

Historic Turning Point Decried By Pope, World's Bishops at Council

The Catholic COURIER

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FATHER JANKOWSKI

Funeral Held For Geneseo Parish Priest

Solemn funeral rites for Rev. Peter T. Jankowski were held in St. Mary's Church, Geneseo, last Wednesday, Nov. 25.

Bishop Casey offered the solemn Mass. The eulogy was preached by Msgr. Donald Cleary.

Father Jankowski, 61, pastor of St. Mary's, Geneseo, since 1950, died at St. Ann's Home November 22, 1964.

(Eulogy and funeral details will appear in next week's Courier.)

Father Jankowski was born in Detroit, Mich. in 1903. He studied at St. Stanislaus parochial school, Rochester, St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's Seminary.

He was ordained June 9, 1928 in Rochester by Bishop Emmet Michael Walsh, now bishop of Youngstown, Ohio.

His first assignment was as an assistant pastor at St. Stanislaus, Rochester. He served also in St. Michael's, Newark, St. Patrick's, Owego, and St. Francis Xavier, Rochester. He returned to St. Stanislaus in 1937, then was moved to St. Salome's, Ft. Pleasant.

Father Jankowski was appointed pastor of St. Catherine's in Addison in 1944 and in 1950 became pastor of St. Mary's, Geneseo.

The new pastor had the church completely redecorated in 1961. A few years later he purchased a residential home and had it entirely converted to a parish center for religious instruction and social events.

Father Jankowski was widely known for his work with the Catholic students at the State University College at Geneseo. He served for many years as the Newman Club chaplain until a full time chaplain was appointed this year.

Father Jankowski is survived by his mother, Mrs. Joseph Jankowski of Rochester; three brothers, Leon, Casimer and Marcel Jankowski, all of Rochester; three sisters, Mrs. Mildred Majewski of Hilton, and Mrs. Adelaide Gratton and Mrs. Irene Versprille, both of Rochester.

Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery, Geneseo.

Dispensations For Dec. 7th, And Ember Days

Bishop Kearney has dispensed Catholics in the Rochester Diocese from Church laws of fast and abstinence on Monday, Dec. 7, vigil of the feast of our Lady's Immaculate Conception, and on the winter Ember Days, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, Dec. 16, 18 and 19.

Catholics of the Diocese are reminded that they have a choice to observe either Wednesday or Thursday, Dec. 23 or 24, as a day of fast and abstinence prior to the feast of Christmas.

Monument and Markers for Holy Sepulchre. The better way to choose a monument is to see our indoor display. You will appreciate our no-agent plan. TROTTS BROS., 1120 N. Hope, GR 3-3271.—Adv.

Don't Fear New Ideas

Milwaukee—(RNS)—An editorial in the Catholic Herald Citizen, official publication of the Milwaukee archdiocese, expressed regret that "some Catholics are making their lives complicated and unhappy" by harboring fears about ecumenical changes in Catholicism.

The trouble with such people, the editorial commented, is that "their sense of values is not essentially balanced."

It cited for example, the case of "the woman in St. Bede parish who was shocked, yes shocked" at reading about a Lutheran choir singing in a Catholic church.

This was a reference to a recent invitation from Holy Ghost Catholic church here to the choir and members of Ascension Lutheran church to coach its members in singing hymns. Pastors of both churches said that some of their parishioners had objected.

"Then there's the man from St. Anastasia parish who is upset about the changes in the liturgy. He doesn't like the idea of using English in parts of the Mass and all this hymn singing. He wants it all quiet at the Mass so he can read the missal (despite the fact he has complained for years that the priest read the prayers of the Mass so fast, he couldn't keep up with him.)"

"This hymn singing business looks like the Protestants are taking over the Catholic Church. That's what Martin Luther introduced. Was he right?"

"It will startle the uninformed Catholic... to know that Martin Luther was not 100 per cent wrong. As far as his interest in hymn singing, he was as right as St. Paul who urged the early Christians to praise God 'in hymns, psalms and spiritual canticles.'"

The editorial said that rather than becoming Protestant the Catholic Church was "becoming more self-conscious of Christ's own passionate prayer that all may be one."

"Is it not wrong for some self-willed Catholics to pretend that they are more Catholic than the Pope?"

"They won't understand a thing you say for at least the first term so don't expect to teach anything in that time."

That was the first bit of advice I was given in the initial days of my Peace Corps teaching tour in Nigeria.

