

Daily Prayer Asked

# Pope Issues Final Rules for Council

Pope John has issued final instructions for the ecumenical Council of the world's Catholic bishops and named Cardinal Spellman of New York as one of the meeting's top officials.

The Council's sessions will begin at the Vatican October 11.

Besides Cardinal Spellman, nine other Princes of the Church representing eight other nationalities were named to the Council's "presidency" — coordinating agency of ten commissions or committees set up to guide the Council's work.

The commissions will channel subjects for deliberation to the nearly 3000 bishops attending the Council.

Subjects will be divided as to faith and religious practice, bishops and diocesan administration, eastern rites, sacraments, clergy and laity, missions, church worship, press and entertainment.

Delegates from other denominations are authorized to attend the closed sessions of the bishops but will not speak to the Council nor vote. They may inform their own religious leaders of the Council's progress but are otherwise held to secrecy.

Details of how the sessions will be conducted, voting procedures, qualifications of experts accompanying the bishops and other regulations were carefully spelled out by the Pontiff.

In a radio and television talk Tuesday, Pope John asked all Catholics to say this prayer daily for the success of the Council:

Almighty and merciful God, by whose gift Thy faithful people are able to render unto Thee true and laudable service, grant we beseech Thee, that we may

so faithfully serve Thee in this life that we fall not finally to attain Thy heavenly promises. From all the earth and from heaven, we ask this through the merits of Jesus Christ, the Lord and Saviour of all. Amen.

In his radio-tv talk, Pope John said preparations for the Council indicate that Rome will be the well-spring of a new era in world history. He cited increased interest in efforts toward Christian unity and a growing sense of responsibility to solve "the grave problems" of modern life as evidence for his confidence.

## THE CATHOLIC Courier Journal

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LAST WEEK'S PAID CIRCULATION

65,800



Bishop Kearney and Jurists at Red Mass Wednesday



Monsignor Hallak of St. Nicholas Church

### Monsignor Hallak Golden Jubilee

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Andrew Hallak, pastor of St. Nicholas Syrian Melchite Rite Church, Rochester, will celebrate his golden jubilee in the priesthood Sunday, Sept. 16.

He will offer the Divine Liturgy (solemn Mass) at St. Patrick's Church, Rochester, on that date at 11 a.m.

The jubilee sermon will be given by Very Rev. Msgr. George Cocuzzi, vice chancellor of the Diocese.

The St. Nicholas parish choir will sing. Rev. James Sarkis, curate at St. Nicholas Church, will be co-celebrant of the Liturgy with Monsignor Hallak.

A dinner and reception will follow at the Sheraton Hotel.

Born in Yaroud, Syria, in 1888, Monsignor Hallak had his early training under the Jesuits in that town. At the age of 17 he entered the monastery of St. John the Baptist in Khenchara, Lebanon, under the direction of the Basilian Choeurite monks.

ORDAINED IN 1912, he began his priestly career as secretary to Flavianus Kfoury, Archbishop of Hama and Yaroud.

Two years later he was assigned to teach Arabic and French at the Oriental College of Zahle in Lebanon. During eight years as a member of the college faculty he also assisted in pastoral duties in the parishes of St. Barbara, St. Michael and the Cathedral of the Assumption in Zahle.

In 1920, Monsignor Hallak left his native Lebanon to aid souls in a land new and strange to him. His first appointment

in the United States was in the Erie diocese at Dubois, Pennsylvania. After ten years of service there, he served temporarily as pastor of Holy Saviour parish, Montreal, Canada.

He returned to Dubois in 1931 and also took care of two other churches in the Pittsburgh and Altoona areas. That same year he liquidated the debt on the Dubois parish.

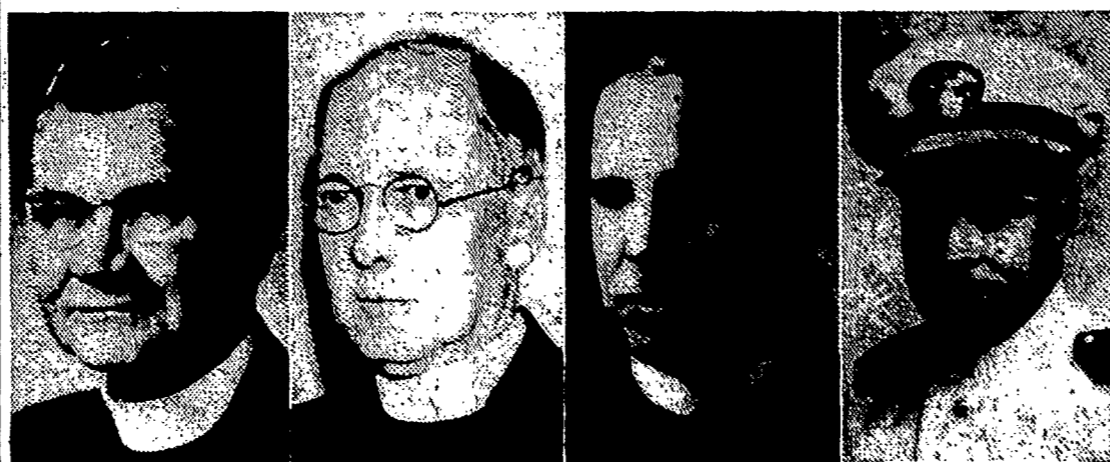
He cared for a parish in Toledo, Ohio, and then was named pastor of St. George's Church, Birmingham, Alabama. His pastoral care here continued for fourteen years and again he liquidated the debt as in Dubois.

