

Easter 1964 — A Day of Victory For the Lord and His Church

Alleluia
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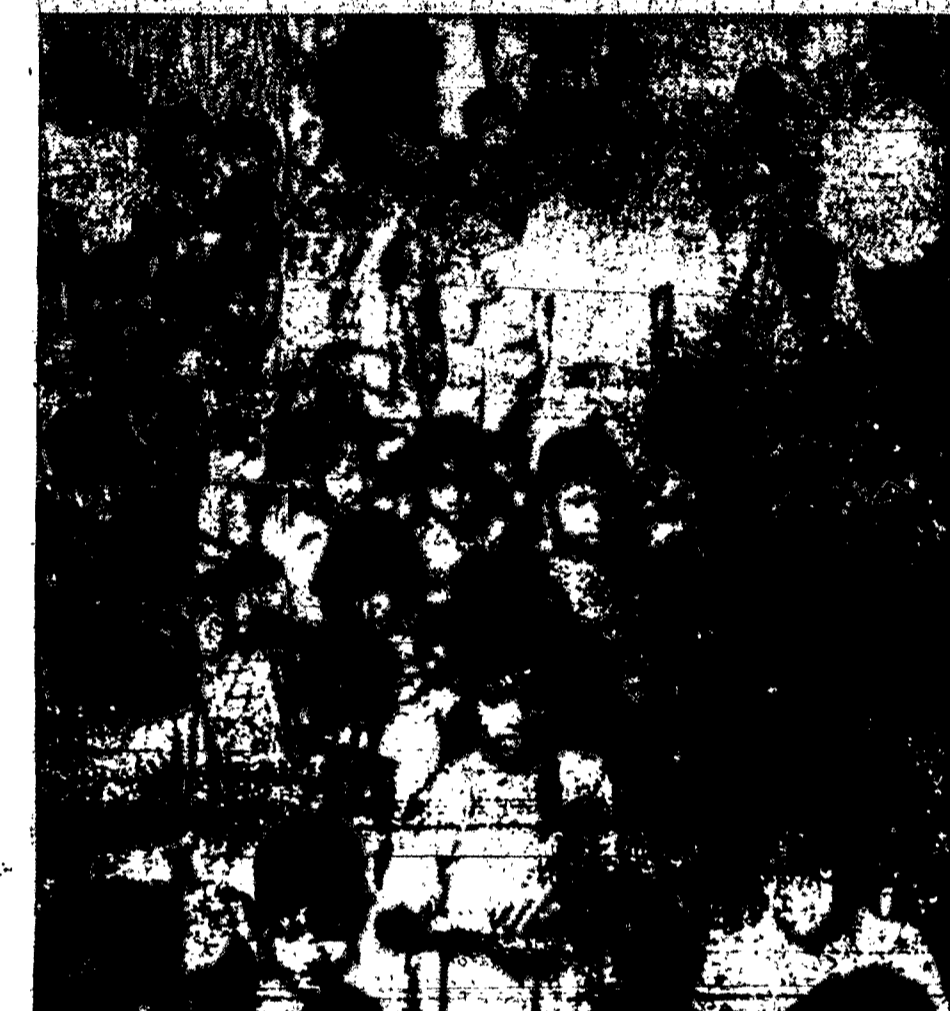
THE CATHOLIC Courier Journal

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Bishops to Decide English Mass Text

The United States Catholic Bishops will meet in Washington this week to decide on the text of the Mass. Bishop Kearney and Bishop John Carroll in 1957 asked for "the alteration of the Church discipline" which required use of Latin in Church ceremonies. He termed Latin an "unknown tongue" and said he considered use of English nearly two hundred years ago.



Children, Victims of Bigotry

West Bengal, India — (RNS) — Children with no place to go. Hundreds of boys and girls, many separated from their parents, participated in the mass move-out from East Pakistan of thousands of Christians. Muslim persecution was charged as Christian tribes fled to Indian territory. West Bengal authorities said "many thousands" carried only the clothes on their backs in leaving Pakistan. Christian agencies made urgent appeals for help in aiding them. Indian officials feared upwards of a million people would be involved in the exodus.

