



Precious Blood Devotion

From the first months of Our pontificate, it has often occurred to us to invite the faithful to turn with ardent fervor toward that divine expression of the mercy of the Lord for individual souls, for His holy Church, and for the whole world, of which He is the Redeemer and Saviour, the Precious Blood of our Saviour.

This devotion was instilled in us in the home in which Our childhood was spent, and we still recall with deep emotion, the recitation of the Litany of the Most Precious Blood by our parents during the month of July.

Remembering the military exhortations of the Apostle: "Take heed to yourselves and to the whole flock in which the Holy Spirit has placed you as bishops, to ruin the Church of God, which He has purchased with His own blood." We believe, that among the most important of our universal pastoral ministry, the question of the development and increase of religious piety in the manifestation of liturgical and private worship should have a privileged place.

It seems to us to be particularly opportune to direct the attention of Our beloved children to the indissoluble connection between the devotion to the holy name of Jesus, to the Most Sacred Heart, and the devotion which honors the Most Precious Blood of the incarnate Word "shed for many unto the forgiveness of sins."

It is, in fact, of supreme importance that a sound harmony should exist between the Catholic Creed and the liturgical life of the Church, since the law of belief establishes the law of prayer. There must never be allowed a rupture of worship not originating from the very pure sources of true faith. It is also right that a certain harmony should exist among these devotions considered fundamental and more sanctifying.

These devotions which unite the economy of grace with the economy of faith, are the "one medicine" between God and man, should hold primary in esteem and practice over personal and secondary devotions. Having in this sense the character of faith and piety, believers are certain of thinking with the Church, of living in the communion of prayer and of the charity of Jesus Christ. He is the foundation and supreme priest of that sublime religion which draws from Him, together with its name, all its dignity and worth.

If we look back on the admirable progress that the Catholic Church has made in the field of liturgical piety, in sound accord with the development of its faith, in the penetration of divine virtues, it is comforting to note that during the centuries closest to us there have not been wanting on the part of this Apostolic See clear and repeated examples of the encouragement of these devotions, devotions which were practiced from medieval times by many pious souls, which spread later into various dioceses, religious congregations and orders, and which finally received from the Chair of Peter the seal of orthodoxy and the approval for the Universal Church.

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No less important were the privileges granted by the papal bulls of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus in the admirable propagation of this devotion, a great part played by the revelations of the Sacred Heart to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque. So great and unanimous has been the esteem of the supreme pontiffs for this devotion that it pleased them to enjoin its nature, to defend its lawfulness, and to encourage the practice of it with many official acts. These were crowned by three important encyclicals: "Annum Sacram," "Miserationem," and "Mauritius Aquas."

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Following, therefore, the example of Our predecessors, and for the purpose of increasing the devotion to the Most Precious Blood of the Immaculate Lamb of Jesus Christ, We have approved the Most Precious Blood, compiled by the Congregation of Rites, encouraging its recitation throughout the Catholic world, both in public and private worship, and by increasing the liturgical solemnity, the devotion itself would be increased, and the fruits of the redeeming blood might benefit more copiously.

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Appeal Made For Catholic University

My dear People:

On the first Sunday of Advent, November 27th, we shall have the annual appeal for the support of the Catholic University in Washington — a Papal University, under the direct care of His Holiness, Pope John XXIII.

As a center of Catholic education in the United States, the Catholic University has made a contribution to every diocese in the country through the bishops, priests, religious, and laymen who have studied in its halls. It has indeed been more and more the center of Catholic culture in the United States.

The Catholic University has been able to maintain its high rating among the universities of the United States only because of the generosity of the Catholics of America. Our own Diocese of Rochester stands second to none in its yearly contributions to this worthy cause. May I, again this year, ask your support of this worthy cause.

With a grateful blessing, I am
Your devoted Shepherd in Christ,
Bishop of Rochester
John Kearney

Freedom To Choose Hari Kari Or Murder

Catholic schools — around the world and in New York State — face a sharpening dilemma to commit hari kari quietly or be murdered outright.

This is all in strange contrast to the current and highly successful fund campaign in Monroe County to build two new Catholic high schools.

The blunt threat against Catholic education, a continuing struggle in all Communist countries, spilled over this week into dictator Trujillo's Dominican Republic, into woman dictator Bandaranaike's Ceylon and into military ruled Africa's Sudan.

All three nations served warning Catholic schools are soon to be taken over by the government — despite the pending situation that Trujillo claims to be a devout Catholic, that Buddhist Madame Bandaranaike was a nun's school and that the Sudanese Moslems intend to keep the missionary schools open in the Moslem areas of the nation so their children can attend them but close the schools in the Christian areas.

Closer to home is the poisoned bait offered Catholic (and other privately operated) colleges in New York State.

In an obviously sincere bid to aid private colleges to meet rising educational costs, a three-man committee (Henry Heald, John Gardner and Marion Folsom) urged Governor Rockefeller to inaugurate a precedent-shattering program.

According to their proposal, private colleges should be given state aid to make them economically competitive with state run schools.

And here is the rub.

The committee also proposes a vast expansion of tax paid college education.

The three architects of this education blueprint are, of course, recognized experts and their advice is a realistic conclusion from many uncomfortable facts.

