

# Safe Driving Duty

Castel Gandolfo — (RNS) — Pope John XXIII, noting the increasing toll of death on the highways, warned that safe driving is a conscientious obligation which no one may seek to evade.

The pontiff spoke at a general audience at the papal summer residence here attended by large numbers of faithful from many countries, including Italy, France, England, Ireland, Malta, Germany, Austria, Holland, Canada and the United States.

Also attending the audience was a delegation of the Italian Ministry of Public Works. Prior to the audience, the Pope blessed 40 mobile cinemas which the Italian authorities plan to use in a nationwide road safety campaign in which films will be shown in the cities, towns and villages of this country.

"The years of each one of us," the Pope said, "are marked on the various roads that cross the inhabited world. To live is to move and to meet one another. Unfortunately, this meeting of one another is not always a peaceful nor a joyful one. Very often it is a terrible and direful clash."

Pope John said that "never before in our time has man attained to such perfection in the means and speed of achieving such journeys over the earth, the sea and the heavens, but how frequent is it that such journeys end in tragedy, death and tears."

"We have before us," the Pope continued, "the awful statistics of death and injury through accidents on the roads, and they are such as to equal those of the wars in past times. Hence the development achieved by science and technology confront man with a new and tremendous problem."

Pope John said that "in the order of the use and the abuse of the rights of the road, there is, therefore, a mystery of life and death, which places responsibilities on the shoulders of every man, responsibilities from which no one is free. Rightly does the civil law of humanity support the great law, 'Thou shalt not kill,' which is for all a sacred command of the Lord."



Diane, Janet, Marlene and Arun — from Oklahoma

## Where The Corn Is As High As An Elephant's Eye Peace Corps for Church

"John Kennedy sent you." That was one reaction that greeted some of the Nazareth College students who recently rang bells and knocked on doors for the Catholic Church in Oklahoma this summer.

Fortunately, however, it wasn't the only reaction — or the most typical.

**THE NAZARETH** delegation — consisting of eight recent graduates of the college and six seniors — joined students of eight other Catholic colleges for young women who spent six weeks in Oklahoma assisting in various diocesan activities and passed out a pamphlet entitled "What

You Should Know About Catholics."

To get some idea of how successful the program was we interviewed four of the Nazareth students (Janet and Diane Doran and Marlene Hosenfeld of Rochester and Ann Aman of Fairport. Miss Aman is a senior, the others 1961 graduates). The four girls visited roughly 7,000 homes. They estimate that over 95% of the people they talked to were Non-Catholic.

This is a sampling of their reaction:

Janet: "We had some doors slammed in our faces, but most of the people we talked to were very friendly. They invited us in. They seemed to want to talk. Many of them commented on the fact that we had come so far away to take the census. They seemed impressed that Catholic girls would travel all that way to work for the church — impressed that the Catholic Church inspires such devotion."

Ann: "There were many false impressions of the Catholic Church. One woman told me that she heard that one woman was locked in the cellar of her house when she offended the church. She also said that Catholics had to pay the clergy to get their deceased relatives prayed into heaven. I think it helped dispel some of these notions to see us and talk to us."

Marlene: "Some people asked President Kennedy sent us. But this attitude apparently has decreased considerably since the election campaign. Most of the people we visited were friendly and anxious to talk. Many had never talked to Catholic girls before. Some had the impression that the church was surrounded by a veil of secrecy. I think our frank, open discussions helped show them that this was not true."

Diane: "Some people were bigots, but many more, it seemed to me, were questioning bigotry against Catholics. As one woman put it: 'If every one attacks you people, you must have something.' She expressed annoyance with her own church which had issued a record attacking the Catholic Church. She thought the pastor should spend his time talking about his religion instead of attacking someone else's."

At least two instances were recorded when persons interviewed — in both cases young married women — expressed the desire to learn more about the church. They were contacted by parish priests and are both taking instructions.

And once, blood was even given for the cause. Diane volunteered to give a pint for an elderly woman recuperating from an operation. But poison interfered and sister Janet had to honor the commitment for Diane.

