

Churches Survive In Riots

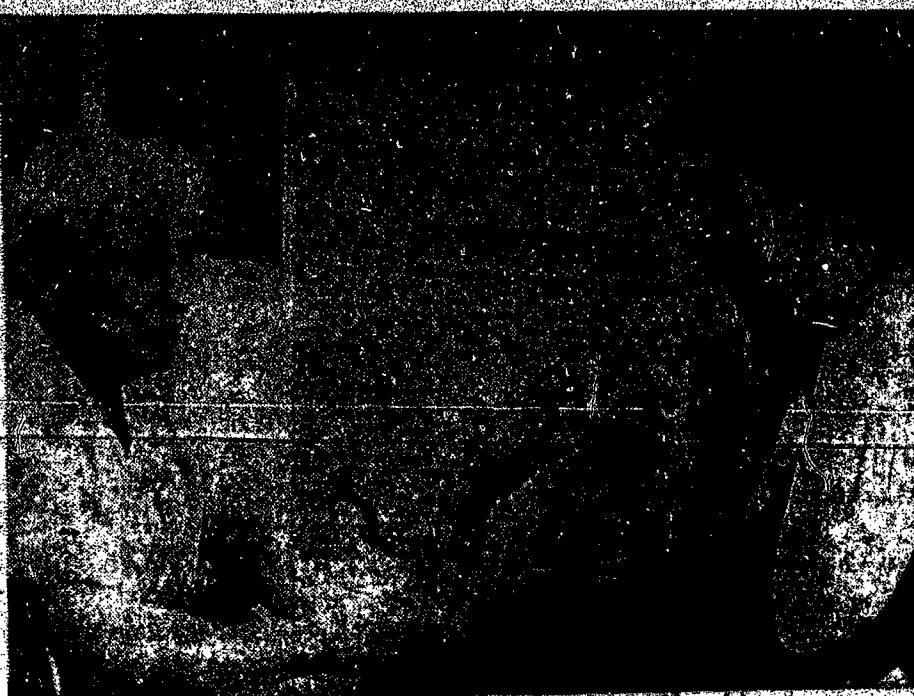
Church property survived intact throughout last weekend's rioting and looting in Rochester's inner city.

One oasis in particular, which stood serene despite the rioting, was the St. Martin de Porres Center. Reports say a Negro man took up guard in front of it and urged rioters to leave it alone.

Churches in the riot area had only handfuls of Mass on Sunday morning — many people too afraid to venture into the streets.

About 25 nuns in four convents were quietly moved from the area as a precautionary measure, although no threats or violence were leveled at them.

Prayers were said in most churches Sunday morning for "peace and understanding" and many sermons used the Gospel theme of the Pharisee and the sinner to make the point that no one person or group should consider themselves better than others.



Tribute Paid Sister Thomasina

A TEARFUL GOODBYE is given Sister Thomasina by Miss Della Raney, guest at St. Ann's Home, at a reception held in Sister's honor last Sunday. Some 500 guests and friends paid tribute to Sister Thomasina who has held the position of superior and administrator at the Home since 1958. She is succeeded by Sister Marie Michelle. Sister Thomasina has been assigned to Nazareth Academy.

Cleveland Paper Charges

'Clumsy' Politics In Bishops' Poll

Cleveland — (RNS) — The Catholic newspaper here was highly critical of an effort by Rep. Frank J. Becker (R-N.Y.) to poll the nation's Catholic bishops on their views of the school prayer amendment he has proposed to the House of Representatives.

The Catholic Universe Bulletin, official newspaper of the Cleveland diocese, said it hoped that Rep. Becker's poll stemmed from naïveté, "rather than some kind of clumsy political calculation."

Such a survey, it said was a "breach of propriety." The bishops, "as men bearing delicate responsibilities, are given to much thinking, praying and consulting before taking positions on a matter of public import, and are accustomed to speaking when a situation demands it, not when somebody decides to ask questions."

"As for candor, the Universe Bulletin added, 'Rep. Becker's queries in his letter to the bishops are at best vague, feeble and irrelevant, and at worst loaded and tricky.'"

"Here is what Rep. Becker wants each of the 229 bishops to tell him: 'Do you support the premise that children in public schools be permitted to pray on a voluntary basis? Do you oppose such an amendment?'"

The newspaper said it was "innocently insulting to ask a bishop whether he thinks that children in public schools should be allowed to pray voluntarily."

"Nobody has challenged the right of children to pray voluntarily in public schools."

In its lead editorial, the Universe Bulletin noted that the U.S. Supreme Court decisions "brought down to this... that public school administrators and teachers, being agents of government, are forbidden by the Constitution to compose, propose or impose prayers for use by children in public school classrooms."

It cited the stand of the Legal Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, which, although it did not oppose or support the so-called Becker amendment, "has taken a position of reserve and caution toward amendments like

the one Rep. Becker is trying to get through Congress."

