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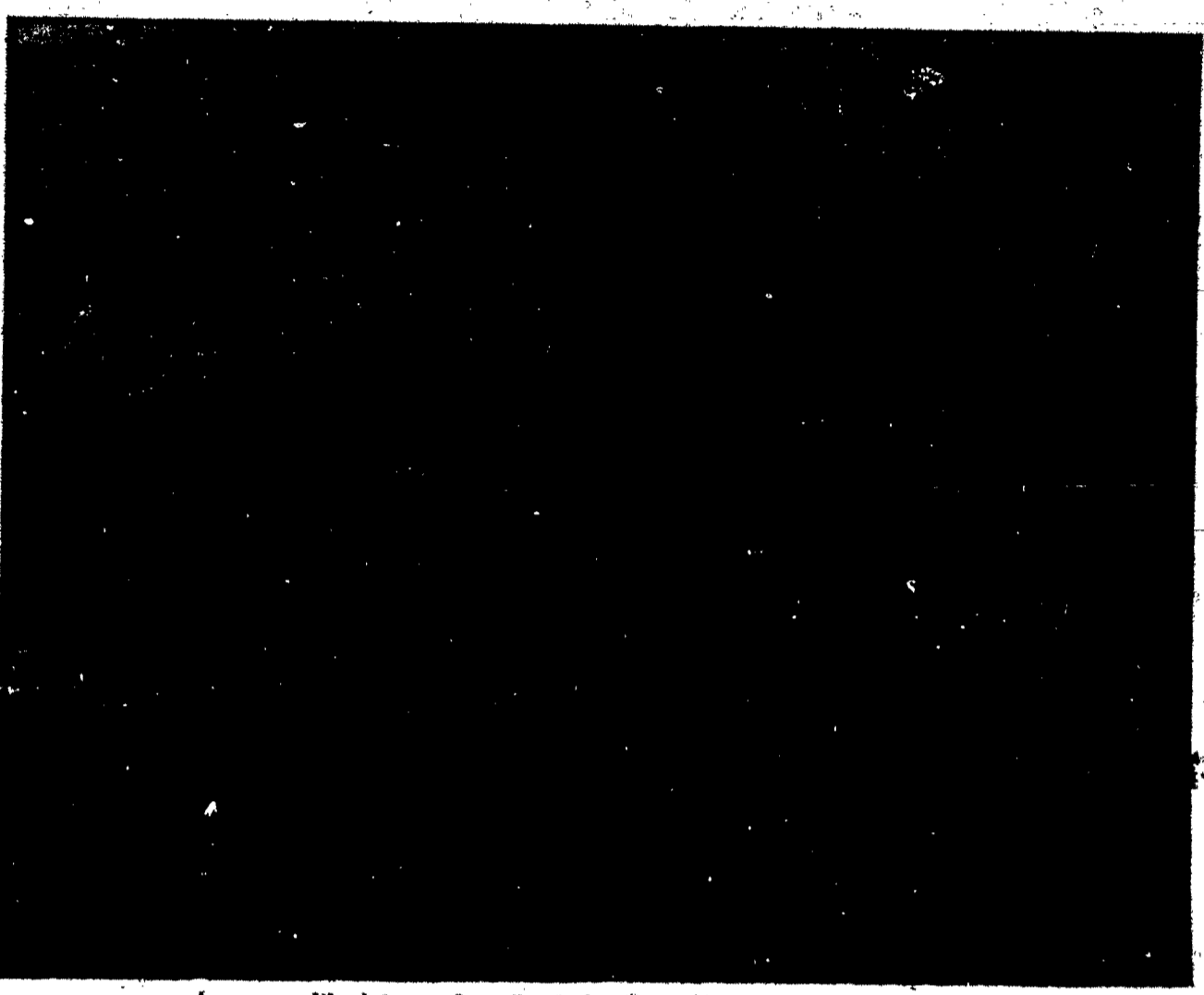
Three Rochester Clergymen

Orthodox Voice Hope  
for Unity of Churches

Three Rochester Orthodox clergymen, in special interviews for the Courier Journal, said they hope and pray for the reunion of Christians in one Church.

The Greek priest said, "Christ gave us the Church. His mystical body, and we have torn it apart."

The Russian priest blamed "mistakes of both sides" for the now nine centuries split between Orthodox and Catholic churches. History has made the chasm "deeper and deeper," he said.



A screen with pictures of our Lord, the Blessed Virgin and patron saints — called an iconostasis — separates sanctuary from congregation in eastern rite churches as in Russian Church of St. Mary, Rochester.

The Albanian priest described the division as "a family quarrel — the result of the frivolities of human nature."

