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THE CATHOLIC *Courier Journal* OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE

First Year

ROCHESTER, N. Y. FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1960

PRICE 10¢

Rochester Public Schools

Religion Classes Threatened

The religious instruction of nearly 15,000 public school pupils in Rochester is threatened with drastic revision.

If a proposal to end "released time" classes is carried out, religious instructions will have to be given the pupil after school hour or on Saturdays or Sundays.

Current parish totals indicate 10,000 Catholic pupils in Rochester public schools are enrolled in the state's authorized "released time" program.

An additional 3,611 attend classes sponsored by the Protestant Federation of Churches programs throughout the nation. Ithaca.

and an estimated 600 pupils attend other Protestant classes.

The Jewish Educational Association counts 40 pupils released from public classes for instruction in the Jewish faith.

NET TOTAL of pupils of all denominations attending "released time" classes in Rochester is placed at the 14,422 mark.

Dr. Howard C. Seymour, superintendent of Rochester public schools, this week challenged the present system of releasing pupils from classes for a one-hour, once-a-week instruction in their faith.

The program was pioneered in Rochester forty years ago to offer a pattern for similar programs throughout the nation. Ithaca.

was enacted under New York State law in 1940.

Dr. Seymour said the more than 14,000 pupils attending the religion classes are "a small percentage" of the public schools' total 41,000 enrollment.

The 41,000 figure includes underprivileged and first grade groups which have few, if any, pupils released for the religious instruction program, however.

"You can introduce no new work for those who remain," he said. He said he will present his problem to the city's Board of Education. He also said pupils who do not attend religion classes might be excused to go home, to work or to remain in school for special study or activities.

The program was pioneered in Rochester forty years ago to offer a pattern for similar programs throughout the nation. Ithaca.

Education, Chief Task Of Church

Triumph Of Faith Predicted

VATICAN CITY — The Church's chief role in the twentieth century is in the field of education. Pope John told clergy of Rome at their first synod meeting.

In another talk at the meeting's closing rite, the Pontiff predicted "the faith will conquer the world."

His first prediction in the Church's triumph was an answer to Communist persecution of clergy and laity in free countries.

He also called both clergy and laity to work for Christian principles in the business and political spheres of life.

HE EMPHASIZED the urgent need for laymen to respond to his challenge which he termed a "special vocation, an extraordinary mandate from our Lord to advance the cause of the Church and of religion."

Pope John stressed the increased importance of a total Christian education. He appealed to teachers to conduct their classes in the spirit of the Saviour who commanded all Christians "to go forth and teach all nations."

In his talk at the closing rite, the Pontiff called on the faithful to be steadfast and courageous in the face of Communism, borders and threatening world crises.

Pope John recalled that during the synod prayers were offered for the persecuted Catholic clergy and laity of the "Church of Silence" behind the Iron Curtain.

"But," he said, "their persecutors, who also are our brothers in Christ, deserve greater condemnation because — after 2,000 years of Christian history — they still are so blind that they still murder Jesus and persecute the church and the mortal King of the Christians and that Christianity will still and always be the faith that will conquer the world."

The Pontiff, for the second time, referred to a recent Moscow Radio broadcast that brands the birth of Christ as a myth.

"It seems strange," he said, "that after 2,000 years of religious experience and of the Gospel, lived and diffused, there are still those who have the courage to tell us that the whole story of the Catholic Church, all Christianity, is only a fabrication of a great people on the life of the world and that it is necessary to disperse it to remake the whole world."

The Pope spoke on his Fourth Sunday after Epiphany which is the Gospel of the Mass relates the miracle of

(Continued on Page 2)

Memories of Manila

War's Horrors Spur Prayers For Peace

Fifteen years has not erased the vivid memory of Manila's liberation — one of World War II's bitterest battles and a main stepping stone to Tokyo.

On Sept. 14, 1944, the school opened with two Sisters of St. Joseph, Sister Borgia and Sister Gerardine — their Mass for deceased members of the parish Monday, Feb. 15, at 5:30 p.m. Curates of the building on Feb. 15, 1945 when Solemn Mass was celebrated by Father Murphy.

An anniversary banquet for parishioners will be held in September when the new school addition, now under construction, is completed.

The Lyell Avenue parish received its name because it was founded the same year as the first Catholic church, the first Mass was said there Feb. 15, 1945.

Holy Apostles parish today counts over 1,000 families and has 620 pupils enrolled in its parochial school. Monsignor Edmund Prendeville has served as pastor since 1941.

HISTORY of the parish dates back to 1891 when Bishop Bernard J. McQuaid, Rochester's first bishop, purchased a lot on Lyell Avenue and dedicated the new church on May 31, 1890 and dedicated the new church on March 24, 1897. The church cost \$4,000.

Father Murphy was transferred to St. Mary's Church, Rochester, on August 1, 1900 and the Rev. James A. Hickey was named pastor of Holy Apostles. Father Hickey worked to reduce the debt and made necessary improvements.

Poor health forced him to resign and on Feb. 1, 1910, the Rev. John P. Neilligan was named pastor of Holy Apostles and the Rev. James F. Curtin and Jeremiah O'Driscoll were the first lay brothers.

There were 125 Catholic families living in the new parish.

Mr. George G. Deen, director of the department of industrial relations at Loyola University, charged:

"The warning to politicians is contained in a pamphlet, 'Ad Usum Secretorum' ('For the use of the Clergy'), prepared by Abe Gerow, Dean, director of the department of industrial relations at Loyola University."

To defend an opponent justly, to take votes from him, to attempt to make him lose his election by unqualifiable means is undoubtedly a mortal sin."

The pamphlet says, in part:

"To accuse falsely and publicly an opponent of being a communist is a grave sin against truth, a sin against veracity, because a more or less large number of readers or listeners are misled."

To defend an opponent justly, to take votes from him, to attempt to make him lose his election by unqualifiable means is undoubtedly a mortal sin."

Castro Said Red Inspired

New York — (NC) — Cuba under Fidel Castro was pictured here as a police state held fast in a grip of communist-induced terror.

Documenting the charge was Jorge Zayas, 32, editor and publisher of the independent Havana daily newspaper, Avante.

"Obviously I cannot prove that Fidel is a Communist party member," Mr. Zayas declared, "but he is a communist in principle and shares their ideas and methods."

Masses and Markers for Our Lady of Lourdes. The latter may be a reference to the new statue of the Virgin Mary to be erected in southern France in 1960. The Mass occurs this week Thursday, Feb. 11. The parish will present a film story of Lourdes Monday, Feb. 11 and 3 p.m. From left children are Kathleen Mack, Jean Belaney, Eleanor McNamee, and Patricia Ryan.

Ave Ave, Ave Maria

Children of Our Lady of Lourdes school, Elmdale, enact the scene of the Blessed Virgin's appearance at the new famous grotto in southern France in 1960. The Mass occurs this week Thursday, Feb. 11. The parish will present a film story of Lourdes Monday, Feb. 11 and 3 p.m. From left children are

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