

U.S. Paralyzed Man Cured at Fatima

Fatima — (NC) — The medical staff of the hospital here is studying the nature of the allegedly instantaneous recovery of a paralytic during the Eucharistic blessing at the Fatima shrine on June 13.

The case is that of Manuel Correia de Veiga, a Portuguese who emigrated from Graciosa in the Azores to the United States in 1952. Veiga, who now resides at Salem, Mass., fractured his spine in a factory accident six years ago. Despite several surgical operations in Boston he remained paralyzed from the waist down, and was confined to a wheelchair.

Veiga was accompanied by his daughter on a pilgrimage to the Marian shrine here. They disembarked from the liner Saturnia in Lisbon on June 12, and arrived at the Fatima shrine just in time for the traditional Mass for the sick on June 13, the 47th anniversary of the second appearance of the Blessed Virgin in 1917.

Following the Mass, as the sick were being given the blessing of the Blessed Sacrament, Veiga leaped to his feet and was able to walk in the closing procession bearing the statue of Mary.

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Dutch Clergy Mark Biblical Anniversary

Briechegeen, Holland — (RNS) — Bernard Cardinal Alfrink, Archbishop of Utrecht, was expected to be among Catholic participants in a five-day international conference of Church leaders here to mark the 150th anniversary of the Netherlands Bible Society.

Twelve denominational or confessional traditions, including Protestants, Anglicans, Catholics, and Eastern Orthodox, will be represented by some 100 churchmen from 48 European, Asian and Latin American countries.

Purpose of the conference was to survey the role of the Bible in the world today and to provide Churches and Bible societies with an opportunity to discover what mutual assistance they expect from each other in promoting Bible distribution and study.

The meeting, it was stressed, was not intended to discuss different interpretations of the Gospels, but "how in practice the one Book which is the foundation of our faith in Jesus Christ can become the Book of the world."

Catholic delegates were to include Father Jan G. Groot, a professor at the Catholic Seminary in Warmond, and a recognized authority on Protestant-Catholic relations. He was one of the vocal.

Unborn Child's Right To Life

Trenton — (RNS) — A mother does not have the right to endanger the life of her unborn child because of her religious convictions, the New Jersey Supreme Court declared in an emergency ruling here.

The court acted a few hours after receiving the case of a 28-year-old mother, suing to become a Jehovah's Witness. It ordered her to consent to a blood transfusion which hospital doctors said was urgent to save her life and that of her unborn baby.

Physicians had warned Mrs. William Anderson of Ashbury Park, N.J., that because of complications in her pregnancy she might die, along with the child, if a blood transfusion was not given.

When she refused consent, hospital attorneys went to the Chancery Division of the State Superior Court which ruled in the mother's favor and declined to force her to take the transfusions.

The case was appealed immediately to the state's highest court, which was asked to clarify the right of an unborn child to live. In a quick ruling, the Supreme Court said, after hearing the case:

"We are satisfied that the unborn child is entitled to the law's protection."

It ordered that a "special guardian" be appointed for the child to "consent to such blood transfusions as may be necessary to preserve the lives of the mother and the child."

The court told Mrs. Anderson that she would have to consent to the transfusions and that her husband, also a Jehovah's Witness, could not interfere.

Chile Seeks Whole Mass In Spanish

Santiago — (NC) — The Santiago archdiocese has increased the use of the vernacular in the Mass, provided for Spanish instead of Latin in all parts of the Mass which pertain to the people or are recited in a loud voice.

The authorization by Raul Cardinal Silva of Santiago went into effect on June 7. It provides for Spanish in the Service of the Word, including the initial prayers at the foot of the altar, extending the provision for the lessons and Gospels in Spanish which has been in effect since the beginning of Lent. The priest's prayers of the Offertory and Canon remain in Latin.

Australia Mass In English July 5

Sydney — (NC) — The Catholic bishops of Australia have decided to adopt English for all those parts of the Mass which are said aloud except for the Preface. The new usage is to go into effect in the Sydney archdiocese, the country's largest, on the first Sunday of July.

The switch from Latin was revealed eight days after the Australian hierarchy held a special meeting here to discuss implementing liturgical changes which agreed on last March, and which had recently been confirmed by the new Vatican Liturgy Commission.

Venice Festival Off Limits

Venice — (NC) — The office of the Patriarch of Venice, Giovanni Cardinal Urbani, has issued a strong statement forbidding priests or nuns, including those just passing through, to visit the 32nd Biennial Art Exhibition.

Helping Hand For Bar Mitzvah

New York — (RNS) — A Jewish boy at the Layelle School for the Blind in New York gets a helping hand from Sister Mary Audrey, Alan Lacey of New Hyde Park, N.Y., learned Braille at the Catholic school to help him prepare for his Bar Mitzvah (confirmation) rites. The school, operated by the Dominican Sisters of Blauvelt, is open to all handicapped children regardless of religion or race. Founded in 1904 by a young blind teacher, Margaret Coffey, the school now has an enrollment of 220 students, aged 3 to 16.

'Consistent' Rites For U.S. Catholics

London — (NC) — The American bishops plan for English in the Mass is "consistent throughout" even if it might appear to provide for "peculiar" intrusions of Latin, according to a top English liturgical scholar.

Father Clifford Howell, S.J., wrote in the Tablet, Catholic weekly published here, that the American hierarchy's decisions do raise some questions.

"That the Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Sanctus and Agnus Dei should come into English was to be expected, and presumably the responses are to do likewise," he said.

"But in that case why are the prayers at the foot of the altar to remain in Latin? And why the Suscepit? And if everything from the Kyrie to the Credo is in English, will it not be peculiar to intrude a Latin Collect into the middle of all this English? If the preface responses and the Sanctus are in English, why have a Latin preface between them? If the first Gospel is in English, why does the last Gospel remain in Latin?"

FATHER HOWELL went on to say: "The answer is that the American plan has not been drawn up according to any merely superficial convention based solely on the order of occurrence of the various items in the Mass — such as Mass of the Catechumens in English, Mass of the Faithful in Latin."

"Such an arrangement, though it might seem tidy, would in fact be inferior as

Mass Music In Hindustani

Covington, Ky. — (NC) — A nun asserted here that Hindustani music can serve divine worship as well as Gregorian chant.

Sister Eugenia Muething of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, home on leave after 12 years in India, deplored the fact that many in the West consider India's music "primitive."

"Ancient, beautiful, different — it's all of these things, but it isn't primitive," she said.

Bow Replaces Genuflection

Tokyo — (NC) — Japanese Catholics may bow before the Holy Eucharist instead of genuflecting, according to regulations which will go into effect June 29.

The permission was given by the Japanese Bishops' Conference here at a meeting in which the bishops completed arrangements for liturgical changes in this country. The bishops decreed that Japan's traditional reverential bow may replace the genuflection, and that all genuflections and kissing of the bishop's ring are abolished, except where prescribed in liturgical functions.

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