

Atom War Threatens Faith

Fatima (RNS)—An estimated 500,000 pilgrims gathered here from all parts of the world for the annual observance of the final appearance of Our Lady of Fatima to the shepherd children on Oct. 13, 1917, were warned by Manuel Goncalves Cardinal Cerejeira, Patriarch of Lisbon, that modern warfare threatens spiritual as well as physical destruction.

The cardinal said the use of nuclear weapons would mean not only wholesale annihilation, but "the destruction of man's faith, of his hope of happiness, his human dignity and liberty, and even of his mission on earth."

Cardinal Cerejeira said that meanwhile communism has engulfed a third of humanity and continues to spread its errors throughout the world, furthering wars and the persecution of the Church.

One of the special prayer intentions of the observance was for peace in the world. The others were for the conversion of sinners, the success of the forthcoming Second Vatican Council, the conversion of Russia, and the faithful enduring persecution in the Church of Silence.

West Coast Prelate Dies

Menlo Park, Cal. — (RNS) — Archbishop John Joseph Mitty of San Francisco, head of that Roman Catholic See since 1935 who also served his Church as a local pastor, teacher and military chaplain, died of a heart attack at St. Patrick's Seminary here at the age of 77.

The prelate had made few public appearances since 1956 when he became the victim of the first of a series of mild heart attacks. He succeeded Archbishop Edward J. Hanna of Rochester. He preceded Bishop Keane as head of the Salt Lake City Diocese.

Archbishop Mitty, a former chairman of the National Catholic Welfare Conference's Youth Department, once described a "model child" as a youngster "who grows up in the likeness of Christ, one who attains intellectual maturity, who assumes responsibility to Church and country, and who loves God and neighbor."



Listening to Reds

Munich — (RNS) — Mrs. Arthur L. Zepf of Toledo, Ohio, president of the National Council of Catholic Women, is shown as she monitored a Communist broadcast at Radio Free Europe headquarters in Munich. RFE listens to Red programs and corrects lies and distortions in broadcasts to the Iron Curtain countries of Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria. Mrs. Zepf was one of 60 prominent Americans who studied the freedom network's operations in West Germany and Portugal.

High School

Essay Contest On Race Topic

Baltimore — (NC) — A nationwide essay contest in which Catholic high school seniors have been invited to write on racism has been announced by the Josephite Missionaries here.

The topic is "What is Racism Doing to the Catholic Church in America Today?"

Father George F. O'Dea, S.S.J., Superior General of the community which works among Negroes, said college scholarships will be offered as awards.

"THE PURPOSE of the topic is to stimulate interest among Catholic students in the obligations of Catholics toward their fellow men in the field of human relations," he said.

The project is the beginning of a five-year program. There will be five \$1,000 scholarship awards made each year for winners to use at the college of their choice.

"The theme will center the thinking of the participants on the effects of segregation and discrimination on the spiritual and social development of the Negro Catholic and also the Caucasian Catholic," Father O'Dea said.

In Moonshine Country

Catholics Only 1 in 700

Paintsville, Ky. — (RNS) — Father John Reilly covers a parish in this mountain fastness which contains only 52 Catholic families in a 110-mile arc. The time he parked his car in a creek bed while he searched for a house. The creek rose, marooning his car and Father Reilly spent the night on the back seat.

The day he went to the little town of Tomahawk to marry a couple, both 71. The groom became frightened and thought he was going to die. Father Reilly completed the ceremony at a hospital.

Father Reilly is a powerful-built man who played baseball, wrestled professionally and worked on the docks at Boston before entering the priesthood.

He attended Boston College, the University of Notre Dame and Mount St. Mary's at Cincinnati. Before his assignment here in 1957, he was athletic director at Newport Catholic School and later assistant principal before being assigned to the Paintsville parish in 1957.

"Testimonials" provide background information on Catholics who have moved away and now wish to marry. They are sent to their new parish priests.

He said he drives about 35,000 miles a year and it seems like I walk about the same number of miles in search of testimonials.

