

# Hope Survives Crises

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might be established between the United States and the Vatican.

Protestant and Catholic unanimity in the face of humanitarian and social welfare demands contrasted with the theological differences that made headlines when Protestant spokesmen took issue with a statement on the "population explosion" question in which the U.S. hierarchy reaffirmed the Catholic Church's rigid stand against artificial birth control. Issued at the bishops' annual meeting in Washington, D.C., the statement served notice that U.S. Catholics would not support any public assistance at home or abroad to promote this practice.

When President Eisenhower subsequently declared at his news conference that the government would have nothing to do with providing other nations with birth control information "as long as I am here," he was immediately criticized by some Protestant and Jewish leaders who insisted that birth prevention was a primary need for over-populated countries facing increasing starvation.

The issue spilled over into the political arena when Protestant Episcopal Bishop James A. Pike of California — chairman of a newly formed Clergymen's Advisory Committee for the Planned Parenthood Federation of America which includes Protestant and Jewish clergymen — asked whether the Catholic Church's anti-birth control stand was "binding on Catholic candidates for public office."

His question came in the midst of discussions over the possibility of a Catholic President during which a number of Protestant leaders insisted that religion should not be a prime factor in presidential nominations. In December, the American Civil Liberties Union endorsed this view, stating that the "fundamental" Church-State problem facing the country was "not Senator Kennedy and the presidency" by public funds for church schools and religious instruction in public schools.

The latter question, plus that of released-time classes for public school children, were live issues also in dispute between Protestants and Catholics in several states. Among them were Florida, Ohio, Washington, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, New York, Massachusetts, Oregon, Maine, Connecticut and New Jersey.

To Catholics, 1959 was a year which saw 78-year-old Pope John dramatically restate an idea that was on the papal throne.

The Pontiff's first full year Anne Seton, a New Yorker who saw not only his call for an founded the Sisters of Charity



**POVERTY, EXILE** remained the lot of millions as the world stirred to their needs in World Refugee Year.

Ecumenical Council, but the issuance of a series of notable encyclicals, the establishment of new hierarchies in the Belgian Congo and the United Nations trust territory of Ruanda-Urundi and the creation of eight new cardinals, in addition to the 23 he created shortly after his election.

Of the 31 new cardinals, four are Americans; the U.S. is now represented in the Sacred College by six members, the largest number ever.

In September, Pope John, in a surprise move, banned the controversial worker-priest movement in France and asked the French hierarchy to seek new forms of evangelizing the working class in which trained lay apostles would play a leading role. In one of his most widely quoted pronouncements, the Pope called for laws to curb abuse of freedom of the press, especially in regard to publications which pander to immoral and perverted tastes.

A particular feature of the Pope's first year were his frequent visits outside the Vatican to attend various functions in Rome. During 1959, he canonized two saints: St. Charles of Sezze, an Italian Franciscan; and Joaquina de Vedruna de Mas, Spanish-born foundress of the Carmelite Sisters of Charity.

In October, the Pope intimated that Mother Elizabeth could be done about TB.

of St. Joseph, and died in 1821, may become the first U.S.-born person to be beatified. Beatification is a major step preceding canonization.

Three highlights of the Catholic year were the celebrations marking the 100th anniversary of the Pontifical North American College in Rome, the consecration of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., and the dedication of the Pius XII Memorial Library on the campus of St. Louis (Mo.) University.

The \$4250,000 structure houses more than 11 million pages of microfilmed handwritten manuscripts from the Vatican Library and the university's own collection of nearly 600,000 volumes.

A record-breaking increase of 5,388,063 in 1958 brought church membership in the United States to an all-time high of 109,557,741, or 63 per cent of the country's estimated population of 173,774,000, according to statistics published in August.

Of the grand total of church members, 81,504,869 were Protestants, 39,509,808 Catholics, 5,388,000 Jews and 2,515,318 Eastern Orthodox.

The annual Christmas Seal Sale brought hope and health to thousands of people who 50 years ago believed nothing could be done about TB.



**NATIONAL SHRINE** — The more than \$30 million edifice built by America's Catholics to honor the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin was dedicated in November rites attended by the nation's hierarchy.

## Italy Drive-in Church Built For 1,500 Cars

Belluno — (NC) — Italy's first drive-in church is being built near this vacation center in the Dolomite mountains with the blessing of Pope John XXIII.

