



Baptistry in the bell tower of St. Ambrose Church

## New St. Ambrose Church Termed 'Ultra-Modern'

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of Christ brightens the entrance of the Church and gives notice to all that enter that "here is the House of God, a place to pray — to raise the mind and heart to God."

Upon entering the Church, whether through the main portals, or the doors of either transept, eyes are drawn to the main altar standing in quiet simplicity at the focal point of the union of transepts and nave. Executed in Belgian black marble with a front piece of green marble, the tomb-like altar against an off-white background, starkly simple in detail, tells the story of the Passion of Christ. Suzanne Nicolas, the Belgian artist, made the original sketches from which the John Early Studio of Arlington, Virginia, produced the cast panels.

The completely air-conditioned church, which will have a capacity of 1100 adults, is equipped with a complete sound system, four double confessionals with aids for the hard of hearing, and four shrines for the private devotions of the people. These shrines dedicated to St. Anne, St. Joseph, St. Anthony of Padua and St. Jude contain some excellent art work executed by George Kratina, Sister Mary of the Compassion, and John Menihan.

In addition to the four shrines, the side altar chapel, located outside the sanctuary becoming in effect small oratories, are dedicated to the Blessed Mother and the Sacred Heart. The statue of the Sacred Heart is of particular interest. Done in bronze by G. Macri it presents a strong and moving figure of Christ.

The Baptistry, located in the base of the bell tower, is a striking example of modern art.

The large windows at the end of each transept depict the Blessed Virgin and the Sacred Heart, the one in dominant blue, the other in fiery red.

The color from the various windows splashes the brick walls and the soaring concrete arches resulting in interesting and constantly changing light patterns in the church.

The Stations of the Cross in the new church are cast completely in concrete. They are line drawings in deep black against an off-white background. Starkly simple in detail they tell the story of the Passion of Christ. Suzanne Nicolas, the Belgian artist, made the original sketches from which the John Early Studio of Arlington, Virginia, produced the cast panels.

The church, designed by Sanford Shusley of New York City in association with Raymond Ashley of Pittsford was constructed by the Frank Maggio Co. of Rochester with Thomas Maggio as general foreman and supervisor. While there is much of artistic value in the Church, the brick and masonry work has a beauty of its own and stands as a tribute to the fine artisans who fabricated it.

The new church stands as a living monument to the faith and generosity of the people of St. Ambrose Parish.

The Baptistry, located in the base of the bell tower, is a striking example of modern art.

The curtain-screen stained glass window, in brilliant color, abstractly portrays the Crossing of the Red Sea, the ancient symbol of Baptism. Beneath the window a stone altar supports the magnificent crucifix done in bronze and donated to the church by Mr. Macri.

THE WHITE MARBLE font centers the floor area, and rightly focuses attention to the main purpose of the room. A full length, open-lattice bronze screen separates the Baptistry from the ambulatory leading from the main entrance. The Baptistry is an acknowledged highpoint of the strikingly beautiful church.

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### Bell Rigged, Thieves Caught

Carencro, La. — (NC) — When found a startled 15-year-old boy and a 20-year-old man standing beside the opened door.

THE PAIR tried to escape, but their motorcycle wouldn't start. Sheriff's deputies cornered the man while Magr. Wassler took the boy into custody.

The pastor had rigged the door box to the bell as a burglar alarm.

### New Church Building Sets Record

Washington — (RNS) — Although construction of housing has fallen off 16 per cent from the 1959 level, to the distress of government economists and the building industry, construction of new Houses of God is continuing to set records.

This was revealed in the Census Bureau's report on April construction which showed new church buildings setting another record for the month.

Total construction was \$75,000,000, a gain of \$1,000,000 from March and 12 per cent ahead of April a year ago.

For the first four months of this year, total church construction has been \$304,000,000, an increase of 10 per cent over the same period last year. Meanwhile, U.S. construction as a whole is off 8 per cent and private housing 16 per cent.

Construction by the non-public schools and colleges held level at \$45,000,000 during April, 10 per cent above a year ago.

Building activity by non-public hospitals and institutions fell off a little to \$45,000,000 but was still \$1,000,000 ahead of last year.

### Martyrs Near Sainthood

London — (RNS) — British Catholics here greeted with "very great pleasure" reports from the Vatican that the Sacred Congregation of Rites has reopened the canonization cause of 40 of the English and Welsh Catholic martyrs of the 16th and 17th centuries.

The 40 are among 197 martyrs who have been beatified and are called Blessed. Beatification is a major step toward canonization. Among the 40 Blessed are 32 priests, one brother, four laymen and three laywomen.

THE 40 WING beatification, the certification of two miracles attributable to the intercession of the Blessed are required for sainthood. However, it is believed that for this requirement the 40 will be treated as one group, instead of individually — meaning that only two miracles will have to be certified, instead of 80.