All of the girls were enthusiastic about their experience. One, Marlene Hosenfeld, will return to teach for a year in a parochial school in McAllister, Oklahoma. She will join two other Nazareth graduates there, Jane Doane of Newark and Phyllis Gagnier of Chubbucko who have also decided to continue their work with the Fremont Mission unit.

participating in the program came from Nazareth.

The annual program is sponsored by the Fremont Mission unit which pays for the students' transportation. Living expenses are provided by the Oklahoma diocese.

Some students taught catechism or worked in diocesan offices. Others assisted in taking the church census, a project which brought them into direct contact with the state's huge Non-Catholic population. At each step the girls inquired if any of the residents were baptized Catholics and passed out a pamphlet entitled "What

## 47 Take Vows In Mercy Rite

Forty seven young women made their vows as nuns in the Mercy order at two ceremonies at the Motherhouse chapel this week.

On Monday, twenty five novices spoke their first vows and Wednesday, twenty two Sisters of Mercy who have completed their six years of training made their final vows.

Monsignor John E. Maney presided at the Monday rite and Monsignor John M. Duffy at the Wednesday ceremony.

The chapel for both ceremonies.

Mother Mary Bride, recently elected Mother General of the Sisters of Mercy, and Mother Mary Gabriel presented the two groups for the solemn profession of their vows.

The nuns pledged themselves to poverty, chastity, obedience and service to the poor, sick and ignorant.

The first vows are taken for a period of three years; the final vows, for life.

In his sermon, Monsignor Maney said, "The sacred rite itself a sermon, expresses what no human words could elaborate, the marvel of these young women professing a life of sacrifice for the love of God. In electing nothing for themselves they have found everything true love which never fails, an unending philosophy which makes all life meaningful, treasures the heart of man cannot conceive."

"In my experience," Monsignor Duffy said, "I have found no group of people happier than the sisters."

## Feast Day Radio Rosary

Bishop Kearney will lead in recitation of the Rosary in Tuesday evening's Radio broadcast of the Family Rosary for Peace program.

Tuesday, August 22, is the feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, a feast established following apparitions of the Blessed Virgin at Fatima in which she asked prayers and penance for the conversion of Russia and world peace.

The program is broadcast nightly from St. Francis of Assisi Church, Rochester, by station WSAY at 7 p.m.

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## Bible Reading Study Theme

A survey of 6,500 Protestant ministers showed people in their churches think the Bible is dull, trivial and hard to understand.

"Most people just couldn't care less about the Bible," one minister stated.

The survey was made by the Canadian Council of (Protestant) Churches.

A similar survey among Catholics would probably also reveal a widespread apathy in reading the Bible.

A sampling of Catholic opinion brought such remarks as — "I'd like to read it but just don't seem to have the time." "I started once but didn't get very far in it. I couldn't understand it." "I don't have a Bible."

To spur interest in the Bible, the twenty-second national Liturgical Week meeting this year in Oklahoma City has set its theme "Bible, Life and Worship."

Speakers prominent in each of these phases of the Church's life will be heard at the five day meeting August 21 to 24.

Father Benedict Ehmann of St. Michael's Church, Rochester, will be one of the speakers.

The triple bond of Bible, Christianity and worship was recently described at a similar Liturgical Week held in Strasbourg, France.

Bishop Otto Spuelbeck of Meissen in the Soviet controlled East Germany told of the struggle there to preserve the faith where government, industry, press, schools and entertainment are all geared to destroy religion.

As a result of the displacement of thousands of Germans from neighboring nations following World War I, then the Nazi regime and now the Communist domination of East Germany, many less than 2 per cent of the Protestants attend church on Sunday and less than 35 per cent of the Catholics.

On a general average, the prelate stated, only four out of a hundred go to church — the rest "have become strangers, if not actually hostile, to any church."

At a meeting with his priests, Bishop Spuelbeck said, "We were all in agreement on the fact that Sunday Mass is the decisive foundation of our pastoral ministry. Its celebration should be at the same time a fitting form of worship, a school of prayer, a radiant center of life."

