

# Conversions 'In Depth' Next Step for Church Brink of New Mission Era

By JIM KELLY

San Francisco — (NC) — "Missionaries already are involved in it. Catholics generally are going to be, whether they're aware of it now or not."

"It" — a revolution within the Church, no less — was described here by one of the revolutionaries, Irish-born Father Donald O'Mahony, S.S.C.

He is editor of the magazine *Far East*, published by the Columban Fathers at their U.S. headquarters check by jowl with the Strategic Air Command's vast brain center just outside Omaha, Neb.

SAC is committed to preserving the world for peace. Its neighbors, and other missionary communities like them, are committed to winning the world for Christ. But the job has outgrown old concepts of missionary endeavor.

"We're on the brink of a new age in which the Church will speak less of its missions, more of its mission — without the final 's,'" said Father O'Mahony.

"That mission, of course, is to Christianize all peoples. The revolution consists now of the rethinking and regrouping that are already under way with the aim of giving all Catholics a part in the job.

"Total Involvement' is the big phrase in the Church today," he said. "Another is 'Penetration in Depth.' It means that geographic extension alone isn't enough to achieve a universal Church. We have to make Christ live in people's hearts, not only those we convert, but those who have been going along satisfied that Mass on Sunday, a dollar in the envelope, and supporting the revolution will change that kind of outlook, but it will take time.

It will be complete when all Catholics realize the Church's mission is their mission, that religion must be dominant in day-to-day life, that the Christian penetration of society depends on getting actively involved in saving other souls besides their own, he said.

"I look for the Vatican Council next year to put the missionary responsibilities of the Church into sharp focus," the Columban editor said. "The U.S. Mission Secretariat certainly anticipates it. A 'New Spirit for a New Age' is the theme of its meeting next September in Washington, D.C. There will be considerable talk about new methods of mission work, geared to greater participation by all Catholics.

More lay missionaries, then? "Beyond a doubt. We're well past the stage where the need for laymen working side by side with mission priests and Religious has to be defended," Father O'Mahony said. "The question now is, what specific types do we need and where? Within ten years I expect to

see more American lay missionaries overseas than priests, Brothers, and Sisters."

AND HOW ABOUT Catholics who can't head for the far fields?

"They can be totally involved, too," Father O'Mahony said. "They can begin by forming themselves intellectually, so that they understand the concept of mission versus missions."

"Keeping informed — through their Catholic newspaper — lending support through prayers and gifts, interesting others in mission work, stimulating appreciation of a mission vocation as a normal part of the Church's life, not an extraordinary calling — all these can be accomplished by people at home," the priest-editor continued. "One thing is bound to result.

"It will mean the end of the kind of parochialism that limits Catholic life to just what takes place within the parish." And the Catholic who claims he prays for the missions all the time?

"That's not total involvement," the Columban countered. "The devotional life and the sacraments are a support for the apostolate, not a substitute. Even people flat on their backs in hospitals have found ways to do more for the Church's mission than simply pray."

Emerging nations, the communist threat, the battle against world poverty and disease — such factors have thrust the Church into an age that must dismiss "ghetto Catholicism" and clerical exclusiveness, Father O'Mahony said.

"The whole Church is awakening to its mission responsibilities," he added. "Missionaries themselves are convinced that with the new spirit abroad there will go a new zeal, new techniques."

Father O'Mahony is 43, a native of County Cork and a nephew of the late Bishop J. Galvan who founded the Columban. He came to the U.S. from China in 1949 when the Reds seized his mission. He has been a journalist since then and is on the board of the newly established Catholic Journalism Scholarship Fund.



First Scouts of St. Rita's Church, West Webster, to receive Ad Altare Dei awards are Timothy Smith, Michael Kellogg and John Bernunzio. They were part of group of 172 Scouts who received the award at ceremonies Friday, June 2.

## Refugees from Cuba

### Teach Atheism, Nuns Told

Baltimore — (RNS) — Forty-three members of the Oblate Sisters of Providence who were forced out of Cuba by the Castro regime arrived here via Miami to take refuge in the order's motherhouse.

A spokesman here said Castro confiscated the order's buildings and equipment worth a million dollars when the sisters left the island.

The sisters, 40 of them Cuban nationals and three from the Dominican Republic, are the last of 100 Oblates who operated five private academies in which 1,000 Cuban children were enrolled.