Monsignor Hallak was awarded the title of Archimandrite of the Melchite Rite, highest dignity for a Melchite parish priest, in 1957. The title was bestowed by Melchite Patriarch Huhabghab.

Monsignor Hallak came to his Rochester pastorate in 1955 after St. Nicholas Church had been without a pastor of its own since 1938 when Father Thomas Fayad died. During the parish was founded in 1927 and serves about 100 families of the Melchite Rite of the Catholic Church.

During his seventeen years here, the jubilarian has witnessed three young women of the parish enter the convent, one young man (his present curate) ordained to the priesthood, two lads enter the seminary and a parish family anxious to preserve its liturgical heritage.

The church has been repaired and redecorated under his direction and the parish cleared of indebtedness. He presided at the parish silver jubilee in 1952, the year which also marked his fortieth anniversary of ordination. His priesthood for half a century has been characterized by a deep concern for the Church's mission work and he has personally contributed and encouraged others to do so to help support the faith in his native land. In recent years he has been elected and religious factors.



Father Kelcher Father Smith Father Geck Father Wheaton

### Clergy Given Assignments

Seven priests of the Rochester Diocese were assigned to new duties by Bishop Kearney this week, the Chancery announced today.

Two priests are named Diocesan Consultors to serve as advisers to the Bishop. They are: Rev. Robert A. Kelcher, pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Church, Greece, and Rev. Leo V. Smith, pastor of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, Rochester.

Both will continue in their pastoral duties.

Rev. John K. Wheaton, after 21 years of chaplain's service in the U.S. Navy, is named pastor of St. Paul of the Cross Church, Honeye Falls.

Father Wheaton, first priest of the Rochester Diocese to be a Navy chaplain, holds the rank of Commodore. He enlisted in the Navy in October, 1941, just prior to the attack on the United States.

His chaplain's career has taken him to virtually every corner of the earth and his rank has placed him in charge of scores of other chaplains of several denominations. He was awarded the Purple Heart for injuries suffered when the U.S.S. Helena was sunk in the Pacific Battle of Kula Gulf.

Rev. James Sarkis, assistant pastor at St. Nicholas Church, Rochester, is assigned to the faculty of St. Andrew's Seminary. He will also continue his parish duties.

Rev. William J. Spelley is transferred from assistant pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Brighton, to assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church, Canandaigua.

Rev. James Wolfe is transferred from assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church, Canandaigua, to assistant pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Brighton.

The appointments are effective Tuesday, Sept. 18, at 8 p.m.

### Spiritual Prelude Before Rome Council

Vatican City — (NC) — His Holiness Pope John XXIII has set a pattern for the spiritual preparation he has asked of all Catholics for the coming Vatican council.

The Pope is making a private retreat from September 10 to 17, seven days of prayer and meditation being broken only by his scheduled radio message to the world on September 11.

The Pope has also ordered a triduum of spiritual preparation for all Vatican personnel, both clerics and laymen, to run from September 24 to 26. Families living in Vatican City as well as members of the Noble Guard, Swiss Guard, Palatine Guard and Vatican Gendarmerie will join in the triduum. A similar triduum will be held for personnel of the diocese of Rome.

Starting September 12, an additional prayer has been ordered in every Mass celebrated in Rome and in the Vatican to ask the help of the Holy Spirit for the work of the council.

## Seneca Falls Surgeon, Hero at Antietam Battle

By REV. ROBERT F. McNAMARA of St. Bernard's Seminary

One of the bloodiest and most important battles of the Civil War was fought one hundred years ago, on September 17, 1862, just east of the village of Sharpsburg, Maryland. Because it was engaged on the banks of Antietam Creek, it is usually referred to as the Battle of Antietam.