All three admitted the Orthodox are interested in Pope John's call for an ecumenical council for unity. They also expressed the opinion that the present Council is taking the Church "in a new direction" in its dealings with other religious groups.

The three priests are pastors of churches on Rochester's fashionable East Avenue between Prince Street and Culver Road.

THE RUSSIAN Orthodox Church of St. Mary is an old mansion at the corner of Prince Street. Parishioners, there are only 100, built and decorated the chapel, the mansion's former living room.

The pastor, Rev. Andrew Rudikow, has the appearance of St. Peter as depicted in traditional Catholic art. Tall, robust and with the 60-year-old beard of a man who has engaged in strenuous activities for the faith.

He is a native of Russia, born of peasant parents near Kiev — the Russian name — he was ordained in 1904 and served parishes in that area in a period when circumstances were connected with great upheaval. When the Communists took over, he was arrested for offering Mass in secret, exiled to Siberia.

During World War II, he managed to return to his home village, found it ravaged by war and poverty, trudged into Germany where he chanced to meet his wife after nearly a century of separation and came to this country and Rochester in 1952.

He cherishes the friendship he had with a Catholic priest in Poland but, though he speaks five languages, he is isolated in his new country because he cannot speak English fluently. He is disturbed by the widespread collapse of Christian moral standards and thinks the various churches must work in closer cooperation to stem this trend.

THE ALBANIAN priest, Rev. Setor Djojka, whose SS. Peter and Paul church is also a former private dwelling and located just opposite the Cenacle Convent at the corner of Oxford Street, counts a congregation of about 100 adults.

Council To 'Modernize' The Church

Castel Gandolfo — (RNS) — Pope John XXIII, at an audience to 5,000 pilgrims at the papal summer residence here, said the forthcoming Ecumenical Council will discuss how the Church can adapt itself to modern times.

He stressed, however, that this meant only that the Church will bring itself up-to-date in certain details, since the basic principles of Christianity remain unchanged.

Unofficial Vatican sources interpreted the Pope's reference to "details" as meaning, especially, modern methods for propagating the Faith, particularly in the Iron Curtain countries and the emerging new states in Africa.

The audience was the first given by the Pope following his arrival for a two-month stay at the papal villa perched high in the Alban Hills southeast of Rome and overlooking Lake Albano.

Your Moments: Inspector and Colonel, No Charge. W. E. ...

He said he admired the Pope's efforts to attain unity with the Orthodox, but admitted, "We'll have to make ourselves first." He pointed out Orthodox are divided by sharp national lines. He does not see how these numerous groups can "come to terms" with the Vatican.

ROCHESTER'S oldest Orthodox parish is the Greek Church of the Annunciation across the street from Bishop Kearney's residence.

The parish has recently completed a new church edifice although its interior is fitted with temporary furnishings. This Greek parish counts 1,400 adult members and over 250 children enrolled in its Sunday school program.

The pastor, Rev. Peter Re-Moundou, 31, said the reunion of Orthodox and Catholic churches is rooted in the "basic question of authority."

He said the Orthodox recog-

nize only an ecumenical council as having doctrinal authority. In their opinion, there has not been such a council since the Nicene council which met in the year 325. The subsequent ecumenical council "did not represent all Christians" according to Orthodox teaching today.

"Baptism, our Trinity, our Saviour, our Holy Mother, the seven sacraments — these we believe in the same as do Catholics," he said.

The Orthodox have the same attitude as Catholics in regard to mixed marriage, requiring children be brought up in the Orthodox faith.

Confession is not as frequent as in Catholic churches and is made not in a confessional but privately to the priest before the altar. Greek Orthodox lay people are required to go to confession three times a year but many go about twice that often.

The Orthodox also believe in

the Real Presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist and hence recognize their clergy as validly ordained priests and bishops.

The Greek pastor said their patriarch Athanasios of Constantinople has been in correspondence with Pope John about the proposed council but months have elapsed for "unity of Christian action in the works of charity" even before an actual reunion of churches is arranged, a goal which may require centuries.

The "works of charity" are efforts to aid the world's needy, to combat moral decline and to face together the growing threat of Communism.

Father Re-Moundou, a native of Athens, Greece, studied there and, on a scholarship, in this country. He was ordained in 1946 at the age of 21, the youngest Greek priest in the country at that time.

He came to Rochester in 1964 and supervised construction of the new church. He congregated in an Orthodox Greek born, two-ethnic American born and church rites are conducted in Greek but most sermons and private confessions are in English.

The division between Orthodox and Catholic churches dates from the year 1054 although a brief reunion was worked out at the Council of Florence in the mid-fifteenth century. Some groups have more recently returned to unity with Rome while retaining their ancient Eastern rites ascribed by the popes as part of the Church's heritage.