'His Life, The Story of The Annunciation'

Monsignor Moffatt Funeral

Solemn funeral Mass was offered for Rt. Rev. Msgr. Patrick A. Moffatt in the church he served as pastor for more than a quarter of a century Wednesday morning.

Bishop Kearney presided at the Mass and gave the eulogy at St. Francis Xavier Church for the soft-spoken friend to Italian immigrants who died after a year's illness Sunday, March 22, 1964. Auxiliary Bishop Casey was celebrant of the Mass.

Just prior to his final illness, Monsignor Moffatt launched a program of construction for a new \$300,000 eight room school and parish hall. The project is now nearing completion.

Radios & Televisions, Easy Terms, William S. Thorne, Jeweler, 315 Main St. East. — Adv.

MONSIGNOR MOFFATT, 69, has been pastor at St. Francis Xavier for 26 years. He has a wide reputation for his pioneering efforts to carry out the released-time religious instruction program for public school children.

In his 43 years as a priest, he served immigrants from Italy aiding them both spiritually and in their efforts to adapt themselves to their new homeland.

Bishop Kearney, in his sermon, cited the fact that Wednesday, March 25, is the feast of the Annunciation and said Monsignor Moffatt, like the Blessed Virgin Mary, was characterized by the reply of our Lady to the Archangel Gabriel, "Be it done unto me according to thy word."

"The story of the life of this great priest who lies now before our altar is thus just once again the story of the Annunciation."

The Bishop also pointed out the devotion of Monsignor Moffatt to the Blessed Virgin and the "providential coincidence" that his first assignments as a young priest were to parishes dedicated to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and to Our Lady of Sorrows (the latter, a chapel on Dike St. no longer in use).

The Bishop also compared Monsignor Moffatt to St. Francis Xavier, the famed sixteenth-century missionary. The saint's monuments and markers for Holy Sepulchre. The better way to choose a monument is to see out indoor display. You will appreciate our no-argument plan. TRUETT BROS., 1120 MT. HOPE. GE 3437L. — Adv.



MONSIGNOR MOFFATT

missionary zeal, said the Bishop reflected in Monsignor Moffatt's concern for the instruction of children — "the little ones" — to whom he would tell the story of the life of Christ as Xavier told it to the people of India and the Orient.

Bishop Kearney recalled that he had founded a parish named in honor of St. Francis Xavier in New York City prior to his being named to the hierarchy. Here in Rochester, the Bishop continued his devotion to the saint by conducting the annual novena at St. Francis Xavier Church with Monsignor Moffatt. "I have seen and realized the intensity of devotion to this great saint developed over the years in the hearts of his people

instead "as essential to the service of God and benefit of mankind."

The nearly 250 U.S. bishops today have at least twenty widely used translations of the Mass prayers to consider at their meeting this week. They will either adopt one such translation or may decide on an all new version.

The only Mass prayers that need to be "standardized" at this time are the Kyrie, Gloria, Creed, Pater noster, Agnus Dei and Domine non sum dignus and the Scripture portions of the Mass. Other prayers will remain in Latin.

TYPICAL OF current variations in translations are these Easter Introit quotes from missals now in use by many lay people:

I have risen and now am I with you once more. Alleluia! You laid your hand upon me. Alleluia! You have shown how wonderful is your wisdom. — The Layman's Missal, Helicon Press.

I arise, and am still with you, alleluia! You rest Your hand upon me, alleluia! Your knowledge is too wonderful. — Jesus, Mary and Joseph Daily Missal, Benziger Brothers.

I rose up and I am still with you, Alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, Alleluia. Wonderful for me is this knowledge. — St. Andrew Bible Missal, Benziger Brothers.

Even the brief Domine non sum dignus is translated with just enough differences to trip up congregations trying to say together this before-Communion prayer:

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof; say but the word, and my soul shall be healed. — Maryknoll Missal, P. J. Kenedy.

Lord, I am not worthy that you should come under my roof; but only say the word and my soul will be healed. — The Layman's Missal.

Lord, I am not worthy that Thou shouldst enter under my roof; say but the word and my soul shall be healed. — Liturgical Press, Collegeville.

This last quotation points up a basic translation question—whether to address God as Thou or you.