THE ACADEMIES were closed April 28 when Castro ordered hundreds of Catholic and other religious schools to halt operations except under certain conditions.

Mother William, superior general of the order founded in Baltimore in 1829, interviewed here, said: "They sealed off the classrooms April 28 and said the sisters could continue to teach the children if they used revised textbooks and obeyed directives from the Minister of Education."

"This, of course, we could not permit," she said. "The new books teach atheistic communism and that dogma is in direct conflict with Christian teaching."

Mother William said "Cuban officials and soldiers showed our sisters no maltreatment whatever," but, she said, there were harassments.

The mother superior said soldiers moved into the schools

and convents, answered all telephone calls and kept a constant watch on the sisters.

"They were under virtual house arrest," she said. "I had to bring them back to the motherhouse."

The State Department waived requirements for the sisters who had no visas or passports, and the National Catholic Welfare Conference arranged to clear the group under the Cuban Refugee Act.

## Catholic Editor Jailed, Accused As Red Aide

Asuncion — (NC) — Paraguay's Bishops have received no answer from the government to their joint protest against the jailing and torturing of the editor of a Catholic Action weekly here.

Catholic organizations, including the Christian Democratic movement, joined the nation's Bishops in protesting against the treatment received by Eliseo Sosa Constantini, editor of *Comunidad*, at the hands of the police.

COMUNIDAD has been critical of the regime of President Alfredo Stroessner, which was denounced a year ago by Catholic Action leaders for "uncontrolled and inexplicably violent" police suppression of students.

In recent months the regime has relaxed its earlier policy and permitted press criticism of the government. Police suppression of other civil liberties, however, has been stepped up.

Sosa was arrested (May 15) when he took part in a demonstration by students who had boycotted the official government celebration (May 14) of Paraguay's 150th year of inde-

## Apostolate At Colleges

Pittsburgh — (RNS) — An intellectual apostolate to Catholic students on general campuses, reportedly the first of its kind in the United States, is to be launched within the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

The apostolate will be carried out through an Oratory of St. Philip Neri, to be known as the Pittsburgh Oratory. The Oratory will be staffed by Oratorian Fathers, members of a religious society which is without special vows but with rules laid down by the Holy See.

The Oratory here will be modeled after that conceived a century ago by John Henry Cardinal Newman for Catholic students at Oxford University in England.

## 172 Scouts Receive Altar Award

Thirty-two parishes sent Boy Scouts to receive their Ad Altare Dei medal at an annual award rite held in St. Monica's Church, Friday, June 2.

Monsignor Gerald C. Lambert presented the medals. Following are the 172 Scouts given the award:

**St. Monica's** — Michael Allen, John Butler, David Butz, Thomas Crowley, Richard DellaPorta, Terry Glenn, Alan Innes, Edward Murrer, Thomas Pesar, Robert Shemming.  
**Corpus Christi** — Raymond Pettis.  
**Holy Cross** — James Christmas, Edward Morley, Carl Trapolino.  
**Holy Redeemer** — Paul Adams, Robert DeRoller, Frederic Keller, Raymond Marciszewski, James Reitze.  
**Holy Rosary** — William Baker, Charles Daniels, Gary Hess, Paul Leonard, Peter Salber.  
**Holy Trinity** — James McCellen, Robert Whipple.  
**O. L. of Lourdes** — Raymond Shady.

**O. L. of Perpetual Help** — Fred Bleier, Thomas LaManna, Richard Leo, Chester Peck.  
**Sacred Heart** — Thomas Craig, Michael McNutt, Lawrence Mangin, John Walsh.  
**St. Ambrose** — James Dentinger, Glenn Gravino, Thomas Hogan.  
**St. Andrew's** — Charles Ange, Ronald Becker, John Beckman, Richard Born, Leo Brownyard, Herbert Dietrich, Jr., Philip Guadagnino, William Letky, John Numentko, James Panaro, Lawrence Sanagursky, Mark Scalzo, James Sdoia, Lee Siebert.  
**St. Anne's** — Daniel Copeland, Patrick Heagney, Timothy Hondorf, Gary Lesnick, Gary Unterborn, James Valvano, Terrence LaLonde.  
**St. Augustine's** — William Zavaglia.  
**St. Boniface** — John Curran, Thomas Guerin, Michael Nedrik, Robert Rokos, Gregory Wolfe.  
**St. Catherine (Mendon)** — James Butts.  
**St. Cecilia's** — Paul Ciaraldi, Mark Dapier, Lawrence Maslanka.  
**St. Charles Borr.** — John Ackerman, James Avenel, James Callahan, James Campbell, Gerard Clark, Bernard Fernandez, Gary Gleason, Thomas Gray, Ronald Kindred, Steven Kindred, Bryan Lighthouse, Richard Lynch, Patrick Morphy, John Morphy, Ronald Neary, Stephen Reynolds, Philip Ryan, Gerard Ryan, Robert Ryan, William Sauer.

