

# A Letter from Bishop Casey

(Continued from Page 1)

A fourth goal which would be the principal concern of the second session, the Pope added, was to examine the intimate nature of the Church and to express in human language, as far as it is possible, a definition which will best reveal the Church's real, fundamental constitution and manifest its manifold mission of salvation.

In his talk, Pope Paul paid a lengthy eulogy to the late Pope John XXIII, praising him for having convened the first session of the Ecumenical Council, "a double, under divine inspiration." At the same time, he announced that there would be a third session of the Council.

The second session of the Vatican Council began one month ago, after Paul VI was elected Pope. He made an stirring announcement during the first days of his pontificate, except to say that the Council would continue. The new Pope, however, was busy behind the scenes during the quiet days of July and August, meeting with leading churchmen to plan the present session.

During September you saw the results of these conferences in a series of lightning moves. Pope Paul consolidated his position as the leader of the reform wing of the Church.

Last year, the observers were limited to Protestant and Orthodox clergymen and laymen. It now appears possible that Buddhist monks, Muslim imams and Jewish rabbis may be invited to join Catholic laymen as official observers at the Council. They will be there merely to observe; their capacity is non-deliberative.

Pope Paul has declared his readiness to have a greater representation of the bishops of the world in the Curia, to be thus associated with him in the study and responsibilities of ecclesiastical government, and to have all heads of dioceses exercise in their own right some of the prerogatives heretofore reserved to the Curia.

But lest this be misunderstood as diminishing his own supreme authority, he carefully reasserted the primacy of the Pope.

"Our Lord," he said, "charged the Apostle Peter with being the cornerstone, the solid and human-divine edifice. I wish to build and which He called the Church."

Earlier the Pope had declared that the Curia, the central administration of the Church, had grown "ponderous with its own venerable age" and required reforms to meet the needs of the new times. Various reforms are needed and they will certainly be sought. They will have no other aim than to drop

whatever is archaic or superfluous in the forms and norms that regulate the Roman Curia and put into being whatever is vital and healthy."

Practically speaking, this means that in the future the bishops of the world may not be obliged to seek authorization from Rome in ordinary instances as in the past. This decentralization of administration will benefit the individual dioceses such as Rochester.

This past week, Pope Paul acted to speed up the work of the Council Fathers. At the first session, the general congregations (business sessions) were supposed to be secret. The Vatican newspaper, "L'Osservatore Romano," gave the list of Fathers who spoke each day and the general list of the topics treated. Actually, the press was able to attribute what was said to a particular bishop. Now, the world will know what was said on a given day, unless the speaker wishes to remain off the record.

This should eliminate some of the confusion and misunderstanding which characterized the first session. The Catholic Courier will probably carry the major actions of the Council; it will be worth your time to read about them.

The seventy new ground rules, announced last Thursday, should streamline Council deliberations. Much time was lost last fall when the speakers became repetitious, expounding points which had been made days before. For three weeks the Council was bogged down in a morass of talk before Pope John rescued it.

It is the hope here to wind up the Council in December, 1964. The new regulations, we hope, will make this possible. Each bishop has manifold and complex problems to settle at home; and the administration of his diocese is hampered if he is absent for long periods of time.

Monday the Council got down to business and millions will be watching from a distance to see what its deliberations will offer the world.

We believe that the progressive tone which prevailed at the first session will continue, and that the long-term effects for our Church, and the other Non-Catholic churches, will be profound. As the Bishops wrestle with problems affecting the whole Church, and share in epoch-making decisions at a great moment of history, you can pray daily that the Holy Spirit will guide their every move.

The first of the seventeen schemata (considerably abbreviated since last fall by various Council commissions) to be considered will be the "Out-

world," Pope Paul judged. For the Church will thus be more and more conscious of her saving and civilizing mission and thus eager "to shout audaciously to the world a message of greeting, of brotherhood and of hope."

But "John the Exuberant" has been succeeded by "Paul the Realist" who, while recommending the same exuberance to the Fathers of the Council, nevertheless cautioned: "We ought to be realists, not hiding the savagery that from many areas reaches into this universal synod. Can we be blind and not notice that many seats in this assembly are vacant? Where are our brethren from nations in which the Church is opposed and in what conditions does religion exist in these lands?"

There could be "a hundred things to say" about the evils of the day and about "the sad conditions of modern man, but not now," said the Holy Father. Rather, his attitude was affirmative, frank and unafraid: "Let the world know that the Church looks at the world with profound understanding, with sincere admiration and with the genuine intention not of conquering it but of serving it; not of despising it but of appreciating it; not of condemning it but of strengthening and saving it."

Many distinctions have been suggested to categorize the opposing attitudes in world Catholicism (as in all other human societies, for that matter), attitudes that were manifested during the first session of Vatican II and which will certainly reappear in this session of the Council — conservatives versus liberals, progressives versus traditionalists, open Christians recognizing Christ's clear will that there be one Church but living in separation.

The Pope was visibly moved as he broached this theme and for the first time the head of the Catholic Church made a public act of contrition: "If we are in any way to blame for that separation, we humbly beg God's forgiveness and ask pardon, too, of our brethren who feel themselves to have been injured by us."

To the extent that the Church grows in self-knowledge and in renewed vitality it will build a bridge to the contemporary world.

In his address opening the second session of Vatican II, Pope Paul VI gave his response to that call in the night. To his fellow bishops, he exclaimed: "Let us, therefore, brethren, go forward."

We went to the entrance of the tomb of the Pope below the crypt of St. Andrew, which is the crypt following a walk of a large group kneeling at the white marble tomb of Pius XII and, just a short distance beyond, was the temporary tomb of his successor, John XXIII. (It will be buried later in St. John's Lateran).

