

Poland

Bulwark of Faith

By JEREMIAH L. MURPHY
Special to the Courier Journal

Jeremiah Murphy, this June a graduate of Notre Dame University, is now in London after a visit to three Iron Curtain nations — Poland, Hungary and Yugoslavia. His report on Poland, written at the German border city of Rosenheim, follows. He is the son of Mrs. John J. Murphy and the late Mr. Murphy of 198 Gregory Hill Rd., Rochester.



I have left the Iron Curtain paintings have been preserved countries behind, with a knowl- and adorn the walls of the edge which shall take me weeks churches, and rich gold-work to assemble. Here, however, can be seen on the altar.

But the churches are surely more than showplaces—at any hour during the day people of a few cathedrals restored by devotion before the blessed the state as "museums" by the Polish churches have been re- built completely at the expense of the people. Many of the old

at least 25 people came and sweat, and five of these were people in their early twenties.

The sacraments are received frequently, it would seem. I was able to go to confession, with an English-speaking priest one afternoon, and another priest at in a nearby confessional.

Posters in every church stressed the importance of the sacrament of matrimony, with the hands of man and woman joined in the Christ symbol.

This move of the Church is obviously an answer to the Communist state's attempt to isolate civil marriage as the sole bond.

Along with this attempt of the state to destroy the genuine position of the Church in Poland is another clever step. Because of the supposed shortage of priests, a meal is

day has been declared — Monday, an obvious contrast to the meatless Fridays which Catholics observe, and one must remember that Poland is 98 per cent Roman Catholic.

On the fourteenth and fifteenth of August, I attended Mass at two of the four Catholic churches in Oreskowitz, a Silesian city of perhaps 25,000 population.

The churches were literally packed with people, and had been beautifully decorated with flowers, streamers, and standards. Full participation in the liturgy of the Mass was accomplished by the singing of beautiful hymns honoring the Virgin Mary, and by the sung prayers of the Mass.

Moreover, the Mass seemed to have a special beauty when one considered that Christ was present here with these people who had endured so much for country and Church, and every day stand in danger of being the sacraments again.

The latter was the opinion of the majority, with whom I discussed the future of the Church in Poland. Since coming to power in 1956 Premier Gomułka has realized that the Polish people do not adapt themselves willingly to quick change, and has allowed the Church to retain much of her former power.

But the consolidation of state power goes on, and one who knows Communist ways that cannot long exist side by side. The Polish people openly told me that the condition of the Church is very unstable, and whether it be next week or a month or in a year, the regime will attempt to stamp out the life of the Church.

Already, religious instruction in the youth has been restricted and state control will increase in this direction.

I was very much impressed with the strength and spirit of Polish Catholics, and the stark reality of the Communist regime.



Monsignor Ciaccio recently presented St. Patrick's Church, Elmira, with a relic of Saint Patrick. Here he explains the relic to altar boys, from left, Michael Kelly, William Kelly and Peter Niles.

Msgr. Ciaccio Visits Elmira

Patron's Relic Given Parish

For the past few weeks a scholar, dignified and stately priest has been the guest of the Father John S. Hayes, pastor of St. Patrick's church in Elmira.

This visit to Father Hayes is being made by Rt. Rev. Msgr. Paul M. Ciaccio, now stationed in Rome, Italy, but former pastor of St. Anthony's Church in Rochester where Father Hayes was first assigned following his ordination in 1940.

The Monsignor also visited St. Anthony's earlier this month.

Monsignor Ciaccio was ordained to the priesthood in 1913 in Rome and his first assignment in the Rochester Diocese was in 1920 at the Church of the Assumption in Mount Morris.

He remained there until January of 1922 and was then transferred to St. Anthony's church in Rochester and served that parish for the next 33 years.

While stationed at St. Anthony's the Monsignor was greatly honored when he received a visit from the then Monsignor Tardini, present Cardinal Secretary of State, in 1935. Monsignor Ciaccio re-

turned to Rome and was named by the Holy Father to be a Deputy Representative to the Monasteries of Rome.

In this capacity he supervises several Monasteries in the area of the Eternal City and his responsibilities include their spiritual life, reception of candidates in the various Communities and administration of their financial needs. Monsignor Ciaccio has his headquarters in the Roman Curia and reports directly to Cardinal Micara. He also has the office of "primicerio" at the Church of Santa Maria dell'Orto, Trastevere, Rome.

