Expansion at Pius X

First fallout shelter to be built in a parochial school in New York State is blessed by Bishop Casey at St. Pius X school in suburban Rochester Sunday afternoon. Crucifix is at entrance of area which also serves as parish recreational center. He later blessed and erected another cross in new eight room addition to the parish school.

Reds OK Faith Practice

Budapest — (RNS) — Budapest Radio surprisingly defended Hungarians here who had retained religious beliefs despite membership in the Communist Party.

The broadcast came at a time when the western world was awaiting developments in the Cardinal Mindszenty case and when Hungarian-U.S. relations reportedly had reached the point where the American government was considering recognition of the Kadar regime.

In its commentary Budapest Radio approvingly quoted critical comments made by Nepszadsag, government-operated daily. The journal had published an article dealing with the expulsion from the Communist Party of members who continued to practice religion.

THE ARTICLE charged that in some instances these members had been deprived of employment.

It "condemned" such acts in Hungary, saying that "to expel a simple worker from the party just because he was not yet able to rid himself of certain religious prejudices, and what is more to launch a campaign against him, is a crude and unworthy act. It is alien to the party's mentality. The party's strength lies in reasoned enlightenment."

The article concluded by saying "such things must not happen again."

Meanwhile, in Washington, a State Department official indicated that "normalization" of U.S.-Hungarian relations awaited "specific" acts by the Kadar regime.

A State Department paper noting that many of the U.S. government's objections to recognition of Hungary had been removed in recent years reportedly had been distributed to Congressional committees.

It is understood that some agreement will have to be reached in the case of Josef Cardinal Mindszenty, Primate of Hungary, who has been in asylum at the U.S. legation in Budapest since the abortive uprising in 1956.

In recent weeks, Franz Cardinal Koenig, of Austria, and a special Vatican envoy have conferred with the prelate who had long vacant.

While reports are conflicting, it was evident that the Vatican would like Cardinal Mindszenty to leave Hungary for Rome and a Curia assignment. Hungary has indicated some willingness for him to leave the country. However, it is understood that the cardinal will leave only when Hungary guarantees that the Church may operate in freedom and assign bishops to Sees long vacant.

Czechs Seek Vatican Link

Rome—(NC)—Czechoslovakia has approached the Holy See for negotiations paralleling the current talks between the Vatican and Hungary, according to the Italian news agency ANSA.

Vatican sources would neither confirm nor deny the report, but one source said that the approach, if true, "would seem to fit into the new climate" developing between the Vatican and communist countries.

"Czechoslovakia also desires to start conversation with the Vatican to examine the same problems which are being negotiated between Hungary and the Holy See," the ANSA story said.

It quoted "informed sources" as saying that a "trusted canon" was sent from Prague to Vienna for this purpose and met Franziskus Cardinal Koenig, Archbishop of Vienna, before he came to Rome earlier this month.

U.S. Catholics Baffled, Says Commonweal

Pope's 'Opening to the Left'

New York — (RNS) — Pope John XXIII's call for a different approach to communism in his encyclical, Pacem in Terris, has had no public endorsement from a major American Catholic spokesman or theologian, it was asserted here in Commonweal, Catholic weekly magazine edited by laymen.

In the lead editorial of its May 24 issue, Commonweal observed that a "general paralysis" has gripped American Catholics in the face of the encyclical's implicit 'opening to the left.'"

"The most common reaction has been either to deny that the encyclical represents any kind of change in the Church's thinking on communism, or to restrict all comments to a cautious description of what the encyclical appears to be saying," the magazine stated.

"No major Church spokesman or theologian has publicly espoused the idea, so clear in the encyclical, that the times may require a different approach to communism," it stressed. "Nor for that matter, has there been any notable support for the current diplomatic negotiations now taking place between the Vatican and the Soviet Union."

In a series of events over recent months, it has been noted by observers that the Holy See and Communist leaders have been attempting to reach a modus vivendi in Church-State relations behind the Iron Curtain.

Commonweal went on to note that the reasons for the apparent lack of support for the encyclical's approach to communism lies in the Church's unequivocal opposition to atheistic communism over the decades.

"Any suggestion that the Vatican may be moderating its attitude is bound to have deep practical and psychological repercussions," Commonweal said.

For some, the magazine continued, the encyclical has provoked "a great sense of uneasiness, a 'crisis of confidence' in the Pope." For others, it added "it has been the occasion of labored rationalizations, often tinged with the suggestion that the Pope, while a good and visionary man, is 'unrealistic.'"

"Hardly anyone has defended the Pope or creatively seized upon his words," the editorial said.

Lutheran Hails New Liturgy

Geneva—(RNS)—If liturgical principles formed at the opening session of the Second Vatican Council make their full impact on actual practices, Roman Catholic worship may be revolutionized within the next generation, a Lutheran delegate-observer to the Council said here.

These principles—which include more use of the vernacular in the Mass and other Catholic rites—"constitute the charter for the reversal of the major liturgical trends of perhaps as much as the last 1,500 years," Dr. George A. Lindbeck said in an article published in the Lutheran World, a quarterly publication of the Lutheran World Federation.

DR. LINDBECK, who is on leave from Yale University to serve as research professor of the LWF's Commission on Inter-Confessional Research, was one of the Federation's delegate-observers at the Council.

In the article, Dr. Lindbeck hailed the Council-approved draft or schema on liturgy as "an excellent piece of work, fundamentally evangelical in character."

The schema approved at the Council, he noted, will not only promote the use of the vernacular and distribution of Communion in two forms, but might also lead to changes in the Mass itself, including the Canon or central part.

While none of the Catholic dogmas which Protestants find offensive have been changed at the Council, Dr. Lindbeck said, the liturgical schema has placed them "in an interpretive framework which profoundly modified the way in which they are understood."

The liturgical innovations, if put into effect, "will lead to greatly improved practice — perhaps better than prevailing in non-Roman denominations," Dr. Lindbeck concluded.

New Priest

Father Xavier Albert, C.P., a convert to the Catholic faith and formerly a Texas pharmacist, will be ordained with three other new Passionist priests this week in Chicago. The four will join nearly 4000 others members of the 250 year old order noted for its parish mission work.

Veteran Heads New Seminary

Boston — (RNS) — Cardinal Cushing, Archbishop of Boston, named as first rector of the St. Pius X Seminary for Delayed Vocations a 43-year-old priest who is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and a decorated veteran of World War II.

He is Msgr. George A. Schlichte, vice-chancellor of the Boston archdiocese and former assistant vice-rector of the North American College in Rome.

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