It was difficult to inch forward to the kneeling position immediately in front of the tomb so great was the flock of people. Finally, we were there on our knees, praying for the soul of this simple man. The tomb itself, of a brownish marble, seemed small, but then John was a very short man. There were some fresh flowers, some wreaths — and much devotion. The faces of the people were lit as their lips moved in prayer.

"JOHANNES XXIII." This was the inscription on the tomb. There is a little quietude, just by the architect of the Great Council, the man who summoned the renewal of the Church through this Pope, God who is called to leave the life of human joy measuring things has brought about great and on the resting place of St. Pius, a search for things in heaven and earth for the good of His people.

## Education Week Set For Mid-November

Washington — (NC) — Observances of Catholic Education Week this year will stress Catholic schools as an integral part of the American educational scene, Msgr. Frederick G. Hochwalt said here.

The director of the Department of Education of the National Catholic Welfare Conference said elementary and secondary schools across the nation are being urged to take part in the week, November 10 to 16.

"Catholic Education Strengthens the Nation" will be the theme of the observance which will coincide with "American Education Week" in public schools. Schools are expected to sponsor special Masses for pupils and parents, Communion breakfasts, "open houses," teaching demonstrations and other events.

"Catholic schools do not exist in a vacuum. Whatever they do affects their local communities, and in another sense, the nation," he said in a statement.

## One Million in Colleges By 1970

Washington — (NC) — A host of officials here predicted there will be more than a million Catholic students attending secular colleges and universities in the United States by 1970.

Vernon C. Burns, Jr., who has been selected president of the National Newman Foundation and a member of the executive committee of its board, said that is a clear reason why the Newman organization has launched a \$5 million campaign to carry out its work.

Burns, who is trust officer at the First National Bank here, said there now are more than 200,000 Catholic students attending secular colleges and universities.

He said the campaign is to provide for expansion of National Newman Foundation work here set as its goal: establishing chairs of history for teaching Catholic thought and culture; building and equipping Newman centers with chapels, classrooms and libraries; implementing a program for Catholic foreign students who annually are increasing; providing lecture tours of prominent scholars and statesmen; and financing a continuing training program for Newman chaplains.

## Negro Priest, White Father

Rome — (NC) — The first Congolese member of the White Fathers of Africa has now been ordained a priest, it was learned here.

Father Godefroid Nkongolo, W.F., received the order of the priesthood at Sola, North Katanga, in the parish which was attacked and burned by rebellious Congolese troops last year. Father Nkongolo was ordained (Aug. 5) by Bishop Gustave Bouve, C.S.S., of Kongolo.

The town of Sola was attacked January 10, 1962, by rebel troops from Kivu province. The White Fathers and Franciscan nuns at Sola were at first reported to have been killed. Actually, they had evacuated the town after learning of the massacre of 18 Holy Ghost Fathers at Kongolo that January 1. The Sola parish was reopened several months later.

**McFarlin's**

New Zip-Lined

# RAINCOATS

With Removable Soft Pile Collar



A smartly styled raincoat . . . slash pockets, fly front, split shoulder construction, gay plaid lining . . . perfect for Fall and Spring. When the weather's at its worst, zip in the wonderfully warm piled lining with quilted sleeve liner, button on the furry pile collar. A handsome, practical coat for every boy. Wash'n wear, too. In Sand, Olive, Black. Sizes 6-12, \$24.95. 14-20, \$29.95.

BOYS' WORLD—Third Floor

**McFARLIN'S**

## Proclaim Christ Council's Goal

(Continued from Page 1)

sonally welcomed such a study as promising "a more effective and responsible collaboration" of the bishops of the Catholic world with the Pope.

Some correspondents in Rome, annoyed perhaps at the tardy appearance of the text of the Pope's address and bored by the English translation (which reverted to an earlier and unimpeachable tradition of employing an 18th century English prose) felt that there was nothing succinct, nothing quotable in the document. On Paul's conception of the collegiality of the bishops, could these phrases be improved upon? His "Holiness" wanted the Fathers of the Council to realize that he "wishes to pray with you, to speak with you, to deliberate with you, to work with you."

A further fruit of a larger "awareness of the relation by which Christ is united to His Church" would be a sharper instinct for correcting institutional and personal imperfections in the Church, a recognition of a "primary duty . . . to reform and correct and set herself to right in conformity with her divine model."

Pope John's word for this process was "aggiornamento," an updating and refurbishing of the Church. Pope Paul speaks of "a new spring, a reawakening of the mighty spiritual and moral energies which at present lie dormant." He wants no pains spared "to make faith strong and joyful," a call for a robust and humane Catholicism.

Quite obviously a fuller understanding of the true nature of the Church will disclose in greater relief what Pope Paul terms "the spiritual drama" of Christians recognizing Christ's clear will that there be one Church but living in separation.

The Pope was visibly moved as he broached this theme and for the first time the head of the Catholic Church made a public act of contrition: "If we are in any way to blame for that separation, we humbly beg God's forgiveness and ask pardon, too, of our brethren who feel themselves to have been injured by us."

To the extent that the Church grows in self-knowledge and in renewed vitality it will build a bridge to the contemporary world.



## SPECIAL PURCHASE

Orlon Pile-Lined Coats

ONLY \$20

Here's your chance to buy that extra coat you've wanted for so long, and you'll hardly miss the \$20 in the height of casual fashion, tailored for a knock-around life, with warm-as-toast Orlon acrylic linings, and concealed hoods. Water-repellent too. The car coat comes in assorted wool tweeds, herringbone and mixed, in wine, green, brown or black with braid trim . . . the full length corduroy in antelope beige and loden green. Misses' sizes. Sibley's Career Coats, Second Floor, Irondequoit, Eastway, Southtown, Newark.