The church, dedicated to Our Lady of the Highway, is situated by the side of a major road running through the mountain hamlet of Cavarano. When completed, it will be circular in form and walled with transparent glass.

With its broad projecting roof and 150-foot conical tower it will have the shape of the witch's hat of traditional Halloween illustrations.

THE ROOF will shelter about 1,500 cars. Drivers and passengers seated in their cars, will be able to follow services through the church's glass walls.

Pope John has sent a message to Bishop Giacchino Mucchin of Feltrre and Belluno, approving the project. His letter finished with the words:

## Sister Madeleva Says

# Loyalty Oath An Honor

Chicago — (NC) — It is an honor for students to sign a loyalty oath, according to Sister Mary Madeleva, president of St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Ind.

Sister Madeleva told a luncheon of parents whose daughters are enrolled in St. Mary's that "the students consider it an honor to take the same oath or support any organization ad-

vocating the overthrow of the United States government, Sister Madeleva said.

The widely known educator and poet spoke on the controversial loyalty oath which college students seeking loans under the 1958 National Defense Education Act must sign.

They must sign also an affidavit that they do not belong to the loyalty oath.

## Christmas In Bethlehem

Bethlehem — (NC) — Century-old ceremonies will climax with Midnight Mass at the site of the Saviour's birth to mark the celebration of the Nativity in Bethlehem.

The procession from Jerusalem, as to be led by Latin Rite Patriarch Albert Gori, O.F.M., of Jerusalem will include about 1,000 Christians granted permission to cross the barbed-wire barrier between Jordan and Israel at the Mandelbaum Gate.

More than 7,500 pilgrims have applied for this permission.

Members of the consular corps will arrive in Bethlehem late in the afternoon of Christmas Eve and attend the Midnight Mass in St. Catherine's church.

Patriarch Gori's motorcade will, as usual, receive a police escort for the five-mile pilgrimage to this little town in the Judean hills.

The first stop will be at Rachel's Tomb, a simple domed structure, where the Virgin Mother also may have stopped to say a prayer at the tomb of her ancestress.

The next stop will be in Manger Square in Bethlehem. The procession will then go to the Church of St. Catherine for Vespers, and be followed at the Grotto of the Nativity with a short service.

At 10:30 p.m. Matins will start in the Church of St. Catherine, followed at midnight by Mass. At the conclusion of the Mass, the Patriarch, holding a life-size image of the infant Jesus, will lead the procession to the Grotto of the Nativity where the image will be placed in the Manger. It remains there until Epiphany, January 6.

Starting about 8 a.m. Christmas Masses will be said at the Altar of the Manger in the Grotto of the Nativity. These continue until evening.

## Tanganyika's

# Freedom Under Restrictions

Dar Es Salaam — (NC) — The Catholic lay leader who is expected to become Tanganyika's first Prime Minister has sharply criticized the proposal under which this African territory is to become self-governing next year.

JULIUS NYERERE, who left a teaching post in a Catholic school five years ago to found the territory's largest political party, led the campaign for self-government. He praised its announcement here by Tanganyika's British Governor, Sir Richard Turnbull, as "the beginning of a people's government."

But, he said, he opposes the literacy and property qualifications for voters contained in the self-government proposal.

The leader of the Tanganyika African National Union was also critical of the reservation of seats in the new legislative council for the territory's white and Asian minorities.

A German colony before World War I, Tanganyika is now a United Nations trust territory under British administration. Located on the west coast of Africa, it has an area equal to that of California and Oregon combined and a population of nine million Africans, 112,000 Asians and 23,000 whites.

There are about two million Moslems. Catholics number 1,202,639 and account for about 70 per cent of the total Christian population.

## Parents Ask Tuition Funds

Elizabethtown, Ky. — (NC) — A parish Holy Name Society has begun a campaign for enactment of legislation to guarantee what it calls "equal rights" for all in education.

The Holy Name Society of St. Henry parish is seeking state legislation to "provide tuition grants for each child who attends non-state schools," a spokesman said.

