

Chaplains Corps 33 Under Par

Washington—(NC)—There is a critical shortage of Catholic chaplains in the Navy, the Chief of Chaplains of the Navy said here.

Msgr. (Rear Adm.) George A. Rosso said the Navy chaplains corps is 33 priests below quota. "The allowance for Catholic chaplains in the Navy was increased by 10 in 1960 to a quota of 261, but we have only 228," he said.

Msgr. Rosso said "the Catholic Church is the only major denomination that is not filling its established quota of chaplains in the Navy."

"The number of chaplains in the Navy has increased in the past three years from 795 to 829," he stated, "but there has been a decrease in Catholic chaplains."

"Lack of priests in the Navy means neglect of Catholic men," he continued, "and the shortage of Catholic chaplains places an impossible burden upon those remaining on active duty. It's a key factor in the hospitalization of Navy priests, mainly from overwork."

Father Ray Minder's Report



Catholic High Schools Campaign Pledge Payments in February

Highest percentage paid in month: Assumption parish, Fairport.

Highest percentage paid toward total pledged: St. Joseph, Rochester.

Highest amount of cash paid to date: Sacred Heart Cathedral, Rochester.

Reds Join Rome Artists In Religious Exhibit

Rome—(RNS)—Rome's Catholic artists commemorated the 20th anniversary of the special Sunday noon Mass that has been offered for them regularly at the church of Santa Maria in Santo Spirito facing the Piazza del Popolo.

Celebrant of the anniversary was Renato Guttuso, prominent member of the Italian Communist Party, who displayed a drawing representing a man pinned to the bottom of a crucifixion; and Carlo Andreina Pagnani.

Conspicuous in the congregation were many left-wing writers, painters and performers, who afterwards thronged to the church where the Emperor Nero, persecutor of the early Christians, died a suicide.

Victims Tell Of Atrocities

Leopoldville — (RNS) — Catholic priests were clubbed and beaten and nuns stripped and subjected to "bestial" treatment by Congolese troops in Kivu Province controlled by the leftist rebel regime of Antoine Gizenga, United Nations reports disclosed. A Protestant woman missionary also was violated.

The reports, kept secret for more than two weeks, said the atrocities occurred in the Maniema region of Kivu where both Lumumbist soldiers and pro-Lumumba civilians had been on a rampage of rape and terror since the death of Patrice Lumumba in Katanga Province on Feb. 20.

Ten victims of the terror—three nuns, two priests and five Portuguese nationals — flown here from Kivu said 300 Europeans are still in the region and at the mercy of the rampaging Congolese. They said the trapped whites also include nine Americans, members of two Protestant missionary families. One report said a young Protestant woman missionary was beaten and raped by four Congolese troops and told she would not be allowed to leave the province. Her name was not disclosed.

Meanwhile, a Catholic nun whose name was also withheld, reached Kindu from a mission station at Kasongo to tell of 48 hours of terror, rape and bestiality during which she and eight other Sisters were herded into trucks and taken to the local jail.

THE NUN SAID she and her companions were made to dance barefoot on stones and gravel, and forced to sing hymns to Lumumba. They were then locked up in a room for the night with three Congolese soldiers who made them strip off their clothes and lie on the ground.

"They did not rape us, but they did things so disgusting to our poor bodies that we dare not speak of them, much less write of them," the nuns reported. Two other white women were in the same prison

No More Politics

St. Paul — (RNS) — "For the rest of my life, I'm going to preach the gospel," Dr. Norman Vincent Peale vowed here. "I'm through with commenting on anything at all political."

Dr. Peale, pastor of Marble Collegiate (Reformed) church in New York, author and exponent of "Positive Thinking," aroused controversy in the 1960 Presidential campaign when he became associated with a conference of ministers who protested against electing a Roman Catholic as president.



St. Louis —(RNS)— The thesis that modern, abstract art can be utilized effectively in religious art is held by these nuns attending a Salve Regina Art Conference meeting at Webster College here. Conference national president Howard McConeghey, art instructor at the Catholic institution, is seen here showing selected paintings to the Sisters.

Nuns Scan Modern Art

St. Louis — (RNS) — Twentieth century modern art is as justifiable and understandable as the development of nuclear energy, a nun art authority said here.

