

Highlights of 1958



POPE PIUS XII
unprecedented tributes



POPE JOHN XXIII
precedent shattering

Pope's Death, Election, Segregation, Red China

By Religious News Service

Unquestionably the top religious story of 1958 was the death of Pope Pius XII and the election of Pope John XXIII to succeed him.

Resolving a top priority on the agenda of all churches was the refugee problem which religious leaders regard as the most challenge to the governments and peoples of the free world.

In the Communist countries of Hungary, East Germany and China new anti-religious developments created fresh concern in both Protestant and Catholic quarters. In China especially, the Churches were seen being rapidly purged of leaders tagged as "reactionaries" and "enemies of the state" by the Peking regime.

Meanwhile the subject of racial discrimination continued to be of uppermost concern to churchmen both in this country and abroad. This was especially the case in South Africa, where new laws have strengthened the government's apartheid policy, and in the United States, where difficulties over school integration in the South provided grist for Communist propaganda mills abroad.

To Catholic leaders the growing Protestant penetration of Latin America has long been a source of open concern. In November, some 50 prelates attended a Conference of Latin American Bishops in Rome at which pleas were made for more priests, to combat the spread of Protestantism in their area, as well as the growth of Communism.

The bishops also discussed ways and means of providing more adequate religious instruction for the Catholic populations of the various countries, especially in areas where spiritualistic sects have sprung up.

A Lutheran meeting in Strasbourg also endorsed proposals in the United Nations to proclaim a World Refugee Year. This was after it had heard a warning that failure to deal with the refugee problem may become a major contribution to a new war.

At least 25 million refugees are Asians who became homeless because of events in Korea, Vietnam, China, India and Pakistan. Arab refugees in the Holy Land have grown to over one million, while many thousands of persons are still housed in European camps and living under substandard conditions.

The award of the 1958 Nobel Peace Prize to Father Dominique Georges Pire, the Belgian Dominican priest who founded villages for East European refugees in Germany, Austria and Italy, was generally hailed as placing a notable emphasis on the pressing problem of refugee relief and rehabilitation.

Probably the year's most explosive Protestant development in the United States took place in November, when the Fifth World Order Study Conference at Cleveland, O., adopted a Message to the Churches urging U.S. recognition of Communist China.

The conference met under the auspices of the National Council



China's millions victims of Reds

all of Churches' Department of International Affairs, but it was stressed that the 600 clerical and lay world experts present made the proposal entirely on their own.

The proposal became the butt of sharp attack by other Protestants. Dissenting churchmen pointed to ruthless new campaigns in China aimed at ridding religious organizations of leaders charged with anti-Communist activities. Not only the Christian Churches, but also the Muslim and Buddhist faiths, it was noted, have become targets of systematic drives to eliminate "undesirables" from their ranks.

In an encyclical letter issued in June, Pope Pius XII lashed out against efforts of the Peking government to establish a "National Catholic Church" independent of the Vatican.

He condemned, in particular, the "crime" of Communist "prompted conscription of bishops without the Vatican's permission as seriously undermining the unity of the Church, and exposed Chinese Catholics to "remain unfulfilled and without blessing in your faith."

A similar excommunication was sounded in December by newly crowned Pope John XXIII, who said the clergy and faithful have become "the targets of blandishments, menaces and physical and moral tortures in order to force them to break the bond of obedience and love that links them with the See of Peter."

Meanwhile, in East Germany, campaigns to force youngsters to take part in atheistic youth dedication ceremonies and various other "disturbing factors" in Church-State relations evoked sharp protests from Protestant and Catholic churchmen. In several areas clergymen and laymen were sent to prison for allegedly agitating against the Soviet Zone government or engaging in espionage for the West.

In the United States, several religious bodies condemned attempts in southern communities to frustrate the Supreme Court's mandate to integrate public schools.

The American Catholic hierarchy, at its annual meeting in Washington, D. C., in November, issued a lengthy appeal urging "responsible" and "sober-minded" Americans of all religious faiths to join in eradicating racial segregation.

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Prayers Asked Sunday For Persecuted People

56,569

LAST WEEK'S

PAID

CIRCULATION

THE CATHOLIC Courier Journal

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF

THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE

70th Year

ROCHESTER, N. Y., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1958

10 Cents

Bishop Kearney Invites Clergy To Residence

His Excellency, Bishop Kearney will be at his home, East Avenue, Rochester, on New Year's Day, 2 to 5 p.m., to greet the clergy of the Diocese of Rochester.

