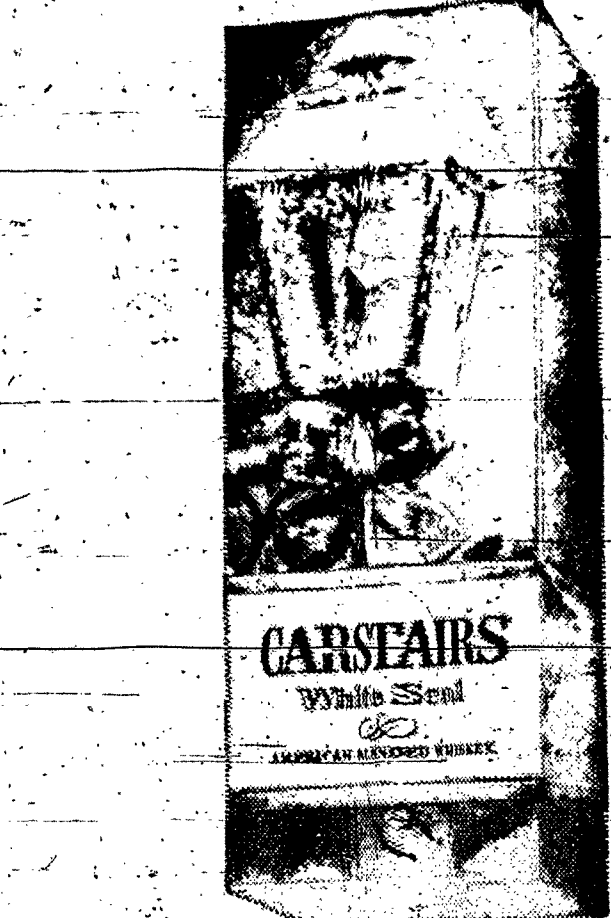
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## Mass Marks Centenary Of Charity Nuns

Convent Station, N. J. — (RNS) — Cardinal-designate Samuele Giovanni Cioffanti, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, celebrated a solemn Pontifical Mass here in honor of Mother Mary Xavier Mehegan, who founded the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth 100 years ago.

THE PRELATE'S visit was a highlight of "A Century of Charity" celebration which featured a series of Masses in the order's convent here.

Comprising some 1,800 nuns, the congregation conducts the College of St. Elizabeth, oldest college for women in the state, seven hospitals, 94 elementary schools, 24 high schools, six academies, three orphanages, a home for the aged and a residence for working girls.

The order's motherhouse has been located here since 1880—two years after the order was established in Newark, N. J.

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## India State Law Threat To Schools

Trivandrum — (RNS) — The legislature of the Communist-controlled State of Kerala passed a new education bill which permits the government to take over any Catholic or other private school it considers poorly managed.

Only government, according to the bill, will be schools established under Article 30 of the Indian Constitution which provides that "all minorities, whether based on religion or language, shall have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice."

### NATO Chief Visits Pope

Vatican City — (RNS) — Paul Henri Spaak, secretary general of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, was received in private audience by Pope John XXIII.

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