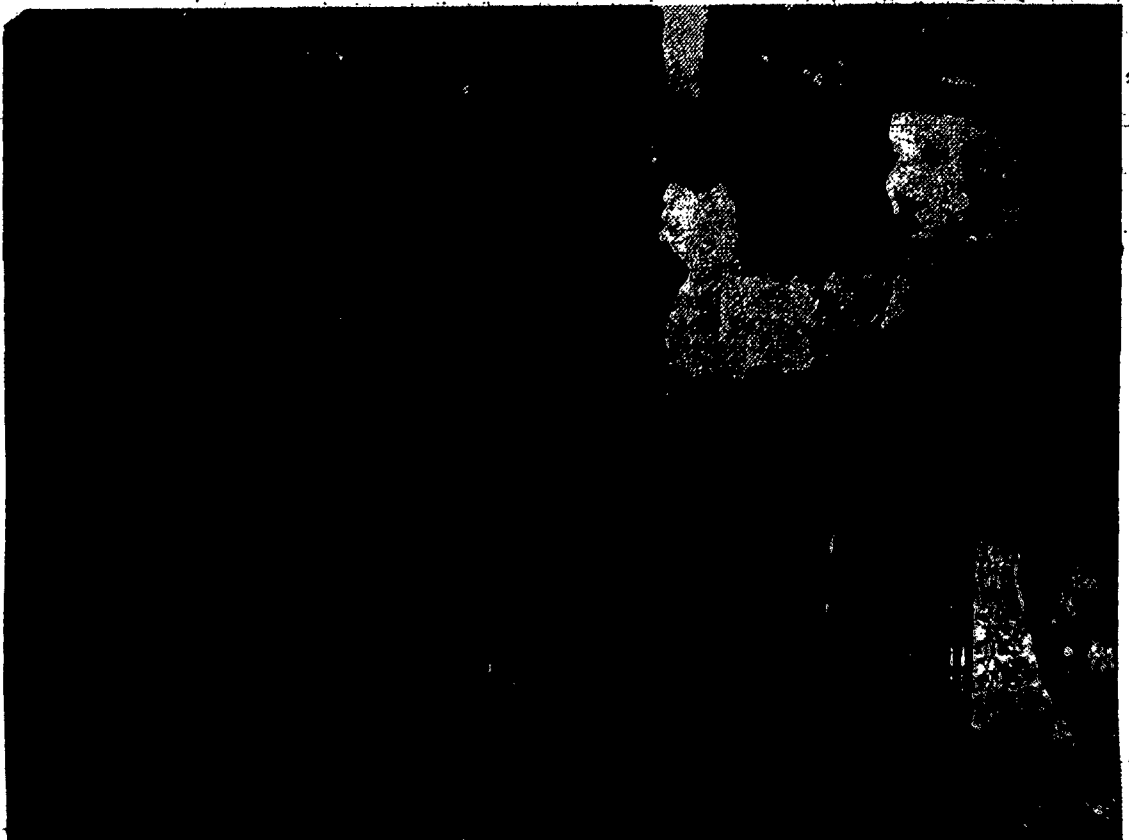
"Modern art, including painting, sculpture, poetry, music, architecture and literature, is a product of a very challenging era," Sister Mary Leo, C.P.P.S. maintained. "There are bomb-sized upheavals in the social, political and physical world; there are such terrific developments in the areas of mass communication (camera, TV, motion pictures) that the artist has to strike a new pitch with his form of communication even to be heard."

TODAY'S ART must be challenging if it's going to be authentic, insisted Sister Leo, who is chairman of an exhibit to be sponsored by Catholic Art Educators at the Salve Regina Art Conference to be held April 11-15 in Miami.

In the effort to get his message across, the artist has "dug deeper within himself, into the subconscious and the infinite spirituality of man," Sister Leo said. "Is it surprising that when he translates it into art media, he uses a language so violent, so breathtakingly new that it makes you stop and think, and think again?"

Responsibility for authentic distortions of truth and beauty of modern art is primarily up to the people, the audience, especially in the area of religious art "where there is an innate fear to accept what is new simply on the basis that it is different," Sister Leo said.

"Had the builders of the Middle Ages refused to launch out in the spirit of their time, Europe would be spotted with transfiguration," she said.