Papal Goals

Care For Poor, Study Of Mass

Vatican City — (NC) — Pope John XXIII has counseled the Italian hierarchy to give special attention to the most lowly in the Church and urged greater study of the Mass.

Participants in the Italian Episcopal Conference were received in audience after completion of their three-day meeting. Among them were seven Italian cardinals.

THE POPE greeted them as personal friends among whom he had worked for many years and among whom, as he said, he had expected to be numbered during

the conference as a fellow bishop instead of the Pope.

He called their attention to several special areas which he wanted to see given emphasis.

He said there should be an effort to teach people a true and profound understanding of the liturgy, especially of the Mass.

He added that bishops should insist on the fundamental principles of the Christian life.

He concluded:

"It is particularly necessary to maintain permanent and loving contact with every category of person, beginning with the most humble, the laborers, favoring among these the most ignorant, abandoned, needy and unemployed... and exercising at the same time assiduous charity among the blind, orphans, prisoners and the like."

Changes Made In Boundaries, Chapel Mass

Parish boundaries have been changed in the Lake Avenue area of northern Rochester for the greater convenience of people in that section the Chancery announced today.

The Chancery also stated that celebration of Mass on Sundays and holydays in the All Souls' Chapel of Holy Sepulchre Cemetery will be discontinued. The last scheduled Mass there will be said this Sunday, Dec. 28, at 10 a.m.

The boundary change affects the area south of Stonewood Ave., west of the Genesee River, north of Holy Sepulchre Cemetery and east of the railroad tracks. This section, formerly assigned to St. Charles Borromeo parish, Greece, is now a part of Holy Cross parish, Rochester.

Catholics living in this area are urged to register themselves as parishioners at Holy Cross Church.

Pope Names Secretaries

Vatican City — (NC) — Pope John XXIII has named three new secretaries for congregations of the Roman Curia.

Msgr. Cesare Zerba has been appointed secretary of the Sacred Congregation of Sacramental Discipline.

Msgr. Pietro Palazzini has been named secretary of the Sacred Congregation of the Council.

Msgr. Dino Staffa has been made secretary of the Sacred Congregation of Seminaries and Universities.



New Nurses Have White Christmas

Jane Bowman and Diane Barron, two of sixty freshmen nurses at St. Mary's Hospital, received their white caps, blessed by Bishop Kearney, at a chapel ceremony last Friday afternoon. The new nurses will complete their training in 1961.

Bugles Replace Chimes

Christmas Killed In China

CBS television will present an hour-long documentary program filmed in Red China this Sunday. WHEC-TV will telecast the program at 4:30 p.m.

Hong Kong — (NC) — All Communist China, including the Catholic bishops, clergy and laity, passed Christmas Day at hard labor in fields and factories, according to reports received here.

A directive issued in the communist press in China forbidding the observance of Sundays and holy days by Catholics made it clear that the liturgy and ceremonies of Christmas were only cherished memories in the thoughts of bishops, priests and Sisters as they toiled at their laborious jobs.

Some worked at blazing blast furnaces, others in fields of vegetables, on the birthday of Christ.

An article which appeared in the communist review, Kwangyang, denounced the Church's laws forbidding service work on Sundays and holy days and demanded their immediate suppression. Such articles appearing in the communist press are the equivalent of law.

The statement claimed that with the communization of the entire country, and the mobilization of all available manpower, a single day is equal to 30 years. Hence it insisted that Sunday rest or the celebration of Christmas is "infringement to the activity of Catholics" and furthermore "gives bad example to the 650 million Chinese people."

Since Christmas in Red China was only a working day, bishops, priests and Sisters arose at 5:30

a.m. to the sound of bugles playing reveille. Then they marched out in military formation to fields, factories or steel works.

The work continued until 9 p.m. when they marched back to the barracks for a quick meal followed by political discussions under the watchful eye of a party worker.

Since the introduction of the "people's communes" earlier this year, husbands, wives and children have been housed in separate barracks like dormitories.

Although the outward manifestations of Christmas, such as church bells, carols, midnight Mass and Christmas trees, were replaced by the roar of hammers, smashing rocks and the steady chopping of axes, the beautiful strains of "Silent Night" and "Gloria in Excelsis Deo" occupied the thoughts of three million Catholics toiling in virtual slavery under Red China's masters.

Bishop Kearney has called for exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in all churches of the Rochester Diocese Sunday afternoon.

The faithful are urged to offer their Mass, Holy Communion, prayers, and private devotions for people suffering persecution.

Washington — (NC) — The Church is today undergoing "the worst persecution in the 2,000 years of Christianity," the Bishops of the United States have declared.

