

Meat Today, Mass Tomorrow

Pope John XXIII has cancelled Friday abstinence for today, August 14, vigil of the feast of the Assumption of our Lady into heaven.

Catholics are thereby permitted to eat meat today as on any other day.

Tomorrow, Saturday, is a holyday of obligation. All Catholics are required to assist at Mass. Parish bulletins should be consulted for times of Masses.

Bishop To Bless Cornerstone

Bishop Kearney will lay the cornerstone of the new chapel and wing at the Canacle Retreat House on East Avenue, Rochester, Saturday, August 22, Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Preceding the ceremony, the Bishop will celebrate Mass at 1:00 a.m. in the Canacle garden.

Friends and retreatants are invited to both the Mass and the cornerstone ceremony. Holy Communion will be distributed.

K's Visit Seen Wedge In West

Vatican City—The Vatican's Sunday paper, L'Osservatore Della Domenica, sees Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev's visit to the United States as a Kremlin bid to divide western free nations, N.C.W.C. Service reported.

The paper's editorial said, "Since the death of Stalin Soviet diplomacy seeks to divide and destroy the western defense system." It branded current Kremlin strategy "more insidious" than the blunt habits of Stalin.

Boston Novena For Russia

Boston—(NC)—Cardinal Cushing has announced a special novena in his archdiocese to begin today of Nikita Khrushchev's arrival, September 15.

Prayers to Our Lady of Fatima will be offered for nine days, seeking her intercession in behalf of the people and rulers of the Soviet Union, captive nations, refugees, prisoners and peace in the world.

The Cardinal said: "The novena will be the greatest contribution we could make toward easing the tensions of these troublesome times and the greatest encouragement we could give to the 'silent Church' and to all peoples suffering under the tyranny of dictators."

School Board Drops Bus Fight

Burnt Hills, N. Y.—(RNS)—The Burnt Hills-Hallston Lake School District set an eight-mile limit for the transportation of pupils attending parochial or private schools in compliance with state law.

Challenged last year by the district on the grounds that it was unconstitutional, the law requires transportation of non-public school students up to eight miles from their homes.

The district also decided not to appeal the New York Supreme Court ruling which upheld a decision by State Education Commissioner James E. Allen, Jr., that the local education board may not deny transportation to private pupils.

Monuments and Markers for Holy Sepulchre. The better way to choose a monument is to see our indoor display. You will appreciate our no-agent plan. TROTTE BROS., 1120 Mt. Hope, CR 1-3271. — Adv.



Thousands View 'Holy Robe' Daily

Trier, Germany—(RNS)—Thousands of pilgrims march past the glass-encased Holy Tunic, the reputed seamless robe of Christ, to view the venerable relic during its first public display at Trier, Germany, in 26 years. According to tradition, the cathedral, oldest church of a Christian bishop on German soil, was

chosen to be the guardian of the Holy Coat more than 1,600 years ago by St. Helena, mother of Constantine the Great, most precious of the church's numerous treasures, the garment is believed to be the one Christ wore to Calvary and for which His executioners cast lots.

Relics, Strange Pope Deplores Silent Laity Aids To Worship? Catholics At Mass Said 'Pitiful Spectacle'

By FATHER HENRY ATWELL

This summer an estimated two million people will view the famed "Seamless Robe of our Lord" at Trier, Germany.

The relic is displayed only at rare intervals, usually once every 25 years.

The venerable relic, presented to the cathedral, tradition says, by St. Helena, the Emperor Constantine's mother, in the fourth century, is thought to be the garment worn by Christ on His way to the crucifixion.

Veneration of relics, a common practice in Europe, is little known in America.

Every Catholic church has martyrs' relics, usually tiny fragments only, buried in the parish altar. Many parishes also have small relics of the patron saint. St. Helena, however, is public devotion shown these relics.

But Europe churches have heads, arms or whole bodies of saints, relics of our Lord's sufferings including portions of the Cross, the coins Judas was paid to betray Him, the pillar of the scourging, the nails, the sponge, the rope by which He was tied, phials with His blood, and one church in Rome even claims to have the finger of St. Thomas which touched the rib of the risen Saviour.

Other famous relics cherished abroad include marma which fed the Israelites in the desert, the burning bush in which God appeared to Moses, fragments of Aaron's rod which budded, even a specimen of the clay with which God fashioned Adam.

There is also the story of tourists who visited one shrine where they were shown the skull of St. John the Baptist and then the next day at another shrine were shown another purported skull of the same saint.

When a puzzled tourist queried the guide how such could be the tourist was told, "The skull you saw yesterday was that of St. John as a young man. This skull was his when he had advanced in age and wisdom."