Monsignor spoke of the many visits Pope John makes to the various churches in Rome and told that the Holy Father made a visit to a different church each Sunday during the last Lenten season.

These visits by the Holy Father have created a warm affection on the part of the Roman populace and the many thousands of pilgrims who have witnessed these historic events. Many audiences with the Holy Father have been arranged for American friends and pilgrims by Monsignor Ciaccio as well as visits to the Holy places in the Rome area.

Included in his many and varied church interests is an Orphanage in Rome — Villa Nazareth, founded following World War II by Cardinal Tardini. At present there are 70 boys in the orphanage, each selected by the Cardinal on the basis of their excellence in academic studies and leadership capabilities.

The Orphanage school accommodates children from five years up and provides an education in any particular field the child is qualified for. The school is staffed by four Sisters of Charity from Cincinnati, Ohio.

Villa Nazareth is located on Via Pinella Sacchetti 29, Rome, Italy. The institution is materi-

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Hate Mailers Get Warning

Washington — (RNS) — Attorney General William F. Rogers issued a formal warning here that federal laws against the mailing or distribution of anonymous literature aimed at Presidential candidates will be strictly enforced.

The Attorney General called attention to the fact that Title 18, Section 812, of the United States Code provides a fine up to \$1,000 or imprisonment for one year for any person who distributes or deposits for mailing any kind of political literature which does not list on its face the person or group responsible for its issuance.

The attorney general acted in the face of complaints that a considerable volume of "hate" literature is being distributed, attacking the religious or racial views of candidates. Much of the literature is anonymous.

— E. S. Vallancourt.

Diocesan Schools Open This Week



St. Augustine school pupils Deanna and David, twin sons of Mr. and Mrs. Orlando Calazza, 420 Arnett Blvd., receive their invitation to kindergarten from mailman Howard Geyer. The two will be part of a 56,000 throng heading to classrooms this week.

New Schools At Bath, Dansville

Parochial and Catholic high schools throughout the Rochester Diocese will open this week to a record 54,200 pupils.

An additional 2,000-plus will report for classes in colleges, seminaries and nursing schools later in the month to boost the total near the 57,000 mark.

Lay teachers and school principals will have special pre-school sessions.

Nearly 300 lay teachers are currently having their orientation conference at three parish halls — Holy Family, Rochester; Good Shepherd, Henrietta; and St. Patrick's, Elmira — Thursday and Friday, Sept. 1 and 2.

The principals will meet at St. Agnes High School, Rochester, Tuesday, Sept. 6.

The regular report for three months that 101 pupils of schools will be foreign language courses to grade schools.

Rev. William M. Roche, diocesan superintendent of schools, and Rev. Daniel Brent, assistant superintendent, will speak at both the lay teachers' and principals' meetings.

Parish bulletins should be consulted for exact time schools will open. Many parishes will have first graders and kindergarten pupils report later in the month.

The new schools will open their doors for the first time this September — St. Mary's, Dansville, with an enrollment of 115, and St. Mary's, Bath, with 114 pupils.

The new Dansville school occupies two buildings formerly used by the two parishes there.

The new school at Bath, first parochial school in this central Steuben County village, will occupy temporary quarters in the DeWitt Memorial Hospital on East Hudson St. until the parish school building is completed in October. The Bath school brings to 23 the number of parochial schools in the twelve county Diocese.

Sister Rose Alice has been appointed to the Department of Music Education from Nazareth College, and has also studied at DePaul University.

On the Business Department, Miss Scavilla will be a member of the Nazareth faculty, will return to the department of Sociology.

Miss Scavilla is a graduate of the Aquinas Institute, Rochester. All pupils of freshmen (including) will attend an orientation program Wednesday, Sept. 7, with regular classes scheduled to begin Thursday.

McQuaid Jesuit High School — Freshmen will report Tuesday, Sept. 6, and sophomores and juniors on Friday, Sept. 8, and seniors on Monday, Sept. 12.

Nazareth Academy — Seniors, juniors and sophomores will begin classes Wednesday, Sept. 7, and freshmen on Thursday, Sept. 8.

