

Liturgy Reforms Voted

(Continued from Page 1)

After the final vote, Eugene Cardinal Tisserant, dean of the Sacred College, rose to thank the Commission on the Liturgy on behalf of the Council for its painstaking work in preparing the schema for presentation.

He paid special tribute to Arcadio Cardinal Larraona, Spanish-born president of the Commission, as well as to all the members and consultants of the commission. Also cited by Cardinal Tisserant was the late Gaetano Cardinal Croggiani, who headed the commission until his death in February, 1962. He was a brother of the Vatican Secretary of State, Amleto Cardinal Croggiani.

The seven-chapter schema in its final form evolved through two years of preparatory commission work, 15 full general meetings of the Council last year, later revisions in commissions and a final series of votes at the current Council session.

A long and complex second chapter authorizes bishops to permit the use of modern spoken languages in large parts of the Mass. The chapter stresses that worshippers should not be idle or silent spectators at the Mass, but should take a conscious, active part.

Other provisions of the chapter approve celebration, or simultaneous celebration of the Mass by more than one priest, in certain circumstances; distribution of Holy Communion under both species, bread and wine, also in special circumstances; and approve reform of the order of the Mass and the elimination of certain historical accretions of ritual and rubric.

Chapter three changed the name of the Sacrament of Extreme Unction to the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. It said that in mission areas and in countries with strong local customs the Sacrament may be modified in its introduction of local tradition.

All that remains before the document becomes the official decree of the Council is the approval of the Holy Father. The document is expected to be issued in the next few days.

According to Bishop Thomas K. Gorman of Dallas-Fort Worth, bishops could then authorize the use of English or other vernacular languages in the Mass and the sacraments at once.

THE DAY BEFORE the bishops voted approval of the working document, they received word that Pope Paul had arranged for enlargement of the existing Council commissions from the normal 25 to 30 members. The Council Fathers were to choose the majority of the new members in a special election on Nov. 28. The Pope was then to appoint one new member apiece to each commission. The commissions themselves were to elect vice presidents to succeed those appointed by the individual presidents 14 months ago.

The papal intervention was interpreted as a move to forestall any possible footdragging by the commissions in the work of revising Council documents, in line with the desire of the vast majority of bishops at the Council.

A Mexican bishop called the Christian unity schema "the finest gift the Council can make to the Church." But he asked greater stress on "the importance of the liturgical movement and the biblical movement" in promoting unity.

Two French-speaking Council Fathers asked that ecumenism be furthered by a less strict law against Catholic participation in the religious services of Non-Catholics. And a Spanish bishop asked that "the widest possible latitude be allowed for participation in Non-Catholic religious services in order to avoid the struggles which are all too common among those who should be living together in peace."



Pope Prays For President

Vatican City — (RNS) — Pope Paul VI kneels in prayer in St. Peter's Basilica at Mass for deceased prelates of the Church and the late President John F. Kennedy of the U.S. Earlier, in his private chapel, the pontiff had offered his Mass for the slain leader. Mr. Kennedy had an audience with Pope Paul in July.

Priests to Give Pope's Blessing

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He praised particularly the fine Catholic school system of the United States ("excellent on every level," he said), and singled out the enormous good done by the Bishops' Relief Collection. The Pope added a gracious touch here, "I thank you and your people not in my poor name but in the name of Jesus Christ and His Mother, Mary."

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Legion Favors Prayer, Bible Amendment

Montebello, Ill. — (NC) — National Commander Daniel Foley said the American Legion supports a constitutional amendment that would permit voluntary prayer and Bible reading in public schools.

The amendment would allow the world's largest veterans organization to hold prayer services in public schools. The Legion is committed to the principle of keeping the faith of God, truth and justice before the nation's youth.

While the Legion must accept the Supreme Court prayer decision, Foley said, it also "believes there is an alternative that will permit the concept of God to be kept before the nation's youth in their formative years."

LAST WEEK'S PAID CIRCULATION
67,359

Advent Rites Scheduled On 'Covenant' Theme

A series of four Advent Bible Vigils will be held at St. Michael's Church, Rochester, Sunday afternoons at 4 p.m.

The series will begin this Sunday, Dec. 1, with the theme "The Covenant of God." Subsequent themes will be "Mary, Woman of God's Covenant," "Prophets of God's Covenant" and "The Messiah of the Covenant."

Bible Vigils are religious rites which include readings from Scripture, brief explanations of the texts and appropriate prayers or hymns.

'Bargain Hunter' Dies At Dayton

Dayton, Ohio — (NC) — Brother Joseph G. Wiesmann, S.M., remembered as the "bargain hunter" of the University of Dayton, is dead at age 83.

HE JOINED the Marianists 66 years ago and was stationed here 20 years, serving for a number of years as the university's purchasing agent. A native of Pittsburgh, he died (Nov. 18) in the university's health center where he had been a patient for two years. He also taught in Chicago, Cincinnati and Baltimore.

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