

Bible English 'Out' in New Bible

Portland, Ore. (NC) — The new Bible translation, the King James Version, is being replaced by a new version in English. Instead of Latin in Masses, when the new liturgy changes take effect in the United States will be from a "new, up-to-date translation designed for intelligibility," one of the translators said here.

There will be no Bible English in the new version, said Father Raymond E. Brown, S.J., said of the new version which will be used in the liturgy.

Father Brown, professor of New Testament at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, was here to lecture at Maryhurst College. He is a translator of the Gospel of St. John for the Fraternity of Christian Doctrine's New Testament translation.

The translation is directly from the Greek and has not yet been published.

"People will find it quite different," Father Brown said. "For instance, in St. John's Gospel, when we have finished the long speeches of Our Lord will be set up in a form like poetry — in a solemn, poetic style of speech."

He said the translators had tried to put the New Testament into correct English, not colloquial but reflecting what the New Testament really was. Conversational English will reflect the spoken Greek of the time the Scriptures were written.

ASKED ABOUT a "common Bible" for Catholics and Protestants, Father Brown said a difficult problem was to arrive at a common version which everybody would read. He pointed out that most Protestants still prefer to use the King James version of the Bible.

"If you mean by a 'common Bible' one that official groups, both Catholic and Protestant, could recognize, that's a possibility," he said. "We could say, 'almost recognize existing translations.'"

He said the period when the Bible was translated slantedly is over.

Father Brown rejected an idea that a "common Bible" could be arrived at by putting "Catholic changes" in the Protestant Revised Standard Version.

"If you put changes in it, it is not a common Bible," he said. "We should be able to translate scientifically to eliminate that problem."

He pointed out that there is an exchange of information between Catholic and Protestant scholars who are using modern methods of Scripture study. "There is a kind of recognition that scientific studies of the Scriptures do not belong to just one group," he said.

Cologne Honors Magi

By REINHOLD LEHMANN
Cologne — (NC) — The cathedral city of Cologne, which hasn't been ruled by a monarch in nearly 50 years, will pay homage to three of them this month when it marks the 800th anniversary of the arrival of the relics of the Three Kings in Germany.

Legend states that St. Helena discovered the bodies of the Three Kings, the famous Magi of St. Matthew's Gospel, in Persia while she was returning from her expedition to find the True Cross in Jerusalem.

Taken to Constantinople, the relics were transferred to Milan in the fifth century. Then, in 1163, during a campaign of the German Emperor Frederick Barbarossa in Italy, the holy relics were snatched away by the Archbishop of Cologne, Rainald von Dassel.

Despite the protests of Pope Alexander III, the relics were transported over the Alps. Everywhere the caravan halted, laws were enacted in honor of the Three Kings. Some of them still exist by that name today.

Once in Cologne, the relics of the kings became the symbol of a unified German monarchy. Coins, flags and official seals were decorated with three crowns. During the Middle Ages thousands of pilgrims flocked to the city to see the gold sarcophagus, studded with jewels donated by German emperors, and a second reliquary in the shape of a golden basilica.

As the centuries passed, however, the shrine lost some of its lustre. The reliquaries, created so painstakingly by the greatest craftsmen of his day, Nicolaus of Verdun, were stripped of much of their gold and many of their jewels.

Cologne is marking the 800th anniversary of the kings' arrival from July 6 to July 26. For three years goldsmiths have been working to restore the shrines to something resembling their original splendor.

Citizens of this city have not lost any affection for their most treasured relics. People wept in the streets when in 1948 Joseph Cardinal Frings paraded the relics through the bombed-out city. For the Germans, the relics have their own "Lebenskraft" (strength of life) to rebuild their city and their nation.

This month the citizens of Cologne will give vent to their "Lebenskraft" by commemorating the arrival of the Three Kings. Besides a Solemn Pontifical Mass at famous Cologne cathedral, there will be pilgrimages, exhibits and civil celebrations for the people of this city believe the Three Kings followed a distant star to their cathedral, and they take this as a proof that the Child Jesus is sleeping in their midst.

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'Rules of Thumb' To Study Bible

Rome — (NC) — Jesuit Cardinal Augustin Bea has given some rules of thumb for reconciling apparent contradictions in the Biblical accounts of Christ's life.

The head of the Church's Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity, who has devoted most of his 33 years to the study of the Scriptures, listed "some principal rules" to bear in mind:

- That the Gospels are not stenographic records of Christ's words;
- That Christ probably repeated the same idea in different words;
- That each sacred writer has his own distinctive style and that the Orientals of the ancient world had a manner of expressing themselves quite different from the manner of westerners of the modern world;
- That every account of an event is shaped by the purpose the author has in writing about the event.

Cardinal Bea styled this purpose of the author "the fundamental question." He pointed out that Pope Pius XII, in the encyclical, *Divino afflante Spiritu*, called it "the supreme norm of interpretation."

Cardinal Bea made his points in Civiltà Cattolica, a fortnightly review of the Rome province of the Society of Jesus. His article dealt principally with the Gospels of Saint Matthew, Mark and Luke.

HE WARNED against trying to reconcile differences among the Gospels by seeking to extract their essential religious elements and regarding the rest as mere "dressing."