IN ADDITION to translations of Mass prayers, the bishops will also decide on texts for the sacraments—such as Confirmation—and the sacramentals—such as blessings for automobiles, or homes or farms—and the daily office or breviary.

Before the actual change is made from Latin to English in the nation's Catholic parish churches, the text decided on by the bishops will have to be approved by the Vatican.

Some nations, like France and Belgium, have already begun to use their native languages in Church rites.

Introduction of modern languages to replace Latin was voted by the world's bishops at the Vatican Council last autumn as the first step in a thoroughgoing revision of the Church's ritual ways of worship, a task expected to take from five to ten years.

Pope Names Two Bishops

Washington (NC)—Pope Paul VI has named two Auxiliary Bishops for Washington, D.C.

Msgr. William J. McDonald, pastor of the Catholic University of America here, and Msgr. John S. Spence, pastor of the Church of the Sacred Heart here and Director of Education in the Archdiocese of Washington, have been named Auxiliary Bishops of Washington.

For the finest Easter flowers — so beautifully styled — See BLANCHARD'S display today, or call BA 5-9494. Open 'til 9 P.M. Easter Week. 58 Lake Ave. Free Parking. — Adv.



Easter is when God puts springtime in your soul—that's a child's description of Christianity's greatest feast. Mark Barnes and Kathleen Kretzmer are obviously captivated by the Easter story told them by Mrs. James Ryan.

Easter, the Dawn of Faith

The story of Good Friday and Easter never fails to stir Christian hearts.

The sufferings of our Saviour are not the end of the story — the climax is a victory which gives hope to all of us down through the centuries who are also called to bear a cross.

Death, therefore, is not the final destiny of those who have faith.

Beyond the grave there is another life, better than this present one.

Easter is the convincing proof of this.

Jesus Himself told us "The Son of Man must rise from the dead."

God the Father owed this victory to His Son, says St. Paul because Jesus "humbled Himself, becoming obedient to death, even to death on a cross; therefore God also has exalted Him . . ."

Such obedience demanded a unique and exceptional reward.

But Jesus also needed so great a triumph if for no other reason than simply for the sake of His preaching, miracles, anguish and prayer.

When His words and life and mighty deeds failed to convince hardened hearts, He appealed to His promised resurrection from the dead as a decisive and irrefutable sign. He cited the Old Testament story of Jonas, the prophet who "was in the belly of a fish three days and three nights." This "sign of Jonas" was soon to be repeated. He said, in a still more marvelous way, "So will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."

If this predicted sign failed to occur, then all the work of the Gospel would come to nothing.

The sign became reality early Easter morning.

No one actually saw Christ in that moment when He changed the course of history, when He reversed the inevitable finality of death, when the corpse of the crucified came from the tomb.

But there were nonetheless witnesses — those privileged persons "forechosen by God" as St. Luke describes them.

At the first glimmer of dawn on Easter, "there was a great earthquake." Scripture tells us, "Since Friday, the body of the Saviour was sealed in the tomb by the heavy wheel-shaped stone at the cave entrance and guarded by Roman soldiers."

Mary Magdalene is the first with faith to arrive at the tomb. She and other holy women came on their sad errand to fulfill the Jewish burial customs of anointing the dead. The strict Sabbath rest prevented their doing this task earlier.

When she saw the stone had been rolled away and that the tomb was empty she ran back to the city to tell Peter and John. "They have taken the Lord from the tomb and we do not know where they have laid Him."

The other women, more curious about this empty tomb, went into the cave where an angel told them, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for He has risen even as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord was laid."

Then began that sequence of events which carried the news of this greatest of all miracles from ancient Jerusalem across nations and continents and down the centuries — from Peter and John running to the tomb and their dawning realization of the mystery before them, from the journey of the two disheartened disciples to Emmaus and their Companion who explained the Scripture's demand that "thus the Christ should suffer, and should rise again from the dead on the third day," down to the parish church and altar where we will hear again this Sunday this same story which can still "take hold of us and win from our lips an echo of the centurion's statement, "Truly He was the Son of God."

The soldiers were terrified as they saw this heavenly messenger — his countenance like lightning, his raiment like snow — and behind him an empty tomb. Lacking faith they fled back to the still drowsy city.