Mercy High School — Freshmen classes begin Wednesday, Sept. 7, and upperclassmen will report Thursday, Sept. 8.

St. Agnes High School — Freshmen will arrive Wednesday, Sept. 7, and upperclassmen on Thursday, Sept. 8.

DeSales High School, Geneva — Freshmen start classes Wednesday, Sept. 7, and upperclassmen on Thursday, Sept. 8.

Notre Dame High School, Elmira — Freshmen will report for classes Wednesday, Sept. 7, and upperclassmen, Thursday, Sept. 8.

St. Carmel High School, Auburn — Freshmen classes begin Wednesday, Sept. 7, all other classes on Thursday, Sept. 8.

Sacred Heart Academy, Rochester, will begin its classes Wednesday, Sept. 14. Boarding students will arrive the evening before.

Radio Mass For Shut Ins

The monthly radio Mass for shut-ins will be resumed this Sunday.

High Mass will be broadcast from Our Lady of Mercy Waterhouse chapel over station WYAT, 11 a.m. to noon.

Father David Finks, chaplain at the Waterhouse, will celebrate the Mass and give the women Sisters of Mercy will chant the Mass.

Nazareth College

Nine Added To Faculty

Nazareth College will have nine new faculty members on its staff this year, to take care of the increased registration expected in 1951.

Sister Helen Daniel, President of the College, announced the following appointments this week:

SISTER ROSE ALMA, former principal of St. Agnes High School, will be Dean of Residential Students. Sister holds an M.A. from Western Reserve University.

Joseph Baranowski will be on the Speech Department faculty. Mr. Baranowski holds both his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Rochester. He has been actively identified with the work of the Boston University Catholic Theatre in Rochester, and will be an instructor in drama.

Miss Norma Scavilla, a former member of the Nazareth faculty, will return to the department of Sociology.

Miss Scavilla is a graduate of the Aquinas Institute, Rochester. All pupils of freshmen (including) will attend an orientation program Wednesday, Sept. 7, with regular classes scheduled to begin Thursday.

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Lessons For The Teachers

New faculty members at St. Mary's School of Nursing were briefed at the hospital's first Faculty Institute this week. Donald Insley, Virginia Krenser and Mrs. Raymond Higney go over their "heart lesson" for the new teachers. See local section for story.

Prelate's Question

Do School Costs Threaten Liberty

Washington — (RNS) — A Connecticut Bishop has posed the question whether the financial burden of supporting religious schools is an "unconstitutional" restriction on the exercise of religious liberty.

Bishop Lawrence J. Shehan of Bridgeport raised the issue in a sermon heard by leading members of the legal profession, including three Supreme Court justices.

In the face of mounting school costs Bishop Shehan said, "we are faced to ask: Does the extra educational burden of these who choose religious education constitute an unreasonable limitation of parental right and an unconstitutional restriction of religious freedom?"

Bishop Shehan emphasized that religious schools must exist along with public schools in order to preserve freedom of education in America's pluralistic society.

He suggested that the growth of a "monolithic" public school system might mean an end to "the basic right of parents to select a religious education for their children."

BISHOP SHEHAN, chairman of the Department of Education, National Catholic Welfare Conference, spoke (Aug. 26) at a Red Mass held in conjunction with the annual convention of the American Bar Association.

Among those in attendance were Chief Justice Earl Warren of the U.S. Supreme Court and Associate Justice William J. Brennan, Jr. and Potter Stewart, Archbishop Patrick J. O'Boyle of Washington offered the Mass before a congregation of 1,400 lawyers and their wives in the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Bishop Shehan stressed in his sermon that the continued existence of religious schools is essential to the preservation of religious liberty in America's pluralistic society.

The history of simultaneous development of both religious and public schools "leaves no doubt that the underlying American philosophy favored a pluralistic educational pattern in a pluralistic society," Bishop Shehan said.

"In recent times some attack of this concept by suggesting that education should be the prerogative of government, that government alone is entitled to the right to form the younger generation and that failure to attend a public school is a threat to democratic unity."

"This philosophy is truly alien to American traditions," the Bishop declared. "It attributes to the State the exclusive role of creator so that it can inculcate a common doctrine and develop a uniform mentality among the citizenry."



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