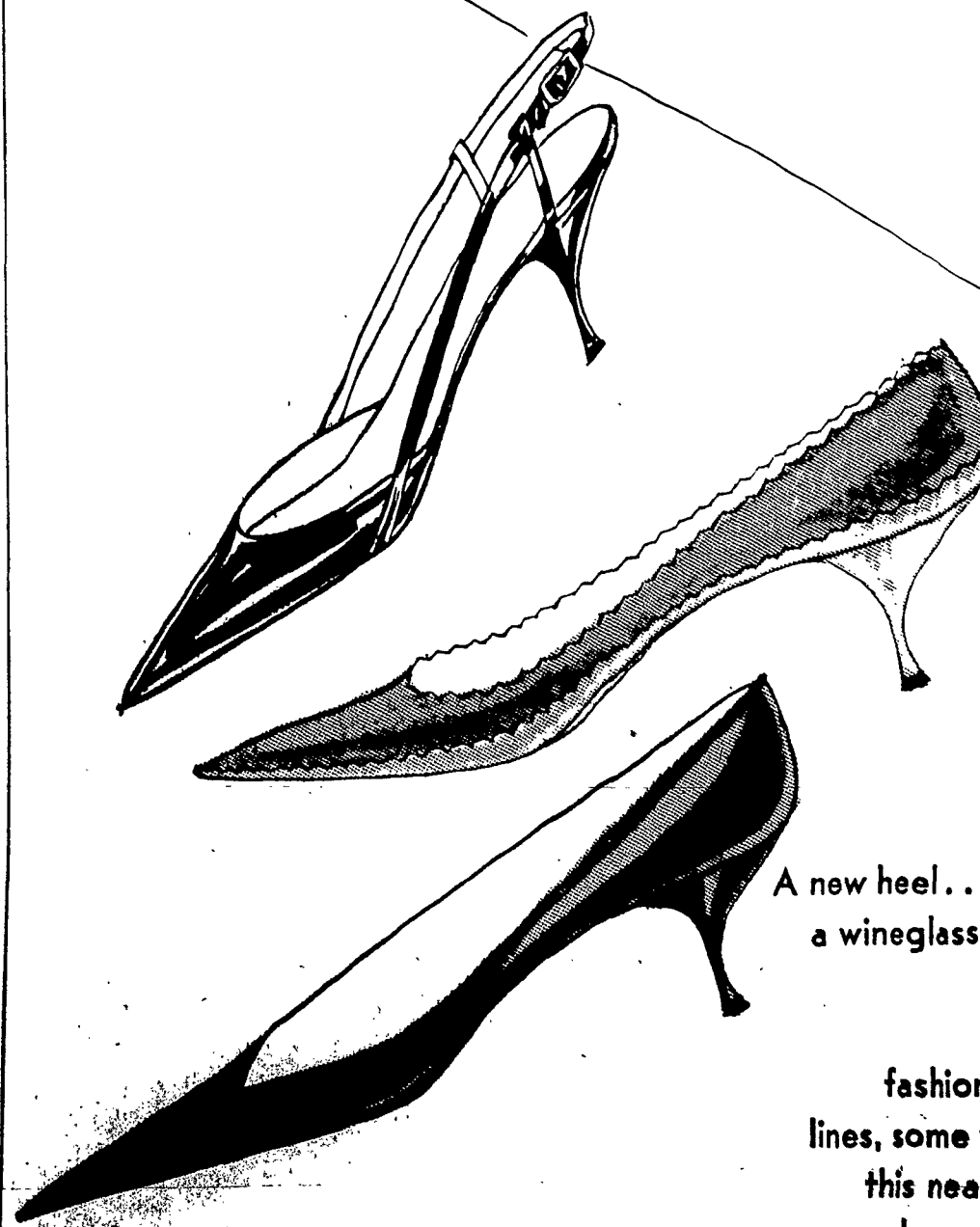


Pope Visits Rome Parishes

Rome — (RNS) — A smiling Pope John XXIII acknowledges the roar of a Roman crowd with a blessing during a visit to a crowded district in the Eternal City. The Pope has scheduled a series of pre-Easter visits to the churches of Rome. Since the beginning of his pontificate, the ancient papal custom of attending "Lenten Stations" has been revived. Pope John has included suburban churches as well in his rounds each Sunday of Lent.

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