Not only Non-Catholics are understandably amazed at such gruesome piety and naive credulity.

Yet few points of Catholic worship can be traced back so satisfactorily to the earliest ages of the faith as the veneration of relics.

Castelgandolfo—(RNS)—Pope John XXIII told Catholics it was a pity that so many of them do not use missals when they attend Mass.

The Pontiff spoke at a Mass in the large new audience hall that was opened last month in the gardens of the papal summer villa here. Among the 10,000 worshippers of many nationalities were groups of American seminarians studying

in Rome at the North American College, and priests from various Latin American countries.

Pope John said big-city churches often presented a "pitiful spectacle" because many attending Sunday Masses there showed that they were not following the rite celebrated by the priest at the altar. He stressed that all Catholics should seek in the liturgy "an encouragement to live as perfect Christians."

He repeated a suggestion he made earlier this year urging

the people to respond to the "prayers of the priest at Mass."

Emphasizing also the value of attending weekday religious devotions and making visits to the Blessed Sacrament, the Pope recalled that as a diplomat in Bulgaria and other Balkan countries, he had observed that the churches were frequented on working days by many more worshippers than in Italy.

The Pope celebrated the Mass on the eve of the 55th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. Born Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli, he was ordained on Aug. 10, 1904, in the church of St. Mary of the Holy Mount in the Piazza del Popolo in Rome. On the day after his ordination, Father Roncalli was received in audience by Pope Pius X, now a canonized saint.

Washington—(RNS)—Vice President Richard M. Nixon returned from his visit to Russia and Poland with a message from Poland's top Roman Catholic prelate thanking American Catholics for their aid to the Church in his homeland.

The message was from Stefan Cardinal Wyszynski, Archbishop of Warsaw, and was handed by a priest to Mr. Nixon at a reception in the U.S. embassy in the Polish capital just prior to his departure for home. It read:

"Stefan Cardinal Wyszynski has asked me to express to Your Excellency the Vice President of the United States, his appreciation and gratitude to the American people for the help they have given to the Church in Poland through Catholic Relief Services' National Catholic Welfare Conference."

When Mr. Nixon arrived in Warsaw from Moscow, it was announced that Cardinal Wyszynski had already left for "vacation." However, it was generally understood that both the Russian and Polish Communist parties had taken plans to avoid any encounter between the American statesman and the Primate lest it be interpreted as open American support of the cardinal's oft-repeated demands that the present uneasy truce between the Church and the Communist regime be replaced by complete respect for the Church's rights.

SUNBEAM APPLIANCES: Toasters, Mixers, etc. Budget Terms. WILLIAM S. THORNE Jeweler, 215 Main St. E.—Adv.

N.Y. Cardinal Scores Smut As 'Rape Of Souls'

Toronto—Cardinal Spellman lashed smut peddlers for their "rape of souls" and scored "hypocrites" who aid the seamy traffic in obscenity "under the banner of freedom."

He bluntly charged such defence was a "perversion of freedom."

The eminent churchman, in one of his most outspoken statements, hit hard at the "vicious, venal enemies of youth" for demoralizing the minds of children and endangering the American heritage.

He spoke at the 61st annual convention of the fraternal order of Eagles who named him to receive their Ten Commandments Award.

N.C.W.C. News Service quoted the Cardinal as saying: "Thousands of dedicated men and women are striving by example and concerted efforts to protect and preserve our youth, our countries and our civilization from the fate of Sodom and Gomorrah, despite the determined efforts of vicious, unscrupulous enemies of youth, those who deny the true God and live in open defiance of His Ten Commandments."

The New York prelate said that for "adults to desert God is tragic, but to teach children to abandon Him constitutes a heinous crime, the brutal rape of souls."

"There are many forms of this perversion, and perhaps the most widespread and popular is the perversion of 'freedom,'" Cardinal Spellman said. "When it applies to the sacred term to contemptible schemes in order to prey on the weaknesses of unformed characters under the banner of 'freedom of speech' or 'freedom of the press' they are victimizing not only our children, but endangering our nation's treasure, its heritage preserved for us by the precious blood of generations of our beloved sons, fathers and husbands."

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THE DAMAGE to the souls of youth when "our freedoms are violated by traitors of true liberty" cannot be estimated, the Cardinal said.

"Those who raise their voices in defense of the innocent," he continued, "to attempt to filter the moral smog from the atmosphere of today's degenerate, amoral society, in order to protect our young from the vipers who feed upon and fill their pocketbooks from the demoralization of our children, are being accused of witch-hunting and censorship."