— Faith Henry Atwell

Padua (NC)—A former Japanese kamikaze pilot has been ordained a priest here. He is Father Louis Matsuo, one of 10 new priests ordained by Bishop Girolamo Bortignon, O.F.M. Cap., of Padua (March 14).

Father Matsuo, 39, who received the name of Louis when he entered the Franciscan order, was born Takaki Matsuo in Arita, near Nagasaki, Japan. He entered the Imperial Japanese Air Force when he was 18 and joined the kamikazes, whose job was to crash their planes into enemy ships. The war ended before Father Matsuo's turn came.

Received into the Catholic Church in 1950, Father Matsuo became a Franciscan four years later. He said he plans to return home and baptize his mother who wishes to enter the Church.

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'Alleluia' Is our Song

Christians have a litany of reasons for singing Alleluia this Easter.

Sixteen centuries ago St. Augustine said, "We are Easter men and alleluia is our song."

Alleluia is a Hebrew word which is a clue to how ancient is its use in the Church.

It means, "Praise God."

First of all, of course, we praise God for the renewal of our faith in the Easter story — our faith that Jesus is our living Lord and Saviour, that He lives with us and in us to be the strength and stay of our souls in both our joys and sorrows.

In gratitude for this faith and His mercy, we say, Alleluia — Praise God.

But this year our faith in the victory of our Lord is even stronger as we witness the signs of a great new springtime in the Church.

Again in gratitude we repeat, Alleluia — Praise God.

This is the year we will hear the Word of God proclaimed in our parish churches in words we can understand and respond in prayer with our fellowmen with the same simplicity with which we pray alone.

For this, Alleluia — Praise God.

In the year since last we celebrated Easter, God has blessed His Church with two holy popes — Pope John and Pope Paul — Pope John who offered his painful death for the Church and the Council, Pope Paul who is the first pope since Peter to visit the Holy Land where Jesus lived and died and rose again.

For these great good shepherds of the Christian family, Alleluia — Praise God.

The Vatican Council this year has stirred not only the Catholic Church but other churches and religious groups with the spirit of a new Pentecost — to witness to the world the mighty love of God.

Alleluia — Praise God.

We saw the Pope from Rome and the Patriarch from Constantinople meet and pray together in the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus long ago prayed that all His disciples might be one. The historic meeting was a sign that Christians are sick of their divisions and want to work toward that unity our Lord wants.

Alleluia — Praise God.

For the increased interest and study of the Holy Bible — for the increased total of so many lay people in such important tasks for souls as catechesis, cursillos, retreats . . . for the sincere effort those who are not of our faith are making to understand us and our position on such topics as government and its pupils in parochial schools . . . for so many excellent new books and magazines which instruct us in the new directions the Holy Spirit is guiding the Church . . . for these reasons and we have barely listed a hundredth of them . . .

Alleluia — Alleluia — Alleluia.

Alleluia — Alleluia — Alleluia.

Vatican Exhibit At Fair Nears Completion

New York (RNS)—Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, made a surprise visit to the Vatican Pavilion at the New York World's Fair and said that workers had done a "marvelous job" on the Catholic exhibit, now about 85 per cent completed.

"The building has come a long way since I laid the cornerstone here," said the cardinal, who is president of the pavilion. "It's all wonderful. . . I want to thank the builders, the workers, all of them."

Cardinal Spellman paid particular attention to the wing which will house Michelangelo's Pieta, the famous 15th century sculpture showing the Virgin Mary holding the Crucified Christ.

The prelate mixed freely with the workers, chatting with them and thanking them for a "remarkable" job.

The Pieta was expected to arrive at the fair from St. Peter's Basilica in Rome on April 13. It has been insured for about \$10 million. The pavilion also will include other noted works of art, collections of Vatican coins and stamps and many additional displays. It will have a chapel for 350 people.

The pontiff's talk was broadcast later by the Vatican Radio which noted that already many more thousands of pilgrims had arrived in Rome for Easter than ever before in the history of pilgrimages at Eastertide. It said the influx was so great that the problem had arisen of finding enough accommodations for them.

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LAST WEEK'S PAID CIRCULATION

67,745

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