In connection with the canonization cause, the Catholic bishops have designated July 10 as "Martyr Sunday," when special prayers will be said for the Blessed. The Feast of the Blessed, English Martyrs is observed in this country on May 1.

The martyrs died for their faith between the schism of King Henry VIII and 1681. Two of these were canonized in 1935.

They were St. John Fisher, Cardinal Bishop of Rochester and St. Thomas More, Chancellor of the Realm.

Plans are underway for the erection of a shrine to the martyrs, also known as the Tyburn Martyrs, in Hyde Park, near the spot where once stood the Tyburn tree. The actual site of the tree, scene of many martyrdoms, is marked by a little triangle of brass set into the surface of the road by the Marble Arch.

The shrine will adorn the rebuilt Tyburn crosses, where Benedictine monks keep perpetual watch before the Blessed Sacrament in honor of the martyrs.

### Civil Rights Act Hit As Failure To Negroes

Fairfield, Conn. — (NC) — The recently enacted Federal civil rights act is "pallid and emaciated" because it fails to meet the real needs of Negroes, according to a Jesuit law professor.

Father William J. Kenedy, S.J., accused on the racial question, and said: "Racial segregation in housing is worse in Chicago than it is in New Orleans."

Father Kenedy is a visiting professor of law at Loyola University, New Orleans. He spoke on the race question (May 6) in a lecture at Fairfield University.

"SEGREGATION is a modern 20th-century evil, not something that can be traced back to the Civil War," he stated. He traced the original impetus given segregation laws to an 1896 decision of the U.S. Supreme Court, that upheld the principle of "separate but equal" facilities for Negroes and whites.

"Before 1900, only Georgia segregated streets," he said. "Schools in Louisiana were not segregated until 1898. Paris in Georgia were not segregated until 1903."

Citing the service of all races in the armed forces during World War II, he said: "Fifteen years after all races died for the preservation of our nation, we are still debating the question of equal rights."

"The natural law is fundamentally incompatible with segregation unless it can be proved that the Negro is not a man and science has certainly refuted the latter assertion," he said.

Besides condemning the hypocrisy of Northerners, the Jesuit law professor also scored Southern politicians who act as moderates away from home but support racism in their own states.

The race problem "is fundamentally a moral question, and it will be settled when the South determines to obey the Supreme Court," he said. "Even when they do, it will still remain to be solved in the hearts of men."

### Canada Aid Asked To Stop Smut

Washington, D.C. — (RNS) — A resolution requesting the President to ask the cooperation of Canada in stopping the importation of obscenity into the United States has been introduced in Congress by Rep. George M. Wallhauser (R-N.J.).

Wallhauser, a member of the Postal Operations subcommittee headed by Rep. Kathryn M. Granahan (D-Pa.) which has been looking into the problem of obscenity in the mails, said that he was shocked to find that Canadian "smut sheets" have been appearing on American newsstands.

He quoted Sheriff Neil Duffy of Essex County, New Jersey, as saying that the advertisements in the classified columns of the Canadian papers "unquestionably give sex perverts a chance to contact other perverts."

THE CONGRESSMAN said the sheriff also warned that the "world of perversion is also populated by those who prey on perverts, criminals to whom blackmail and beatings are part of the job."

Wallhauser said a stop should be put to distribution of such papers in the United States.

The measure which he introduced, House Resolution 519, would express the sense of the House of Representatives that it is in keeping with the long period of friendly relations between the United States and Canada, the President is requested to make representations to the Government of Canada to entice the cooperation of that nation in efforts to curb importation into the United States of obscene or indecent printed material.

### Exiled Prelate Sees Red Collapse In China

Sydney, Australia — (RNS) — Exiled Archbishop Paul Yu-Pin of Nanking, China, on a visit to Australia, predicted that the growing failure of farms to produce sufficient food under the commune system on the Chinese mainland would eventually bring collapse to the Communist regime there.

ON HIS WAY to a refugee conference in Victoria, Archbishop Yu-Pin noted that he was supervising plans for a new Catholic university in Formosa to be erected near Taipei. The prelate was commissioned by the Vatican last year to establish the school. It will replace Nanking University which was confiscated by the Chinese Communists in 1953.

The archbishop said he hopes a large scale exchange of students can be arranged between the Formosan institution and other universities. He said he is patient, but when the time comes to discuss this educational exchange with Australian authorities, the communists have already destroyed everything Chinese and cannot last much longer.

He told more than 200 members of this city's Chinese community, who came to welcome him at the Sydney airport, that the collapse would follow the pattern of Chinese history and occur through the peasant class.

"China is basically a farming nation," he said. "The people are patient, but when the time comes to discuss this educational exchange with Australian authorities, the communists have already destroyed everything Chinese and cannot last much longer."

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