A sprightly, educated Irish priest with three two-year tours behind him, was speaking. And even as he spoke, he knew that the Peace Corps in general, and this girl in particular was absolutely confident that a world of knowledge could easily pass between teacher and student in a minimal length of time with little or no effort.

"But Father," I said, "It isn't as if I'm speaking a foreign language. English is the language of the people now and all their schooling is done in English. What possible difficulty could I have?"

Father laughed and his eyes revealed that proverbial Irish twinkle and something more—that friendly time-worn "remember that I told you so" Many times in the eight months that followed when other PCVs and I got together and found ourselves laughing hysterically over the exchange of classroom anecdotes, I often re-

Portable Typewriters - Easy terms. William S. Thorne Jeweler, 218 Main St. East—Adv.

Mater Ecclesiae, Mater Populi Dei Mother of the Church, Mother of the People of God

"For the glory of the Virgin Mary and for our own consolation, we proclaim Mary the Mother of the Church, that is, of the whole People of God, of the faithful as well as of the pastors, and we wish that through this title the Mother of God should be still more honored and invoked by the entire Christian people."

With these words, Pope Paul added a new title to our Lady's crown of honors given here by virtually all of the Church's ecumenical councils.

The final half of the Pope's talk at the Vatican Council's closing Mass Saturday morning in St. Peter's Basilica was a devoted act of devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary—an obvious reply to those who thought the Council was "downgrading" our Lady.

The new title, the Pontiff stated, is not new to Christian piety, however.

"It is part of the genuine devotion to Mary, finding its justification in the very dignity of the Mother of the Word Incarnate. . . . Just as she has given us Jesus Christ, the Fountainhead of grace, so will she not fail to assist the Church, now that it is flourishing through the abundance of the gifts of the Holy Spirit and is setting herself with new zeal to the accomplishment of her mission of salvation. . . ."

"We also want to make it clear how Mary, handmaid of the Lord, exists only in relation to God and Christ, the one Mediator and Redeemer. This should also make clear the genuine doctrine of the Church on Mary, especially in areas where there are numerous separated brethren. May they understand that devotion to Mary, far from being an end in itself, is only a means essentially ordained to orient souls to Christ and thus unite them with the Father in the love of the Holy Spirit." Pope Paul told the Council prelates.

Prior to his talk, the Pope celebrated Mass with 24 bishops who have major shrines of our Lady in their dioceses, including Archbishop Patrick A. O'Boyle of Washington where there is the recently completed national shrine of the Immaculate Conception.



The Catholic Church begins a new church year this Sunday, first Sunday of Advent, with a new title honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary as Mother of the Church and with the ceremonies of the Mass conducted in the language of the people. Advent's purple vestments will symbolize the time of preparation for Christmas, birthday of our Lord.

Report From Nigeria

A Rooster in the Classroom

By DOLORES CICONI

Special to the Courier
from Nigeria



This is the second article from Miss Cicconi, a Peace Corps teacher in Nigeria. She began her overseas assignment early this year. Miss Cicconi is the daughter of Mrs. Salvatore Cicconi and the late Mr. Cicconi of 111 Woodlawn Ave., in St. Anthony's parish, Elmira. She is a 1962 Nazareth College graduate. She had to interrupt writing this report to fight an hour's battle against invading giant ants.

called that priest's advice and how totally oblivious I was to it on that first day in that first class.

Yes, they were responsive, glowing children—just as we were told they would be by the people in our training program—thirty girls, ranging in age from eleven to fifteen in the first year of their secondary school education.

I entered the room, my face displaying a broad gleaming smile, camouflaging the fear that first-day teachers in any country of the world must certainly feel in a mass movement thirty shape-rose with disciplined precision in a speechless greeting to their new teacher, whom they thought was, as I later found out, a "white lady from Europe."

"My name is Miss Cicconi and I am from America," I said.

Some giggles broke through the smiles.

"I'll be your English teacher for the next two years and I hope we will be able to read many books and plays and poems together."

They were still smiling.

I remembered the priest's advice and continued, "You may find it difficult at times to understand what I say. I may speak words you don't understand. If this is true, then I want you to stop me and ask me to repeat what I just said. Do you understand?"

They sat rigidly. No one spoke and they kept smiling.

I told them that I had been in their country just three weeks and that I liked it very much. I told them that the weather was very hot, but that I was sure that I would become accustomed to it. Yes, I used the word, "accustomed." My impressions of Lagos, the capital, the people I met, the school compound and shopping in the market, was given in eloquent and fluent English befitting the eloquent and fluent English teacher that I thought I was.