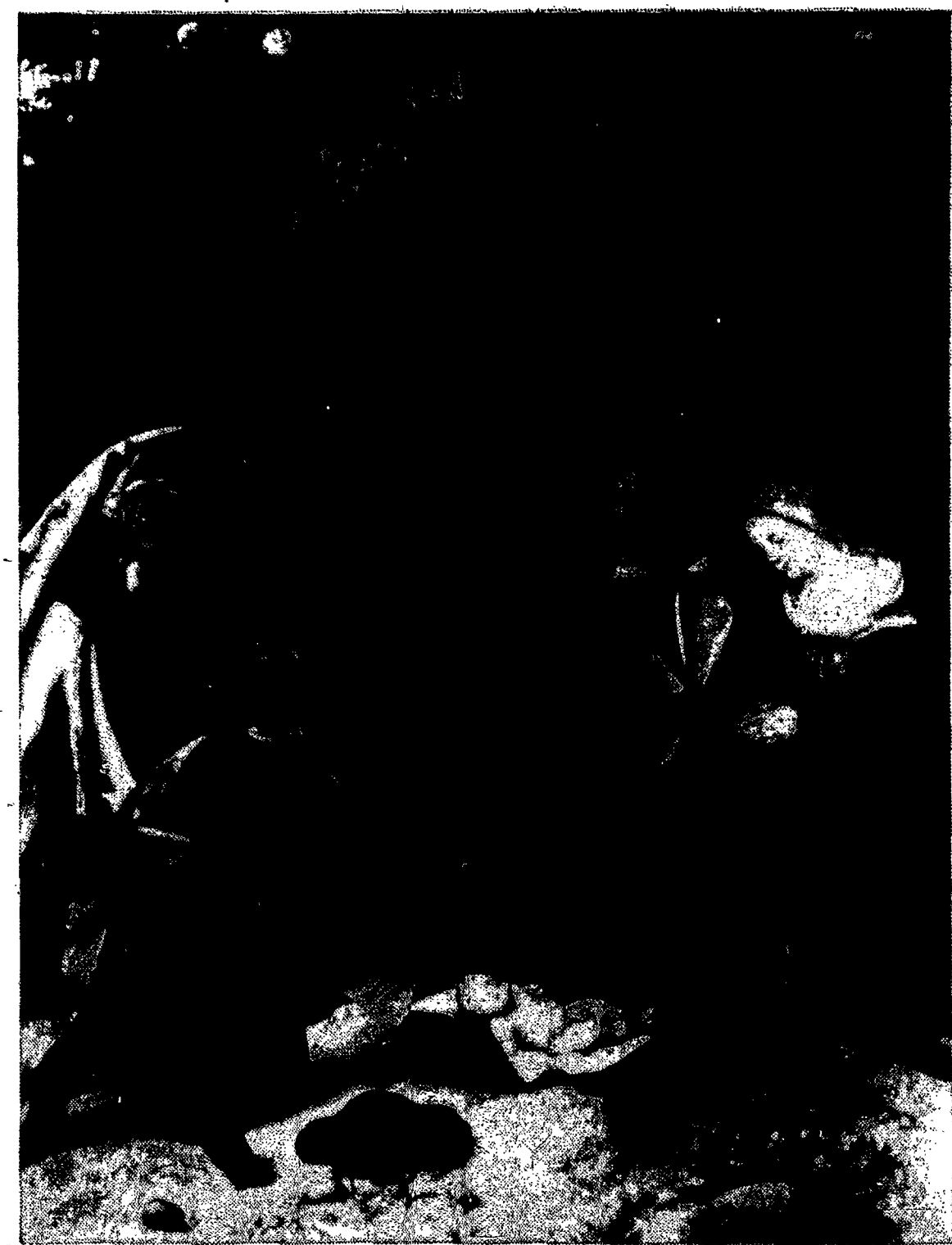
## The Christmas Rose

Beautiful Bud of Jesse's tree. Full-blooming now — not prophecy — Heaven's Rose placed in time.

Brilliant Bloom that makes ashamed The red-stained dog-wood, now defamed Since Judas kissed as sign.

Attar Sweet my senses fill! Pervade my being whole, until Thy Fragrant Bower as mine.

Helen Wooden, Waterloo.



O, COME  
LET US  
ADORE HIM

Once again it is the holy season when, with reverence and joy, we celebrate the birth of Christ. May the true meaning of Christmas enter our hearts and strengthen our faith... and may the year to come bring peace on earth and good will to men.

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