"If I were dressed like a priest, a lot of people wouldn't recognize me," he explains. "After four years, I still send word that I'm coming in. After all, the ratio of Roman Catholics is 1 to 700."

They also haven't seen many red-haired Irishmen from Boston like me," he adds with a grin.

Paintsville has no Catholic church. Parishioners worship in a small chapel in the priest's house, where Father Reilly does all his own work and cooking. The house is on the grounds of Our Lady of The Mountain School, where Father Reilly teaches during the week.

On Sunday after Mass, he drives an old car to Prestonsburg in a neighboring county and repeats the service.

He also travels two Sundays a month to Beauty, an old mining camp near the West Vir-

Birth Control Hassle Looms

Washington — (RNS) — A possible Congressional controversy over funds to Columbia to make birth

control patients in public hospitals here is foreseen after announcement by District Commissioners that they will seek funds earmarked for that purpose in their 1962-63 budget.

The announcement came after it was disclosed that Rep. Louis C. Rabaut (D-Mich.) has blocked the use of funds voted by Congress in this year's budget to operate expanded birth control clinics.

Rabaut, a prominent Roman Catholic layman, is a strong foe of birth control. He is father of nine children, four of whom, a son and three daughters, have entered religious orders. He is chairman of the House Appropriations subcommittee that handles the District of Columbia budget, and has earned a reputation through the years as "watchdog" of the city's pursestrings.

In 1960, after a long controversy, District Commissioners announced a policy of giving birth control advice to patients who requested it. This included referral to Planned Parenthood Associations, clinics and similar community service agencies.

Vernacular Mass OK With 'Reservations'

Boston — (RNS) — Richard Cardinal Cushing, Archbishop of Boston, expressed some "reservations" here concerning movements to promote "the vernacular Mass" in Catholic churches.

Writing in The Pilot, Boston archdiocesan newsweekly, Cardinal Cushing declared: "If all those who are advocating the Mass in the vernacular are ready to assume the responsibility for the results, I gladly support them."

Cardinal Cushing stressed that the Mass would be better understood "when we give more instructions pertaining to it — no matter what language is used."

Allowing that advocates of the vernacular Mass "have good reasons for their opinions," the cardinal asked: "Who can interpret the thinking of 40 millions of Catholics on this subject?"

"And in what vernacular? French? There are thousands of French speaking Catholics in this part of the country. Italian? Polish? Lithuanian and other nationalities must also be numbered."

Seminary Alumni

Bishop Kearney paid special tribute to two distinguished clerics at St. Bernard's Seminary 28th alumni reunion this week—Bishop Walter Foery of Syracuse and Monsignor John F. Goggin, rector emeritus of the seminary. More than five hundred priests from a score of dioceses attended the two day event and elected Rev. James F. Donaher of the Hartford archdiocese as alumni association president.

School Closing Wins Bus Rides

Covington, Ky. — (NC) — A determined stand to close down three parochial schools in Boone County and send 700 students into overcrowded public schools led county officials to authorize bus transportation for the parochial school students at county expense.

Bishop Richard H. Ackerman, C.S.Sp., of Covington ordered pastors of the three parochial schools to keep the schools closed until the county provided bus transportation for the students.

The matter was referred to the Boone County Fiscal Court which rules on financial and fiscal policies for the county. After a lengthy session (Sept. 5) the Fiscal Court agreed that the county should provide bus service for the parochial students for the first school term which runs until January. The Fiscal Court also decided that the issue should be brought before the county in the November election through a referendum on whether the county should continue to provide transportation for parochial school students.

Lay People Want English

Cincinnati — (NC) — A total of 922 persons of St. Clare's parish in nearby College Hill, have signed petitions asking the Liturgical Commission in Rome to grant permission for use of English in the Mass.

The signatories represent about 60 per cent of the adults in the parish. The petitioners called for use of the English in the parts of the Mass appropriate to the people themselves, particularly to the priest.

Priests explained at Sunday Mass in the church that use of Latin was not an essential requirement of the Mass, and that preparing for the coming ecumenical council had asked for opinions on the subject from the laity.

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See Sibley's 5th Annual Show of Chrysanthemums Downtown, this week

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