They described the persecution of religion being carried on by the communists as "a total war against God" in a statement urging prayers for "the modern martyrs and confessors of the Catholic Church."

The Bishops designated Sunday, December 28, as the day of prayer for the persecuted. December 28 is the feast of the Holy Innocents.

They warned that communist persecution is continuing "with unrelenting savagery." They said that many Catholics have been martyred while others are imprisoned and tortured for their faith.

They asked priests and people to join in prayers so that "God in His infinite mercy may soon reject His persecuted children with the return of blessed peace."

THE TEXT of the statement follows:

The persecution of the Church of God continues with undiminished savagery in the lands of atheistic materialism. Our Catholic brethren are denied the freedom to profess and to practice their religion. In some countries even the right to exist has been taken from them and they are being hounded to death in a grim, silent war of extinction.

Many of them, only God knows how many, have already died for their sacred convictions. Many more are imprisoned and subjected to the most revolting tortures in order to force them to abjure their faith.

In sober truth, this is the worst persecution in the 2,000 years of Christianity. It is, on a wide front, a total war against God; a war of extermination against all believers in God.

The enemy would cover this horror with a mantle of silence. But no Catholic may forget the long-drawn-out passion of these fellow followers of Christ. Nor may we as we raise our voices against all other forms of injustice, allow these our suffering brethren to be consigned to oblivion.

Today, we stand at reverent attention to honor our heroic modern martyrs. We send affectionate greetings and warm fraternal sympathy to our spiritual kin who endure such sufferings for the Faith we share in common.

In spirit, we walk with them along the dolorous way and shoulder with them the Cross of Jesus Christ. In spirit, we join with them up the rough slopes of Calvary. We are one with them in brotherly love.

Once again the Bishops of this free and favored land kneel together in fervent prayer that the days of this terrible trial may be shortened. We join all our priests and people to join with us in pious supplication that God in His infinite mercy may soon reject His persecuted children with the return of blessed peace.

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Father Muckie
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Clocks, Electric or Key wound,
\$3.25 and up. William S. Thorpe,
Jeweler, 318 Main St. East—Ad.

Auburn Prison Chaplain

Funeral Held For Msgr. Dugan

Solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated by Bishop Kearney Wednesday, Dec. 24, in St. Monica's Church, Rochester, for Very Rev. Monsignor D. Gregory Dugan, chaplain at Auburn State Prison for the last 16 years.

Msgr. Dugan, 54, died suddenly of a heart attack on Sunday, Dec. 21, 1958, as he was preparing to say Mass in Mercy Hospital, Auburn, where he also served as chaplain.

Ordained in 1936 by the late Cardinal Mooney, then Archbishop of Rochester, Msgr. Dugan devoted the majority of his priestly career to the care of the sick and less fortunate of the Diocese.

IN HIS WORK, first as chaplain to the sick at Monroe County Home and Infirmary and at Strong Memorial and Rochester Municipal Hospitals, and as chaplain at both Mercy Hospital, Auburn and Auburn State Prison, Msgr. Dugan was known as a person who did a tremendous amount of good, but who always shunned publicity for his accomplishments.

In his lifetime, he stressed the Mass as the focal point of his



MONSIGNOR DUGAN

work and constantly preached greater devotion to the Holy Sacrifice. While stationed in Auburn, he built up this devotion through beautifying the chapel at the state prison and was responsible for the complete renovation of the chapel at Mercy Hospital.

Rev. Msgr. Arthur J. Ratigan, a classmate, gave the sermon at Monsignor Dugan's funeral Mass.

"The funeral of a priest on the eve of Christmas does not silence the hymn of the angels — Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to men of good will," Monsignor Ratigan said.

"That is the theme of every priest's life — glory to God and peace to men."

"Monsignor Dugan loved people, no matter what their rank or position or creed. He made a supreme effort to be friendly to all in order to win them to our Saviour Jesus Christ."

Monsignor Ratigan said his classmate had a host of friends — priest, nuns and lay people — because of his "utter sincerity and generosity."

HE POINTED OUT that Monsignor Dugan, as chaplain at the Monroe County Home, personally arranged the funeral rites for those who died without money, without friends or relatives to mourn them.

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Card. Cushing Receives Red Hat

Vatican City — (RNS) — Pope John XXIII accepts the homage of Richard Cardinal Cushing, Archbishop of Boston (back to camera), as two of the Pontiff's assistants hold the galero or Red Hat over the head of the new cardinal. The Pope used one galero symbolically for all the new cardinals.