He also warned against giving more theological weight to biblical passages which religious titles indicate are "primitive." The more primitive passages deal more directly with events or with the words of Christ, while the passages written at a later date are explanations furnished by the Evangelists for a particular public.



Adults at Children's Exhibit

New York — (RNS) — Parents accompanying youngsters to the children's exhibits at the Vatican Pavilion have been just as curious and enthusiastic as the children," reports Msgr. John J. Gorman, director of the Catholic pavilion at the World's Fair. Shown viewing some of the displays, which emphasize Christ's love for children, are two young visitors with Miss Ruth Auerberg, a pavilion hostess. Placed at a child's eye level, the many displays include the Litany of the Blessed Mother on an umbrella carousel tree, flowers and animals used as symbols of virtue and sin, and a "peep box" showing the story of Noah and the Ark in animation.

Pope Paul Contributes To Orthodox Church

Trieste, Italy — (NC) — Pope Paul VI has sent \$2,393 to Bishop Alfred Pichler of Banjulaka to cover part of the cost of rebuilding the Orthodox church there which was destroyed by resistance fighters during the last war, it was reported here.

Patriarch Germans of the Serbian Orthodox Church has already thanked the Pope for his financial aid, it was said.

JFK Memorial Award To Aid Deaf Students

Brooklyn — (RNS) — A John F. Kennedy Memorial Award to promote the education of the deaf was approved by the International Catholic Deaf Association at its 15th annual meeting here.

To be presented annually, the award will consist of two four-year grants to a male and a female freshman at Gallaudet College, Washington, D.C., a federally supported institution of higher learning for the deaf.

The award commemorates the late President's interest in the handicapped and specifically in Gallaudet College. First winners of the grants will be announced at a later date.

Plans to expand the association's apostolate to the deaf were discussed at the sessions by priest moderators of ICDA chapters. They hope to increase their communication of religious information to the deaf who are physically inaccessible to their ministry.

Also planned are religious textbooks and teacher manuals for educating deaf children. In an effort to strengthen the apostolate to young people, the organization amended its charter to provide for junior membership. This was seen as a challenge to the young deaf to improve religious growth and achievement.

As in previous meetings, all addresses and Masses at the sessions were in sign language.

Concern for Poor Duty of Nation

Hollywood — (NC) — The idea that poverty is the fault of the poor is "unworthy" of a Christian, the secretary of the National Conference of Catholic Charities said here.

Much of the divided position on the matter of racial equality "has been fed by the conviction prevalent in some of our people that the poor are poor largely because they have contributed to their own condition," said Msgr. Raymond J. Gallagher of Washington, D.C.

"LET ME PLEAD with you," he urged delegates to the 30th biennial national convention of the Catholic Daughters of America, "as Catholic leaders from across this nation, to examine that frame of mind and to reject it as being unworthy of one whose religious motto has been based on the great commandments of the Law — namely, to love our neighbor as ourselves and to serve his interests equally with our own."

Msgr. Gallagher called the combined problem of poverty and unemployment "the most striking challenge which our generation must face."

Generally, he said, the factors that cause poverty have never been under the control of the poor themselves.

"They are individuals who through no fault of their own, at least not by their own design, have become casualties in a society that moved faster and delved more deeply than most of us could have prophesied a few years ago," he said. "They are the aged and the very young who are dependent because nature and time have made them so."

The Catholic Charities official said Americans today are "on trial for the effectiveness of our political philosophy of democracy, as well as upon the effectiveness of our identity as children of God."

Besides bigger budgets and social welfare programs, he said, "we need a renewal of our attitudes" on the subject of poverty.

He said it is a contradiction for a "profit-motivated system" such as this country's to tolerate the human waste involved in poverty and unemployment. "In truth, we must review our entire set of values so that the respect of the highest values will be reflected in the regard which industry and society gen-

Teacher Aide Plan Begun

St. Louis — (RNS) — A teacher aide program assigning volunteer assistants to Roman Catholic schools to handle routine matters under the direction of classroom teachers will be inaugurated by the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

Msgr. James T. Curtin, superintendent of schools, said the new program will free teachers and principals for more direct educational functions. Teachers, he added, sometimes spend as much as two-thirds of their time in "non-productive" work.

Four types of teacher-aides will be used, Msgr. Curtin said. Clerical aides will relieve teachers of paperwork; supervision aides will assist teachers in watching over the children assigned to certain work; instructional aides will have duties in chart preparation, physical education, art and dramatics; and assistant teachers will undertake tutorial duties, including aid to the teacher in reading classes.

Pope Appeals For Safety

Vatican City — (RNS) — Pope Paul VI, speaking to a large crowd of pilgrims and tourists in St. Peter's Square, made a strong appeal for "good sense" on the highway to avoid accidents.

Noting that the summer brings an increase in automobile driving with vacationers taking to the road, the pontiff implored "God's pity" for accident victims and for those who fail to exercise "prudence when driving."

"We pray to the Lord," he said, "that the holiday period may serve to restore physical strength, but not serve as a detriment to the spirit."

Portuguese Mass Text

Rio De Janeiro — (RNS) — Use of Portuguese instead of Latin in certain parts of the Mass was approved by the Brazilian Conference of Bishops at a plenary session here.

Expected to become effective after July 15, the change is in keeping with the reforms decreed by the Vatican Council's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy. These include use of the vernacular at Masses.