"And censorship has become a repugnant word. But censorship there must be—censorship of conscience—fashioned in the spiritual mold of the Ten Commandments."

In coping with the moral problem endangering children, people limit themselves to obscene material, but the problem is wider in scope and strikes at the roots of man's allegiance to God, Cardinal Spellman said.

"Perversions cause unspeakable evils, but equally disastrous is the failure of justice to

enforce laws to prohibit these evils," he added.

"Time has long since passed for such efforts as passing more laws to protect youth from obscenity," Cardinal Spellman declared.

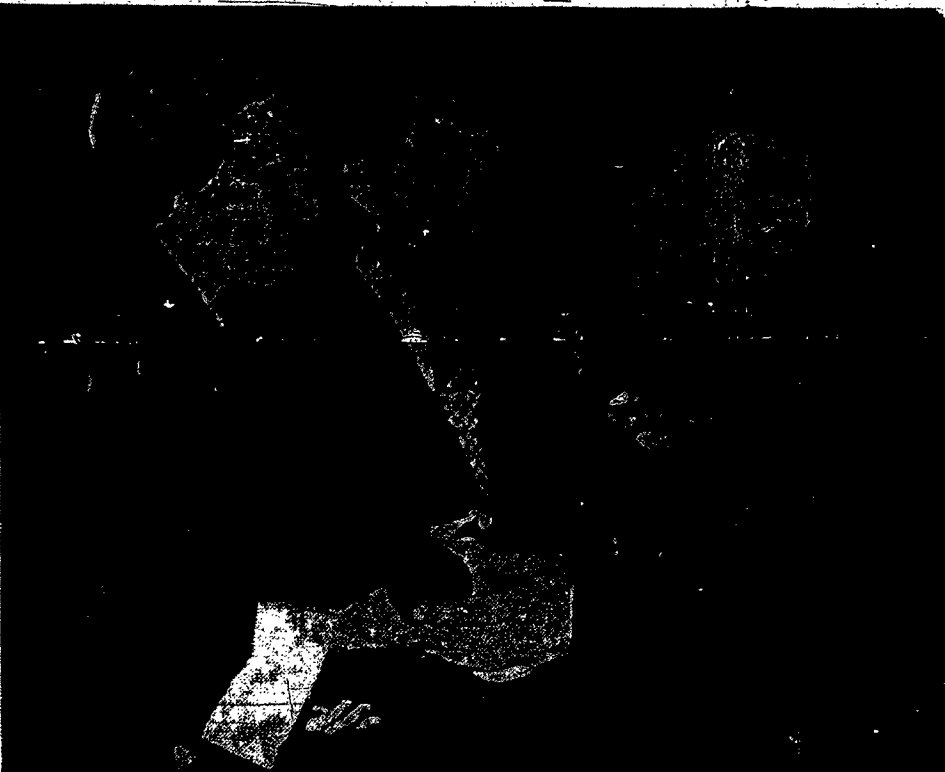
"The only effective solution will be found," the New York prelate said, "when adults strive to live God's Ten Commandments conscientiously and constantly, making each and every one of us his brother's keeper, which means too, keeping enemies of youth, those who deny the true God and live in open defiance of His Ten Commandments must be explained and demonstrated to our youth in the laboratory of daily living, and the instructors must themselves be enflamed by love of God and neighbor, and thus by their own example save our nation's children from degeneration and destruction."

Five postage values, seven small stamps and two souvenir sheets will bear various likenesses of the Cardinal, wearing the decoration of the Order of Maximo Barrio, which the prelate received from President Luis A. Boncompagni on his visit to Central America.

Britain Passes Smut Control Act

London—(RNS)—A Roman Catholic lawyer here was credited with having been largely responsible for drafting the new Obscene Publications Act that was given the royal assent after a difficult, five-year-long passage through the Commons.

The lawyer is 29-year-old Norman St. John Stevens, author of a book, "Obscenity and the Law," which is recognized as one of the most authoritative works on the subject.



Nixons Visit Polish Cathedral

Warsaw—(RNS)—Vice President and Mrs. Richard M. Nixon during their tour of Warsaw, are presented with a scroll by Father Anthony Kilinsky, Dean of St. John's Cathedral, seat of Stefan Cardinal Wyszynski, Primate of Poland. The cathedral was destroyed during the anti-Nazi uprising in 1945 but was later rebuilt. The occasion marked the first time that Mr. Nixon visited a Catholic church since he began his tour of Eastern Europe late in July. Father Kilinsky received the Nixons on behalf of Cardinal Wyszynski, who was away from the city.

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