

NY Judge To Aid Poor In Tunisia

Rome — (NC) — A New York judge said here that he will ask Congress to pass a law admitting to the U.S. 5,000 Italian families now living in misery in Tunisia.

Juvenal Marchisio, judge of New York City's Domestic Relations Court, came here following a trip to the newly independent nation of Tunisia in North Africa.

NATIONAL chairman of the American Committee on Italian Migration, Mr. Marchisio had gone to Tunisia to investigate charges that the 60,000 Italians there are being uprooted by the government's nationalization program.

Mr. Marchisio said he found that the Tunisian government had forced Italians to sell their property in line with the program and that Italian families are "living in mud huts conditions today crowded into single room without water, light or sanitation."

Large European colonists, mainly French and Italian, were set up in Tunisia after France established a protectorate over the country in 1881. Many of the Europeans have left since Tunisian independence was regained in 1956.

Mr. Marchisio announced that in addition to the families he hopes will be allowed to settle in the U.S., President Mamani Ruado y Ugarteche of Peru has agreed to accept 10,000 immigrants.

1/4 Million

For College

St. Louis — (NC) — The St. Louis Clearing House Association announced a \$250,000 donation to St. Louis University with no strings attached.

The association is made up of the five largest banks in the city. The gift brings to more than \$8 million the contributions from St. Louis firms and individuals to the university's drive to raise \$12 million for campus expansion during the next five years.

Vatican Exhibits

Vatican City — (NC) — The Holy See took part in 51 international congresses in 1959. Holy See observers or special delegates were sent to meetings ranging from the Executive Committee for the Program of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at Geneva, to the International Photographic Exposition at Tokyo.

Archers With Seams

Times chiffon, reg. 1.45 1.40, 3 pr. 4.05

Coral chiffon, reg. 1.50 1.25, 3 pr. 3.80

Dress chiffon, reg. 1.45 1.15, 3 pr. 3.30

Walking chiffon, reg. 1.35 1.15, 3 pr. 3.30

SEAMLESS ARCHERS

Sandalized sheer, reg. 1.30 1.25, 3 pr. 3.60

Walking sheer, reg. 1.30 1.25, 3 pr. 3.60

Dress sheer, reg. 1.35 1.15, 3 pr. 3.30

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Seven Steps To Heaven

— BY FATHER HENRY ATWELL

II — PENANCE

A soul shipwrecked by sin needs a plank to hang onto to continue its journey to heaven.

The plank after spiritual shipwreck is the sacrament of penance instituted by an understanding Saviour to rescue banished souls fallen overboard from the ship of God's grace.

Catholics usually call the sacrament of penance simply by the name confession which is one part only of the full rite of the sacrament.

Actually the most important part of the rite is the penitent's contrition or sorrow for sin. Without contrition, confession is pointless and the priest's absolution ineffective.

The contrition required for a good confession does not necessarily mean "feeling sorry" for sin. This needed contrition is a clear realization that sin is the worst possible evil (because it offends God) and gives the penitent the firm determination to avoid sin in the future.

St. Charles Borromeo, famous confessor of Milan, developed contrition in his soul by what he described as "three considerations." First he looked into hell to view the torments which sin deserved. Then he glanced into heaven to see the joys which sin forfeits. Lastly, he looked at Jesus Christ on the cross to see the sufferings the Saviour endured in the price of our sins.

This practice of the saintly saint certainly is to be recommended for all who sincerely desire to make a very good confession.

Spiritual writers list five steps in making a good confession:

1. Prayerful examination of conscience—an honest but not scrupulous effort to determine the sins committed since the last confession.

The number of times the saint is committed is also important. It obviously makes a difference whether a person who confesses "I lied" adds "once this past month" or "a dozen times a day." In the first case, the penitent is obviously a generally truthful person; in the latter, a liar.

2. Confession, humbly and honestly, without exaggeration or evasion.

3. Absolution by the priest.

4. Performing the penance imposed.

The penance, usually recitation of a few prayers, seems to many to be a penalty payment for the sins committed. An example might clarify the Church's practice in this matter.

If you were to write a check for \$100,000, undoubtedly no bank would cash it since your account lacked such a tremendous balance (we assume most Courier readers are not millionaires). If, however, you had a rich uncle with oil wells in Texas who permitted you to draw funds from his account, then your otherwise worthless scrap of paper would become a document of great value.

So our penance assigned as a penance are trifles in themselves, but backed by the power of the sacrament share in the redeeming action of our Lord and take on an infinite value to blot out sin and its penalty.

Catholics often hear people outside the Church remark, "I don't need a priest. I go direct to God for forgiveness."

Catholics agree that God alone can forgive sins. We also believe God can give that power to others if He so wishes.

Many did have this opportunity to go directly to God for forgiveness when our Lord walked the roads of Palestine. Scripture records many such episodes.

One such event centered on a poor cripple brought by his friends to the miracle-working Saviour. Our Lord greeted him, "Son, thy sins are forgiven thee."

The statement stirred the present of the Sanhedrin against Lord, to prove His power to cure sin. They watched the miracle, exclaiming the popular body, telling him, "Thou art the Son of God!" (Mark 4:41).

OUR LORD did not wish to restrict His ministry of mercy to those who chance to live during the few years of His public life and in that manner.

He first of all promised He would give St. Peter "the keys of the kingdom of heaven"—symbol of the power to open heaven to sin-tainted souls (Matthew 16:19). Later, Christ promised to all His apostles He would really in eternity "shut the gates of

Around The Altar

Mieken, Japan — An unusually designed circular church with a round altar (table resting on a formation of natural rock) is being planned by a Maryknoll Missionary here.

Kathleen Marie A. Tennen, M.M., of Pittsford, Vermont, a former missionary expelled from China by the Communists, has dedicated a church here interpreting the theme and pattern of the renowned Japanese garden.

"It will be different and should appeal to the Japanese sense of beauty," explains Father Kathleen. "The people will be gathered around the sacrifice in in the center of an altar."

Capital Plans

Participation

Washington — (NC) — A program for increased participation in the Mass will be introduced into parishes in the Washington archdiocese during Lent.

The congregation will recite various prayers of the Mass aloud in English, while the priest is saying them in Latin.

The congregation will also make some of the Latin responses orally, recited by the Mass server.

Archbishop Patrick A. O'Boyle said this will promote "ever greater love of the Mass by enabling the laity to participate more actively in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, our greatest privilege as Catholics."

Participation

To Start

Dubuque — (NC) — Archbishop Leo Blas, of Dubuque has directed all parishes and institutions in his archdiocese to begin a program of participation in the Mass by Easter Sunday, April 17, at least to the first degree of participation.

He further directed that by the first Sunday of Advent, November 27, full participation, or the third degree of participation, be in practice wherever Mass is offered.

Retires At 97

Vatican City — (NC) — The 97-year-old Secretary of the Sacred Congregation of Rites, Archbishop Alfonso Carami, has retired from active duty and his son, Don Alfonso, has been named secretary emeritus.

Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for such is the kingdom of God."

"If this is what Christ said of children, the Pope then told the aged parents, all the more does the divine gesture of invitation apply to older children."

The Pope blessed the children, and expressed his hope that they may grow up in the exercise of patience, always with the face of God before them.

The Pope cited Christ's words,



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