Despite the massive propaganda and political pressure against the Church, the Meissen clergy "refused any cheap apologies," the prelate explained.

"Unbelief that is tired, desperate or skeptical will not let itself be overcome by arguments but only by action," he said.

So to inspire their people to a living faith, the Meissen clergy decided to put special emphasis on the Scripture readings of Sunday Mass.

"To meet the violent attacks of unbelief requires valiant hearts filled with the love of Christ."

"Without Him we cannot withstand the enemy," Bishop Spuelbeck stated.

To dramatize the importance of the Scripture readings, clergy



## Clergy Assigned To New Duties

Bishop Kearney this week named five priests of the Diocese to new duties, the Chancellor announced today.

The appointments, effective Tuesday, August 22, at 6 p.m., are as follows:

Rev. Albert L. Simonetti, pastor of the Church of the Annunciation, Rochester, is given the added duty of being a Diocesan Consultant, to succeed the late Monsignor Charles J. Azzi.

Rev. Gennaro J. Ventura, pastor of St. Lucy's Church, Rochester, is named pastor of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, Rochester.

Rev. Nicholas Alletto, assistant pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church, Auburn, is named pastor of St. Lucy's Church, Rochester.

Rev. Daniel P. Tormey, assistant pastor of St. Francis de Sales Church, Geneva, is transferred to be assistant pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church, Auburn.

Rev. James M. Moynihan, defensor vinculi of the diocesan Tribunal, will also serve as assistant pastor of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, Rochester.

or laymen read the texts solemnly, escorted by candles and incense as at a Solemn High Mass, but in the German language and clearly and slowly. The people are reminded frequently God speaks to them in these texts of the Bible; they are not to consider the readings as mere ancient history.

The bishop quoted one parishioner whose family counted martyrs of both the Nazis and Soviets as telling him, "I would not wish to go on living if I could not hear Him speak."

American Catholics are also taking an increased interest in the Bible.

The American bishops at their meeting in Baltimore in 1958 said, "We hope that no family can be found among us without a correct version of the Holy Scriptures. It is not always feasible in the morning, but at least every evening, a fixed hour, let the family be assembled for prayers, followed by a short reading of the Holy Scriptures."

In this country we do not face the outright attacks against our faith as in Communist East Germany but our faith can be whittled away in subtler ways.

To keep it authentic and strong, we need the encouragement and the instruction of the twenty second Liturgical Week can give us. The Courier Journal next week will carry reports of the talks given at the Oklahoma meeting.

—This article by  
Father Henry Atwell

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## Cardinal Cicognani with Bishop Kearney at St. Andrew's Seminary in October, 1949.

## Vatican Secretary of State Witness of U.S. Church Gains

Cardinal Amleto Cicognani, named by Pope John this week to be Vatican Secretary of State, is the first prelate-diplomat in that post who has long and wide experience of the Church in America.

He was apostolic delegate to the United States for 23 years and visited Rochester three times — in 1934 to open the Summer School of Liturgical Music at Sacred Heart Academy, in 1949 to bring a papal blessing to St. Andrew's Seminary then under construction at its Buffalo Road site and in 1955 to attend the national Central Verein convention.

**HE SPOKE** on a nationwide radio broadcast in 1935 to highlight a national Catechetical Congress meeting that year in Rochester.

Cardinal Cicognani is expected to attend the Inter-American Christian Doctrine Congress scheduled to be held in Dallas later this year.

While the Cardinal was apostolic delegate to the U.S. from 1933 to 1958, the Italian-born prelate traveled in every state but Alaska, met more Americans than any other foreign prelate ever to visit the U.S., and played an important role in a period of unparalleled growth of the Church in America.

He consecrated 58 U.S. bishops. He saw the Catholic population rise from about 20 million to more than 34 million; the number of priests increase by close to 100 per cent; the establishment of more than 30 dioceses and the founding of many new parishes, schools and other Catholic institutions.

Prior to his career in the U.S.



New Mercy nuns after they made their vows at Motherhouse chapel.