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# UN Asked Probe Red Persecution



## Thousands Said Victims

Salzburg — (RNS) — It is high time that the cause of persecuted Christianity behind the Iron and Bamboo-Curtains be brought before the United Nations Security Council, according to Roman Catholic Archbishop Andreas Rohrer of Salzburg.

Writing in *Volksbote* (People's Messenger), Catholic weekly published at Innsbruck, the archbishop said that "with full justice, the racial persecutions in South Africa and offenses against minority groups are currently before the United Nations."

"But," he asked, "when will the equally important issue of the Communist oppression of thousands of Christians in Eastern Europe and Asia be introduced into that world body?"

"For years," he said "clergy and faithful have been tortured, imprisoned and executed for the sole offense of loyalty to their religious beliefs. So-called people's courts have ascribed political motives to bishops, labeled Princes of the Church as 'reactionaries' and 'tools of imperialism.'"

Archbishop Rohrer cited the "Communist oppression" against the "Catholic family in East Germany and Hungary."

Observing that in the letter "except all religious orders, except the Benedictines and Paulines, have been suspended and 3,000 Catholic schools closed, he said conditions in Yugoslavia are no better."

"UP TILL NOW," he continued, "we have really no knowledge of the whereabouts of Archbishop Joseph Beran of Prague, nor of Bishops Karel Skoupny of Brno and Joseph Elischer of Budapest. Nearly all the Czech hierarchy have either been sentenced to forced labor or are under house arrest."

"In Red China, Bishop Ignatius Kung Pin-mei of Shanghai is serving a life sentence, and other priests, including American Bishop James E. Walsh, have been given terms up to 20 years."

"Where is the nation today which stands ready to plead the cause of the persecuted Church before the United Nations?"

"We are witnessing a flood of goodwill tours by the world's leading statesmen. Who among them will meet the challenge and charge the Soviet Union and its minions in Eastern Europe and Asia with atrocities against humanity, before the bar of international justice?"

## Holy Saturday Dispensation

Bishop Kearney has dispensed the faithful of the Rochester Diocese from the Lenten fast and abstinence on Holy Saturday, April 16.

## Easter Rites On TV, Radio

Rochester television and Auburn radio will carry Easter Sunday High Mass broadcasts.

ROCHESTER'S WRQC-TV, Channel 5, will telecast High Mass from Nazareth Academy Convict Chapel, 9:45 to 11 a.m.

The Mass will be preceded by a fifteen minute enactment of the Easter Vigil rite held in Catholic churches late Holy Saturday evening.

IN AUBURN, WMBG will broadcast High Mass from St. Mary's Church at 11 a.m.

TV and radio networks have scheduled other special Easter programs. Local listings should be consulted for exact time.

Instead of bread and wine, the children's Offertory procession at Holy Mass has been initiated by St. Mary's parish.

Examples of the children's regulations are: to obey their parents, to make their beds without being told, go to bed without arguing, give up television and practice the plans willingly. One regulation was "no argument today."

## You Pray For Me, I'll Pray For You

Vatican — (RNS) — Seated at his desk in the small throne room at the Vatican, Pope John XXIII gives a picture of himself to Katherine Hudson, seven-year-old leukemia victim of Oklahoma City. Katherine realized her dream of seeing the Pontiff when she and her mother, Mrs. Marjorie Hudson, were brought to a special audience. The girl, who doctors say has only a short time to live, begged her mother to take her to see the Pope. Mrs. Hudson said "everybody had to make the trip. The Pope told the child, 'You pray for me, I'll pray for you.'"

## Rugged Life For Missioner Bishop Casey, Co-consecrator For New Prelate

When a friend came down the beach one New Guinea afternoon to tell Father George E. Bernarding he had been named a bishop, he found him gazing into the machine shop repairing a mission boat.

The scene was typical of New Guinea's rugged life and of Bishop-elect Bernarding's ability to meet it.

For 20 years as a Divine Word missionary, this native of Carrick, a Pittsburgh suburb, brought the Gospel by foot and horseback, later by motorcycle and airplane, to the small, chocolate-skinned natives of that South Seas island.

When Bishop-elect Bernarding is consecrated at St. Paul's Cathedral in Pittsburgh Thursday, April 21, Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence E. Casey of Rochester will be one of the three consecrating prelates.

Bishop John Wright of Pittsburgh will be consecrator and Auxiliary Bishop Edward McManaman of Erie will be, with Bishop Casey, co-consecrator.

Most of the Divine Word missionaries from St. Michael's S.V.D. House at Canons, high above Hemlock Lake, will travel to Pittsburgh for the rite.

Bishop Bernarding will soon return to the 19,000 Catholics in his new Mt. Hagen vicariate in New Guinea — once the scene of some of World War II's bitterest fighting.

Bishop-elect Bernarding joined the Divine Word missionaries at Girard, Pa., at 14 and was ordained in 1939. A year later he was sent to New Guinea.

He stayed in the South Pacific through World War II and afterwards led in rebuilding the missions that were 90 per cent destroyed by bombing and fire.

As in all primitive areas, physical obstacles must be overcome to achieve spiritual goals. Bishop-elect Bernarding speaks with the practical knowledge of a man forced to build or improvise what others take for granted.

"You learn to build, repair, patch. If you wait for someone else to do it, nothing would get done," he said.

MISSIONARIES are coming to the aid of the people of the world. They are bringing the Gospel to the people who have never heard it before.



I arose and am still with thee, alleluia.

This is the day which the Lord hath made for us and we should rejoice therein, alleluia.

Now We Know that Christ Hath Truly Risen From the Grave. Alleluia!

## 'Obey Parents' Part of Offertory Rite

Negro Named To Bishopric

Vatican City — (RNS) — Father Paul Kiangana, of the Bishops of Africa (White Fathers) was named by Pope John XXIII as Archbishop of Congo-Brazzaville, Upper Volta, and Gabon.