An historical survey of the events which led to the split between the churches will be published in a subsequent issue of the Courier Journal. Re-Moundou expects increased attention about possible reunion attempts as the forthcoming Vatican Council nears.

God And TV Are Watching

Chicago — (RNS) — Delegates to the Republican National Convention were admonished during its opening here to assume a more reverent attitude during the prayers that opened and closed their sessions.

A mimeographed memorandum distributed to the delegates from the District of Columbia asked all to stand with hands joined in prayer and eyes cast upward during the invocation and benediction.

"Remember that you never can tell when the television cameras are focused on you," they were told. "And the example you set will be seen by your fellow citizens."

Eucharistic Congress

Faith, Devotion Upsurge Asked

Munich — (RNS) — Catholicism's greatest religious demonstration of the year — the long-awaited 37th International Eucharistic Congress — brought a message here from Pope John XXIII urging a world-wide upsurge of faith and devotion to halt the spread of materialism.

Heard in Latin and German by a throng of 150,000 persons gathered before the medieval town hall — vanguard of the more than 500,000 pilgrims from countries around the world to converge on Germany's third largest city — the Pope's exhortation was contained in a papal bull of appointment read after Gustavo Cardinal Testa had arrived as Papal Legate to the seven-day Congress.

THE CARDINAL came by plane from Rome and was received at the airport with all the honors customarily reserved for the head of a state. Thousands watched as the Legate, in full cardinalial attire, alighted from the plane to be greeted by high-ranking religious and civic dignitaries. They included Joseph Cardinal Wendler, Archbishop of Munich and Freising, head of the congress; Archbishop Corrado Eraldi, Papal Nuncio to Germany; and Bavarian Premier Hans Ehard.

"During the congress," the Pope said that "above all, however, one should most fervently pray that the religion of Jesus Christ be spread over the whole world and that all hindrances thereto be overcome that the entire social system of our day as well as the entire way of life be adapted to the values of the Christian moral law."

Cardinal Wendler, in a speech welcoming the Legate, deplored the fact that Cardinal Testa could not greet believers from

Father said, "all should stand together and unanimously invoke God our Lord that the so-called materialism, which undermines the moral life of humanity, yield to, and be conquered by, higher intellectual values."

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(Continued on Page 3)

New Breviary, Missal In January

Vatican City — (RNS) — Pope John XXIII has approved the new Breviary and the Missal in the face of the growing burden of post-World War II abbreviations in the liturgical books, or rules, of the breviary.



Oldest Monk

Belmont Abbey — (RNS) — Brother Maurus Lehnbecker, O.S.B., 91, is believed to be the oldest professed Brother in the Benedictine Order in the United States. He is shown here with his sister in the garden of Belmont Abbey, N.C. A native of Nevada, he came to the U.S. in 1890 and was professed in 1901. He became a U.S. citizen in 1904.

He said the reform, which will become operative on Jan. 1, 1961, has been made following requests from "many bishops on behalf of many priests."

The breviary is the book that contains the daily Divine Office. This obligation rests upon all priests except in cases of sickness or lawful dispensation. The Divine Office takes from 30 to 50 minutes in recitation, depending upon whether the day is a feast day or a feria day on which no feast or vigil of a feast is observed.

The Missal is the liturgical book which contains all the prayers necessary to enable a priest to celebrate Mass throughout the year.

Rite To Honor Priest's Patron

A ceremony for priests of the Diocese to honor St. John Vianney, patron of parish vicars, will be held at the Cenacle Convent chapel Monday, August 8, at 3:45 p.m.

The saint's feast is Tuesday. The faithful are invited to assist at Mass in their parishes and pray for their priests.

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POPE JOHN made the announcement in a papal rescript dated July 26 in which he also stated that the rubrics have been edited "in better form, more clearly set out and compiled in one text."

(No details of the specific changes were made in the present rubric but it is expected that the new rubrics will substantially comprise the 1960 Vatican instructions calling for congregations to respond in Latin at Mass. Text of the Pope's latest decree is on page 4 of this issue.)

Pope John also urged priests to say the prayers with "more care and devotion" to make up for the abbreviations and to increase the study of the Fathers of the Church, which has been "rather neglected." The Father's are writers of the early centuries whose works on Christian doctrine are especially revered and respected.

"We exhort all those who recite the Divine Office," the Pope said, "to assure that what is lost by abbreviation is compensated by reciting it with more diligence and devotion."

He stated that the reform of the rubrics of the breviary and the Missal had been carried out by experts of the Sacred Congregation of Rites and sanctioned by the Pontifical Commission for General Reform of the Liturgy.

The Pope added that he had decided to submit "basic principles of liturgical reform" to the forthcoming Ecumenical Council, but that not enough time was available to allow them to be heard at the opening of the Council.