

# Holiness, Vocation for All

(Continued from Page 4)

participation in that very love, with which Christ loved His Bride and for which delivered Himself up for her. A like example, but one given in a different way, is that offered by widows and single people, who are able to make great contributions toward holiness and a apostolic endeavor in the Church.

Finally, those who engage in labor — and frequently it is of a heavy nature — should better themselves by their human labors. They should be of aid to their fellow citizens. They should raise all of society, and even creation itself, to a better mode of existence. Indeed, they should imitate by their lively charity, in their joyous hope and by their voluntary sharing of each others' burdens, the very Christ who plied His hands with carpenter's tools and who in union with His Father, is continually working for the salvation of all men. In this, then, their daily work, they should climb to the heights of holiness and apostolic activity.

May all those who are weighed down with poverty, infirmity and sickness, as well as those who must bear various hardships or who suffer persecution for justice sake — may they all know they are united with the suffering Christ in a special way for the salvation of the world. The Lord called them blessed in His Gospel and they are those whom "the God of all graces, who has called us unto His eternal glory in Christ Jesus, will Himself, after we have suffered a little while, perfect, strengthen and establish" (1 Pet. 5:10).

Finally all Christ's faithful, whatever be the conditions, duties and circumstances of their lives — and indeed through all these, will daily increase in holiness. If they receive all things with faith from the hand of their heavenly Father and if they cooperate with the divine will. In this temporal service, they will manifest to all men the love with which God loved the world.

### Means to Holiness

42. "God is love, and he who abides in love, abides in God and God in Him" (1 Jn. 4:16). But God pours out his love into our hearts through the Holy

Spirit, who has been given to us (cf. Rom. 5:5); thus the first and most necessary gift is love, by which we love God above all things and our neighbor because of God. Indeed, in order that love, as good seed may grow, and bring forth fruit in the soul, each one of the faithful must willingly hear the Word of God and accept His Will, and must complete what God has begun by their own actions with the help of God's grace. These actions consist in the use of the sacraments, and in a special way the Eucharist, frequent participation in the sacred action of the Liturgy, application of oneself to prayer, self-abnegation, lively fraternal service and the constant exercise of all the virtues.

For charity, as the bond of perfection and the fullness of the law, rules over all the means of attaining holiness and gives life to these same means. It is charity which guides us to our final end. It is the love of God and the love of one's neighbor which points out the true disciple of Christ.

Since Jesus, the Son of God, manifested His charity by laying down His life for us, so too no one has greater love than he who lays down his life for Christ and His brothers (cf. 1 Jn. 3:16, Jn. 15:13). From the earliest times, then, some Christians have been called upon — and some will always be called upon — to give the supreme testimony of this love to all men, but especially to persecutors. The Church, then, considers martyrdom as an exceptional gift and as the fullest proof of love.

By martyrdom a disciple is transformed into an image of his Master by freely accepting death for the salvation of the world — as well as his conformity to Christ in the shedding of his blood. Though few are presented such an opportunity, nevertheless all must be prepared to confess Christ before men. They must be prepared to make this profession of faith even in the midst of persecutions, which will never be lacking to the Church, in following the way of the cross.

Likewise, the holiness of the Church is fostered in a special way by the observance of the counsels proposed in the Gos-

pel by Our Lord to His disciples. An eminent position among these is held by virginity or the celibate state (cf. 1 Cor. 7: 32-34). This is a precious gift of divine grace given by the Father to certain souls (Mt. 19: 11-12; Cor. 7:7), whereby they may devote themselves to God alone the more easily, due to an undivided heart. This perfect continence, out of desire for the kingdom of heaven, has always been held in particular honor in the Church. The reason for this was and is that perfect continence for the love of God is an incentive to charity, and is certainly a particular source of spiritual fecundity in the world.

The Church continually keeps before it the warning of the Apostle which moved the faithful to charity, exhorting them to experience personally what Christ Jesus had known within Himself. This was the same Christ Jesus, who "emptied Himself, taking the nature of a slave — becoming obedient to death" (Phil. 2:7-8), and because of us "being rich, he became poor" (2 Cor. 8:9).

Because the disciples must always offer an imitation of and a testimony to the charity and humility of Christ, Mother Church rejoices at finding within her bosom men and women who very closely follow their Saviour who debased Himself to our comprehension. There are some who, in their freedom as sons of God, renounce their own wills and take upon themselves the state of poverty. Still further, some become subject of their own accord to another man, in the matter of perfection for love of God. This is beyond the measure of the commandments, but is done in order to become more fully like the obedient Christ.

Therefore, all the faithful of Christ are invited to strive for the holiness and perfection of their own proper state. Indeed they have an obligation to so strive. Let all then have care that they guide aright their own deepest sentiments of soul. Let neither the use of the things of this world nor attachment to riches, which is against the spirit of evangelical poverty, hinder them in their quest for perfect love. Let them heed the admonition of the Apostle to those who use this world; let them not come to terms with this world; for this world, as we see it, is passing away (cf. 1 Cor. 7:31ff).

NEXT WEEK — Members of religious orders

# Scripto Strike Clouds Civic Honor for Dr. King

Atlanta — (NC) — A proposed hometown banquet to honor Nobel Peace Prize winner Dr. Martin Luther King was deferred here by Archbishop Paul J. Hallinan, one of the sponsors.