**St. Francis Assist** — Lawrence Bell.  
**Auburn** — John Bishop, Thomas Dushatinski, Leon Jesie, Joseph Kulakowski, Stephen Kulakowski, Thomas McCarthy, John Pidljychak, David Smith, Patrick Tierney.  
**Canandaigua** — Anthony Bertino, Michael Donovan, Joseph D'Agostino, Dominick Fiorentino, Wesley Grove, Raymond Henry, Thomas Kennedy, Daniel Valvano, David Vecchi.

**Hornell** — Thomas Argenti, Donald Cox, Gerald Cox, Robert Schneider.  
**Mt. Morris** — John Beuerlein, Donald Chichester, Frank Constantine, Joseph Cottone, Thomas Cottone, Sam Montesano.  
**Good Counsel** — Harry Aceto, Kenneth D'Angelo, Thomas Grant, Stephen O'Brien, James Owen, Robert Smith, Robert Tobin, John Warden, John Watson.  
**St. Francis Xavier** — John DiMicheili, John Vella.  
**St. Helen's** — Robert Bartholomay, Raymond Dreher, Michael May, Francis Mossey, John O'Neill, Guy Prentice, Jr.  
**St. John's** — James Alquist, John Alquist, David Colgan, David Hennessey, Jack LaBue, Edward Seldenberg.  
**St. John's Greece** — Craig Caswell, David DeKing, Daniel Murphy, Thomas Rice, James Schell, George Shayler, Mark Sullivan.  
**St. John's Spencerport** — John Bauman, James Dennis, Herbert Speares.  
**St. Margaret Mary** — Edward Andrews, Richard Brown, Gregory Brown, Philip Dollard, Patrick Farnan, Andrew Langkopf, Philip Okolowicz, Gregory Smith.  
**St. Rita's Webster** — John Bernunzio, Michael Kellogg, Timothy Smith.  
**St. Stanislaus** — Donald Doell, Gerard Modzel.  
**St. Thomas the Apostle** — Thomas Bailey, David Brookins, Stanley Brucato, John Ganter, Martin Keller, John Kelly, William Statt, Daniel Walsh.

## Editor's Beating Protested

New York — (RNS) — The Catholic Press Association leveled a sharp protest here against alleged police brutality in the arrest of a prominent Paraguayan Catholic newspaper editor apparently opposed to the dictatorship rule of President Alfredo Stroessner of Paraguay.

In a cable to the Paraguayan President, Father Albert J. Nevins, editor of *Maryknoll* magazine and president of the CPA, voiced his organization's objections against the reported beating of Licenciado Eliseo Sosa Constantini, editor of the weekly newspaper *Comunidad*, when he was arrested and jailed for taking photos at a student gathering celebrating the 150th anniversary of Paraguay's independence from Spain.

"When human rights are violated and freedom of expression denied," Father Nevins asserted, "the world press cannot allow such an attack to go unchallenged. We request corrective measures against those responsible for the torture and outrages on Dr. Sosa."

## Aids Migrants

Sydney — (NC) — Father Eric Tierney, director of the Catholic Migration Office here, has suggested that Catholic employers register available jobs with him to help ease unemployment among migrant workers.

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## Retarded Confirmed

Syracuse — (NC) — For the first time in the history of the Syracuse diocese a group of retarded children received the sacrament of Confirmation as a special class.

Bishop Walter A. Foery of Syracuse administered the sacrament to the class of 18 at a special ceremony held in Holy Cross church in nearby Dewitt. The class had been preparing for the sacrament for 18 months.

Ten of the children had received their first Communion a few days earlier, marking the first time in the diocese that retarded children made their first Communion in a group.

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