"Rep. Becker is so upset over the Legal Department's action that he is trying through his letter to go over the department's head directly to the bishops. It is something of an understatement to say that he is hardly likely to get very far."

A spokesman for Rep. Becker reported that "about 40" bishops had replied, claiming only two were opposed to Rep. Becker's measure. He also announced that the Congressman had sent a second letter to the hierarchy, appealing for responses by the 183 bishops who had not participated in the poll.

The Universe Bulletin was highly critical of the statement by Rep. Becker in his letter to the bishops which asked: "What the atheists and many misguided laymen and theologians have succeeded in eliminating the Word of Almighty God in the United States, and is most certainly intended, what will be the basis for 'morality' in the United States?"

Said the newspaper: "It most certainly is not intended by anybody of any consequence in the life of the nation, and there is not the faintest prospect of the Word of Almighty God will be eliminated in the U.S."

"We suggest to Rep. Becker that he take time to read carefully the U.S. Supreme Court decision in the New York Regents' Prayer case, and in particular to pay attention to the footnote which the Court appended to the majority decision."

The newspaper quoted the footnote, as follows: "There is of course nothing in the decision reached here that is inconsistent with the fact that school children and others are officially encouraged to express love for our country by reciting historical documents such as the Declaration of Independence which contain references to the Deity or by singing officially espoused anthems which include the compassions of the Father in a Supreme Being, or with the fact that there are many manifestations in our public life of belief in God. Such patriotic or ceremonial occasions bear no true resemblance to unquestioned religious exercises that the State of New York has sponsored in this instance."

"We had been thinking of becoming Catholics for some time," Mrs. Sears explained, "but we kept putting it off and putting it off."

Then, she said, the Sears family moved to Battle Creek in June, 1963, and met M. Sgt. Elwood J. McElhinney, his wife Shirley and their four children.

Sgt. McElhinney is stationed with the Army at the Federal Center here and Sears works for a farm feed company.

Friendship grew between the families as Mrs. Sears and Mrs. McElhinney chatted over the back fence and the children played games together.

Soon Sears, 37, and his wife Dolores, 31, began asking questions about Catholicism. Last February, their interest led them to ask the McElhinneys to contact a priest from St. Joseph parish. Father Richard Grochick, assistant at St. Joseph's, visited the family and the wheels were set in motion for the eventual conversion.

"The McElhinneys set such a good example that we decided to become Catholics," Mrs. Sears said. Up to their conversion, she said the family practiced no religion.

Reception Set For Msgr. Maney

The people of the Rochester Diocese are invited to a reception honoring Rt. Rev. Msgr. John E. Maney at Corpus Christi school hall, Rochester, Sunday, August 2, 1:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Monsignor Maney, who is chancellor and a vicar general of the Diocese, this week will mark his silver jubilee in the priesthood. He was ordained in Rome July 30, 1939.

Members of the Rosary Society and the Mother's Club have arranged the program and past presidents of the two societies will act as hostesses and pour tea and coffee. Miss Mary Jane Berry and Mrs. Gordon Claus presidents for the coming year are co-chairmen.

Also on the committee are: table arrangements, Mrs. G. L. Grassel and Miss Winifred Kelly; entertainment, Mrs. Viola Winkler and Miss Marie Mayer; decorations, Mrs. Joseph Buonaccorso and Mrs. Joseph Servas; reception, Miss Mary Gilmurray, Mrs. Carrie Corbett, Mrs. Alphonse Werner, and Mrs. John Kost; publicity, Mrs. Lawrence Ernst and Mrs. John McLaughlin.