One of these facts is that qualified students in New York State have little chance of college education unless they can afford the soaring tuition and fees of private schools. There is only one state operated liberal arts college, Harper, just opened this year near Binghamton. There are, it is true, technical schools and teacher colleges but the state needs, and thousands of students want to be, something other than technicians or teachers.

The Heald committee believes expanded state college education is inevitable — as in other states — and New York had best catch up with its neighbors.

To help the private colleges swallow this pill the committee proposes (what may later turn out to be unconstitutional) the offer of fractional aid to these private colleges.

We repeat our conviction, however, that government has no more business running schools than it has operating gas stations, grocery stores or film factories.

We as Americans are dedicated to the conviction that private enterprise can do a job as well or better than the government can do it — except for such emergency programs as war or national defense. We are convinced our nation's history is a catalogue of achievements because citizens faced with a problem solved it themselves by dint of hard work rather than by government handouts.

An expanded state-subsidized college program will sooner or later second-rate our existing privately run schools.

What we wonder about the Heald report is why it makes no mention of a possible extension of the GI Bill of Rights which gives government aid to students and their kids then go to the college of their choice. This program was highly successful after World War II and effectively avoided the trap of solving school problems with socialism instead of the traditional American way of private initiative.

Podestal For A Saint

Youngstown — (AP)—St. Stephen of Hungary has begun a new life here after spending most of the last 30 years crated away in New York warehouses.

St. Stephen — his statue, that is — now claims an honored place on the Franciscan Monastery grounds — after being donated to the monks by Louis Sobonya, a Cleveland furniture dealer.

The 13-foot metal statue was created by Stephen Kuny for the Hungarian exhibit at the 1904 World's Fair in New York but the outbreak of war sent that country's patron saint into a warehouse for the duration instead of back home.

After the war he was wanted the statue to go back to Hungary, neither the Hungarians in New York nor the Communists who had taken over in Budapest.

The statue then spent 16 years in various warehouses when Mr. Sobonya acquired it at public auction in New York four years ago.

He promptly donated it to the city in hopes that it would be given a suitable, permanent location outdoors.

However, the statue has merely been occupying the corridor in City Hall, the Cleveland furniture man learned, so he had St. Stephen shipped here where a more suitable home might be paid him.

The statue of St. Stephen, Hungary's first Christian king, was dedicated here early this month. It stands atop a concrete pedestal on a patch of grass near the main monastery building — the only status on the 45 acres of monastery grounds.

The little girl informed the neighbor that she was starting school. "That's wonderful, Mummy," said Mrs. Smith. "What subject will you like best in school?"

"Spelling," replied Mary quickly. "My grammar book spells words that children aren't supposed to hear. I'll know what they're talking about."

Reapings at Random

that there is no real tie up between the Latin American countries and the Soviet Union. There exists even stronger evidence that there can never be a genuine union between the two. The majority of Latin Americans are Catholic, and anyone who knows the history of Latin America knows that the Catholic Church has never shown any interest in the Soviet Union, and which finally received from the Chair of Peter the seal of orthodoxy and the approval for the Universal Church.

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Daily Mass Calendar

Due to recent liturgical changes in the Church's calendar of feasts, publishers have not as yet completed printing jobs for Advent and 1961. As soon as they are published, the Daily Mass Calendar will be resumed. Missions users are advised this week to follow the text of the Mass for the date indicated or to consult their parish bulletin.

Dated Rome, at St. Peter's, June 20, 1960, on the eve of the Feast of the Most Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the second year of Our pontificate.
John XXIII

Showing The Flag' Seeks To Stem Red Power

By GERARD E. SHERRY
Editor, Central California Register

The sending of various elements of the US fleet to the waters around Guatemala and Nicaragua points to the deep concern felt by the country over the possibility of subversive interference from outside with the affairs of Latin and Central America.

From the moment the Cuban Revolution was completed, it appeared that the Soviet Union had obtained a foothold in that country. Now there is a suspicion that Russia is behind Castro from the start. No one doubts that revolution and internal upheaval are ready-made situations which can be exploited on by the Soviets.

Before Castro's ascent to power in Cuba, no diplomatic relations existed between that country and the Communists, who had been in constant tension. Today all is changed. Castro has established links with the Communist Empire including Red China. Castro's recent trip to New York and his talks with Khrushchev have solidified this unholy alliance.

A question on this point is therefore quite reasonable: How strong is the link between the Kremlin and the Latin American nations?

The requests by Guatemala and Nicaragua for protection by the US are an immediate indication that there are some important areas of Latin America that still fear Russia, and that there is no real tie up between the Latin American countries and the Soviet Union. There exists even stronger evidence that there can never be a genuine union between the two. The majority of Latin Americans are Catholic, and anyone who knows the history of Latin America knows that the Catholic Church has never shown any interest in the Soviet Union, and which finally received from the Chair of Peter the seal of orthodoxy and the approval for the Universal Church.

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The blow of the lance — Ruben's famous martyrdom shows the Roman soldier piercing the Sacred Heart of the crucified Saviour who shed the last drop of His precious blood for us. Bishop Kearney has designated 1961 as a year of special devotion to the Precious Blood.