The stakes were high. General George B. McClellan, head of the federal troops, had 50,000 at his disposal, and 20,000 in reserve. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia numbered 40,000, without reserves.

McClellan could have won a decisive victory if he had planned better. Largely because he did not, while the Confederates lost 9,000, the Federal losses were 12,000.

Soldiers from western New York, and more particularly from that part of it which now constitutes the Rochester Diocese, played an active and courageous part in this strange battle.

The 108th New York State Volunteers, for instance, received its "baptism of blood" on this occasion. The 105th took part; the 33rd, the 23rd (from the Southern Tier) and the 107th.

THE "REYNOLDS BATTERY" (1st Regiment, Light Artillery) and several other units which included upstate soldiers. And among these soldiers there were many Catholic men, who fought, were wounded, or died.



Colonel Irwin's Brigade captures the Dunker Church as shown in this sketch of Civil War battle at Antietam. Dr. Richard Curfan of Seneca Falls won his Congressional Medal of Honor for heroism during this phase of the battle on Sept. 17, 1862.

For example, Joseph Delavan of Co. D of the 108th was seriously wounded in his leg. The surgeons were unable to locate the bullet. Actually, he recovered, and lived a long and useful life with the undiscovered bullet.

Diamonds of quality reasonably priced. William S. Thorne Jeweler, 313 Main St. East. — Adv.

### Red Claims Refuted

Cracow — (RNS) — Tygodnik Powstacy, a leading Catholic weekly published here, has attacked a Polish Communist weekly, Swiat, for alleging that large numbers of Polish priests and monks are abandoning the religious life.

According to the Catholic publication, statistics show that during 1959 and 1960 a total of 93 priests and monks left the Church. This figure, Tygodnik Powstacy stated, represents only one-fifth of one per cent of the total number of priests and monks in the Church.

The Cracow weekly charged that Swiat was deliberately trying to create the impression that the Church "is rotting from within."

### Bishop To Jurists

## Justice Assures God's Blessing

Hundreds of jurists, attorneys and prominent citizens of many religious faiths knelt in prayer asking God's blessing on the new Courts' term and heard Bishop Kearney urge them to seek "justice before the bar of conscience."

They attended the traditional annual Mass celebrated in the eastern section of the Rochester Diocese.

He celebrated the Mass which takes its name from the red vestments worn in memory of the tongues of fire of Pentecost. St. Joseph's Church in downtown Rochester was filled for the occasion.

IN HIS TALK after the Mass, Bishop Kearney called this country's long tradition of launching significant chapters of its official life with prayer. He cited President Kennedy's inauguration in 1961 when a major portion of the ceremony was spent in invoking God's blessing on his administration and the new President's earnest quest for "His blessing and His help" in the years before him.

Each session of the nation's Supreme Court begins with the brief but reverent plea, "God save the United States and this honorable Court." The Bishop told the jurists.

"So also, it is necessary that you do likewise," he said, "and advised them to follow up the prayers with an uncompromising effort to 'seek justice' in all their court proceedings. Their thorough knowledge of law and a conscientious performance of duty will be the source of their great personal satisfaction and an assurance of the blessing they seek. He concluded.

### Blessing Rite Sunday At Holy Sepulchre

The annual Blessing of the Graves ceremony will take place at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery this Sunday, Sept. 16, at 3:30 p.m.

Bishop Casey will give the blessing and preach.

The ceremony will begin at the All Souls Chapel in the eastern section of the cemetery.

Priests and seminarians will chant portions of the Office of the Dead during the procession.

Catholics of the Rochester area are invited to attend the rite honoring the departed.

### St. Andrew's Record Total

St. Andrew's Seminary has enrolled the largest number of students in its 92 year history — 265.

The high school department counts 229 pupils; 219 of whom are from the Rochester Diocese. The college department has 126 students; 65 from the Rochester Diocese.

Syracuse, Pittsburgh, Altoona and St. Augustine dioceses and the Precious Blood Fathers and Fathers of Mercy also have students preparing for the priesthood at St. Andrew's.

### Three Hundred Visit Cathedral

Sacred Heart Cathedral's first "open house" for visitors who are not of the Catholic faith was termed a "tremendous success."

The three hour event saw an estimated 300 people tour the tower in Gothic structure, Mother Church of the Rochester Diocese, Sunday afternoon, Sept. 9.

Comments made to priests and lay people who guided visitors on an informative tour of the Cathedral indicated the program attained its goal of developing a mutual understanding and respect.

Monuments and Markers for Holy Sepulchre. The better way to choose a monument is to see our indoor display. You will appreciate our no-agent plan. VISIT BROS., 1120 MT. HOPE, GR 4327L. Adv.