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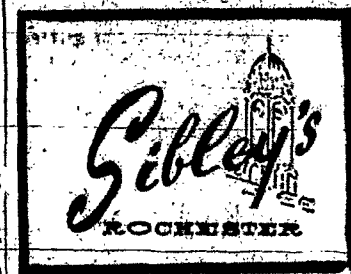
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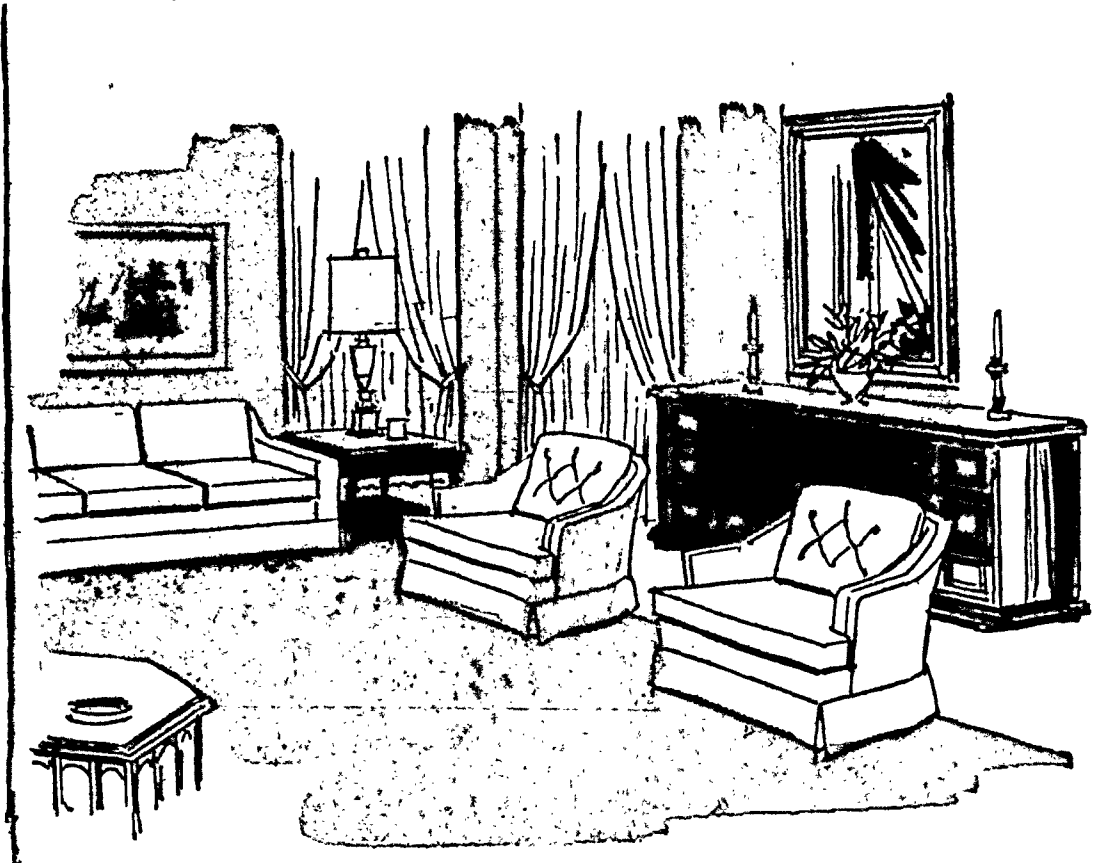
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SPIRITUAL EXERCISES AT THE GENACLE

The closed retreats to be held at the Genacle Retreat House for Women, 693 East Avenue, during August, are as follows:

- RETREATS:
- August 4-5 Seventh & Eighth Grade Girls — Rev. Gerald J. Appleby.
 - August 7-9 High School Students — Rev. Andrew A. Ansbore, C.F.
 - August 14-16 General — Rev. Andrew A. Ansbore, C.F.
 - August 21-23 High School Students — Rev. Michael Murphy.
 - August 28-30 High School Students — Rev. Walter P. Cushing.

Slides featuring a closed retreat (with a running commentary) are available for showing at meetings of parish societies.

GOD LOVE YOU!

By MOST REV. FULTON J. SHEEN

Every priest has an immediate and affectionate devotion to the mother of another priest. All the faithful in like manner bear to her a tender respect as they say: "She is the mother of a priest." It is almost an echo of what the Apostles must have said of Our Blessed Mother: "She is the Mother of our High Priest."

No mother makes a son a priest in the sense that she might make him a musician. The vocation must come from God: "I have chosen you; you have not chosen Me." The mother's honor comes, then, from being an instrument of God in the making of a priest. She is the bed of the river through which the waters of priestly grace flow. Before God wills any son to be a priest He first wills the mother of the priest, just as before becoming Incarnate Our Lord willed His Mother. He made her before He took His human nature through her. The honor of becoming the mother of a priest derives from her cooperation with the eternal designs of God. Like Mary, she too says "Fiat." "Be it done unto me according to Thy Word"—and what is born of her is "another Christ."

There are only about 55,000 mothers of priests in the United States. The number could actually be much larger. It is not necessary that a woman swing open the portals of the flesh to be the mother of a priest. She can also open the gates of her charity and become the mother of a priest by sacrificing for a seminarian's education, at \$250 a year or \$1,500 for the entire course, through The Society of St. Peter the Apostle for Native Clergy. Thus she will share in all of her priest-son's works, conversions, Masses, prayers and sacrifices. What a joy it will be at the close of life to know you are the "mother of a priest." Entering the Divine Majestic Presence of God, you will hear Him say to you of the priest in the mission lands: "Behold Thy Son." The mother of a priest—I wonder if any are ever lost?

GOD LOVE YOU to Anonymous for \$60.55 "This is a promise to my God in thanksgiving for all He has given me." ... to Anonymous for \$50 "Your unwavering solicitude for the less fortunate members of Christ's fold has always been an inspiration to me. As a token of appreciation, I send this to those in need." ... to P.A.M.H. for \$155.96 "Here is some extra money for the Mission."

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Cut out this column, pin your sacrifice to it and mail it to Most Rev. Fulton J. Sheen, National Director of The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, 366 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10001, or your Diocesan Director, Rev. John F. Duffy, 50 Chestnut St., Rochester, N.Y. 14604.

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