The forty-minute class period was drawing to a close, so naturally

all I intended to give them a lesson to prepare for the next day's class.

"Now for our studies," I said, "Open your poetry books to page forty-two."

Not a desk-top rose. No one flinched and the smiles were still as broad as ever.

I decided to repeat the statement, this time more slowly and more articulately. Still no stir.

Finally with that first feeling of classroom desperation I went to the blackboard and wrote in big bold letters: Poetry book—page forty-two.

Suddenly the classroom was alive with the roar of newfound revelation. A unanimous cry of "Hallelujah" resounded throughout the room. Heads nodded. Eyes brightened and some girls turned and exchanged comments with their neighbors. But no one opened their desks to take their books.

Then I began the saving grace of communication for me in those first months of teaching—pantomime. With my hands

Pope Sets Church On New Course

(A Summary of Courier News Service)

Pope Paul and the world's progressive bishops in the final hours of the Vatican Council pushed the Catholic Church giant strides ahead on the road to "aggiornamento" to fit the ancient faith into the modern world.

In sports parlance, the Council's third session was a "smashing victory" for the more than 2000 forward-thinking prelates over status quo conservatives who numbered less than 500.

Pope Paul, in characteristic fashion, played the role of the good Samaritan in the Council's closing hours, soothing the weeping hearts of the minority who fear change spells chaos.

He turned down the appeal of 1400 bishops who wanted the Council to go on record favoring religious freedom for all men—but promised it would be the first item on the next session's agenda.

Italian and Spanish prelates objected to the statement and said enactment last weekend would play into Communist hands in Italy's elections held Sunday and Monday.

He also consoled the conservatives by declaring the Blessed Virgin Mary to be Mother of the Church, an added title the progressive majority thought inopportune at a time when the Catholic Church is reaching out for increased contacts with Protestants.

The Pope also sought to smooth the ruffled diplomatic waters too.

He announced he would send the Golden Rose of Advent to the Portuguese shrine of Fatima—in place of the nation's anger at his going to India for December's Ecumenical Congress (Fatima is a holy place because India took over the Portuguese colony of Goa on India's west coast).

The papal Samaritan's "oil and balm" for Council conservatives took away the sting of three progressive victories—decrees ratified by the Pope which mark an historic turning point in Church government and in the official Catholic position on Jews, Protestants and Orthodox churches.

The Council also voted 1981 to 99 for its next session to declare that Jews are free of any guilt or cause for the crucifixion of Christ and to open the door for Catholic overtures to Moderns, Hindus, Buddhists and members of all other religions.

Pope Paul repeated his frequently made assurance that the Church does not seek to rival nations or other organizations in a power of a political or economic nature. The Pope seeks no other earthly power for the Church and he said the Council's closing vote.

The three decrees promulgated by the Pope titled conservatives are:

• **De Ecclesia**—an eight chapter document on the Church with deep theological studies on the hierarchy of the Church, the people of God, the people and the role of the laity. The fact that bishops share with the pope the responsibility to rule the whole Church and a final chapter originally intended to be published separately on the Blessed Virgin Mary.

• **De Ecclesiae Orientalibus**—a document which spreads unity efforts with 200,000,000 orthodox Christians and a vast group of 100 million Eastern Christians. It is the official document of the ecumenical movement which has been fostered by the pope of the Holy Spirit and comprises the whole Church's faith and loyalty to keep pace with the universal program of our separated brethren.

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Brief History Of the Council

Here are the highlights of the Vatican Council to date.

Pope John announced early in 1962 that he would convene a council of the world's bishops to discuss the Church's future.

The council opened in Rome on June 26, 1962, and closed on July 25, 1965.

The bishops elected in 1963, failed to complete a session in Rome the first year of the council. The council was then moved to the city of Vatican City.

Pope John died in the spring of 1963, after his death agony for the Council. Pope Paul newly elected promised to continue the Council.

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Lord's Prayer Same for All

Pope Paul has approved a new version of the Lord's Prayer for use by all Catholics in the world. The new prayer is simpler and more direct than the old one.

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Communion Fast Time Reduced to One Hour

Pope Paul has cut the time for Catholics to fast for Holy Communion from three hours to one hour.

The announcement came as a surprise to many Catholics. The announcement was made by Archbishop Pericle Felici, secretary of the Vatican Council at the Council's closing session last Saturday.

He said the change was made "at the request of bishops of many countries."

(Continued on Page 2)