Plans for the banquet were begun soon after the civil rights leader received the Nobel Prize in Stockholm. An invitation to sponsor the event was sent to more than 100 Atlanta leaders from all walks of life.

Senders of the invitation were Archbishop Hallinan, Rabbi Jacob Rothschild, Dr. Benjamin Mays, president of Morehouse College, and Ralph McGill, publisher of the Atlanta Constitution.

Although a majority of those invited agreed to be sponsors of the banquet, scheduled for Jan. 27, some failed to reply and a few refused.

Some of the antagonism to the affair is said to have been engendered by Dr. King's recent encouragement of a strike against one of Atlanta's large industries — the Scripto Pen Company.

The company was accused of racial discrimination by Dr. King and strike leaders. The

company denied the charge. The dispute was settled just before Christmas and a threatened worldwide boycott of Scripto products was called off.

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## Last Call for Pilgrim Tour

The deadline is near to make reservations for a tour to the shrines and scenic spots of Mexico. The Jan. 22 to Feb. 5 pilgrimage will be under the spiritual direction of Rev. Henry Atwell of the Catholic Courier Journal. One of the famed churches to be visited will be this ornate edifice at Tasco built by silver rich Jose de la Borda in 1757. Information and reservations obtainable from the Sargent Travel Agency, Manger Arcade, Rochester, or from the Courier.

## First of Fifty Volumes Ready

New York — (RNS) — The Paulist Press has issued first volume of a 50-book, five-year momentous Roman Catholic publication project entitled: "Concilium, Theology in the Age of Renewal."

Volume I, "Dogma, the Church and Mankind," is edited by Father Edward Schillebeeckx, O.P., professor of dogmatic theology, University of Nijmegen, the Netherlands, who also wrote the preface and co-authored the general introduction.

Writing the introduction with him was Father Karl Rahner, S.J., also a noted theologian who teaches at the University of Innsbruck, Austria.

Subjects treated in the first volume by other theologians and scholars, and by laymen include "The Church, the People of God," "Pastoral Implications of Episcopal Collegiality," "The Church and Mankind," "Diversity of Structures and Freedom Within Structures in the Church," "Who Belongs to the Church," "Eucharistic Congresses from Leo XIII to Paul VI," and "The Dialogue Between the Church and Contemporary Cultures."

In charge of the publication venture is Father John Carr, C.S.P., Vicar General of the Paulist Fathers and head of the Paulist Press.

The work of the nearly 300 clergy and lay contributors to "Concilium" will be guided by an international Executive Editorial Committee of 18 distinguished contemporary theologians from the U.S., Italy, West Germany, France, Belgium, Holland, Spain, Argentina and Syria.

Father Schillebeeckx and Father Rahner said the "Concilium" will be ecumenical "in the full sense of the word." It will reflect the continuing dialogue being carried on between Catholics and non-Catholics, and the impetus given by the Second Vatican Council.

The volumes will be written

**ACROSS**

- Simple
- Sally
- High mountain
- Man's name
- Arabian chieftain
- Inlet
- Symbol for tuturium
- Girl's name
- Wine cup
- Symbol for rhodium
- Escane
- Globe
- Rockfish
- SKill
- Feces of baked clay
- Ill-boding
- That is (abbr.)
- Join ruler
- 2,1416
- Freeze-drying
- Electric guitar
- Confederate general
- Unsteadily
- Measure of weight (pl.)
- Slave
- Heavenly body
- A state (abbr.)
- Girl's name
- Former Russian ruler
- Near
- Torricelli
- Place for two
- Musical
- Number
- Flowers
- Unfolded

**DOWN**

- Witty saying
- Indefinite duration
- Football position (abbr.)

**4-Vast age**  
**5-Spanish title**  
**6-Contiguous**  
**7-Note of scale**  
**8-Period of time**  
**9-Macaw**  
**10-Chinese mile**  
**11-Pare...** (colloq.)  
**12-Maiden, loved by Zeus**  
**13-A state (abbr.)**  
**14-Stop**  
**15-Wife of Casanini**  
**16-Depression** by baronies  
**17-Metal fastener**  
**18-Fruit**  
**19-Macaws**  
**20-Mark left by wound**  
**21-Send forth**  
**22-Hastens**  
**23-Solar disk**  
**24-Trapped**  
**25-Growing out of**  
**26-Endures**  
**27-Man's nickname (Int.)**  
**28-Sun god**  
**29-Fruit drink**  
**30-Greek letter**  
**31-Number**  
**32-Preposition**  
**33-World organization (Int.)**  
**34-Above**

## St. Louis to Have Local Council

St. Louis — (RNS) — Cardinal Ritter has announced a "Dialogue Conference" — an assembly of the clergy, religious and laity of the archdiocese aimed at the renewal of the Church in this area and patterned after the workings of the Second Vatican Council.

The Dialogue Conference will seek representation, comments and ideas from every person and group in the archdiocese. Cardinal Ritter said the idea for such a conference was suggested to him on his return from the third session of the Second Vatican Council by a representative group of about 30 priests, Sisters and laity.

Cardinal Ritter said he "warmly received" the idea and told the group to continue meeting to develop detailed plans for the Dialogue Conference. He said that he was writing pastors to inform them of the plan.

The proposal submitted to Cardinal Ritter recommends that it be patterned "as much as possible after the preparatory commissions, operations, and discussion areas of the Second Vatican Council."

As proposed, the conference

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