

400 Years of Faith

Cebu City — (RNS) — Tens of thousands of faithful joined in an enthusiastic welcome to the Cardinal Archbishop of Manila, and Archbishop Carlo Martini, Papal Nuncio to the Philippines, Cardinal Antonutti and his retinue arrived from Manila on the flagship Nacy of the Philippine Navy.

Small flower-decked boats clustered around the cardinal's ship, streamers waved, and white balloons soared aloft as he stepped from the gangplank to set foot on the island discovered by Magellan in 1521.

"It is with humility that I set foot on this blessed soil, on the very spot where the first missionaries landed 400 years ago," he said as Mayor Sergio Osmena, Jr., gave him a golden key to the city. Among other notables greeting him was President Diosdado Macapagal.

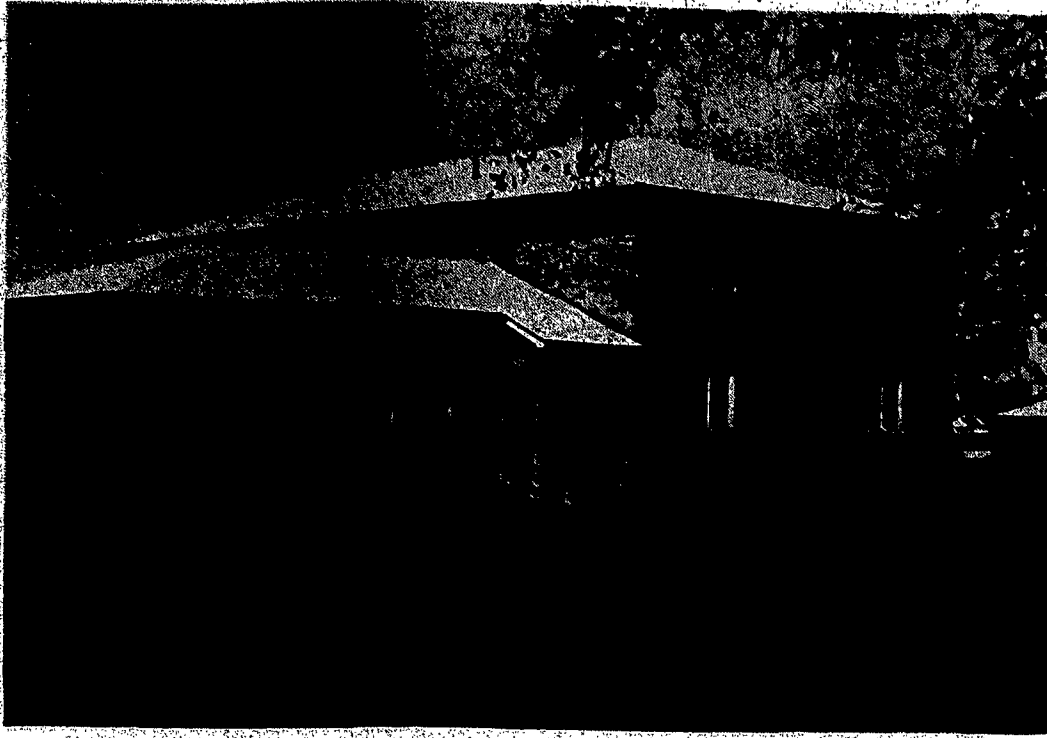
Cardinal Antonutti described Cebu as "the cradle of Christianity in the Philippines, here the Augustinian apostles of Christ came to announce the good tidings of the Gospel."

Recalling that the earliest missionaries had arrived on three ships bearing the names of St. Peter, St. Paul and St. John, he said "We come animated by the faith of Peter, the zeal of Paul and the charity of John."

So great was the throng of cheering faithful pressed around the Papal Legate that it was 20 minutes before a motorcade could proceed to the Church of the Holy Infant — La Iglesia del Santo Niño — where the formal liturgical reception took place.

Preserved in the ancient church is the celebrated statue of the Holy Child, the only relic remaining of Magellan's expedition.

The principal celebrations were scheduled for this diocesan city, the actual birthplace of Philippine Catholicism. It was here, in April, 1565, that the Spanish explorer, Miguel Lopez Legazpi, and Father Andres Urdaneta, an Augustinian priest from the Basque province of Guipuzcoa, planted



New St. Josaphat Convent Open

OPEN HOUSE was held at the new St. Josaphat Convent on Ridge Rd. E. at Stanton La. last Sunday. The parish is moving to the new site from Hudson Ave. The new school staffed by the Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate will be ready for students in September. View above shows new convent, below, chapel. Sisters and clergy are invited to an open house Saturday from 2 to 5 p.m.

"WON'T YOU PLEASE HELP ME"

Because of our Lord's many blessings I come to you in His name of His Holy Church, seeking your aid. Our parish is in desperate need of \$25,000.00 to help us build a new church. We will lose our church, if we do not raise this amount. We will be lost if I lose the church. My people are poor miners but rich with religion.

"God loves a cheerful giver," says Sacred Scripture. Won't you please open your hearts. Send \$1.00 with many prayers for your intentions, and sincere gratitude for the interest and help of my parish. I am gratefully yours in Jesus and Mary.

Rev. Father Walter Werbleki

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In Mortal Sin

By LEO TRESE

You expect to get to heaven, of course, but why? Perhaps you will answer, "Because I assist at Mass every Sunday, go to confession regularly, receive Holy Communion frequently, pray every day, contribute to my parish and other charitable causes, and try to keep from grave sin."

That is not a bad answer, particularly the part about receiving Holy Communion frequently, since it is Holy Communion which provides the grace to do the other things. However, the answer is unnecessarily wordy and misses the very heart of the matter.

You will remember that on one occasion a lawyer asked Jesus, "Master, what must I do to gain eternal life?" Jesus replied, "What is written in the Law?" The man answered, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God . . . and thy neighbor as thyself." Jesus said, "Thou hast answered rightly; do this and thou shalt live." Here is our cue to the correct answer to the question, "Why do I expect to get to heaven?" We must be able to say, "Because I love God and my neighbor."

JESUS then went on, in the beautiful parable of the Good Samaritan, to make clear what God means by the word, "neighbor." In God's vocabulary neighbors are not only members of my own family and circle of friends, but "the people next door or the people with whom I work. My neighbor is any fellow-human who is in need, however much a stranger he may be to me.

We have known this since childhood, at least in a theoretical sort of way. Yet, despite the fact that love for neighbor (flowing from love for God) is the hallmark of the Christian, it is not true that we seldom make this the central item in our examination of conscience? We seldom think to ask ourselves, "What have I done lately . . .

Archbishop Holds Debate With Rabbi

Toronto, Ont. — (NC) — When there are contradictory beliefs, both cannot be right. Coadjutor Archbishop Philip M. Pocock of Toronto stressed here in a dialogue with a Jewish rabbi.

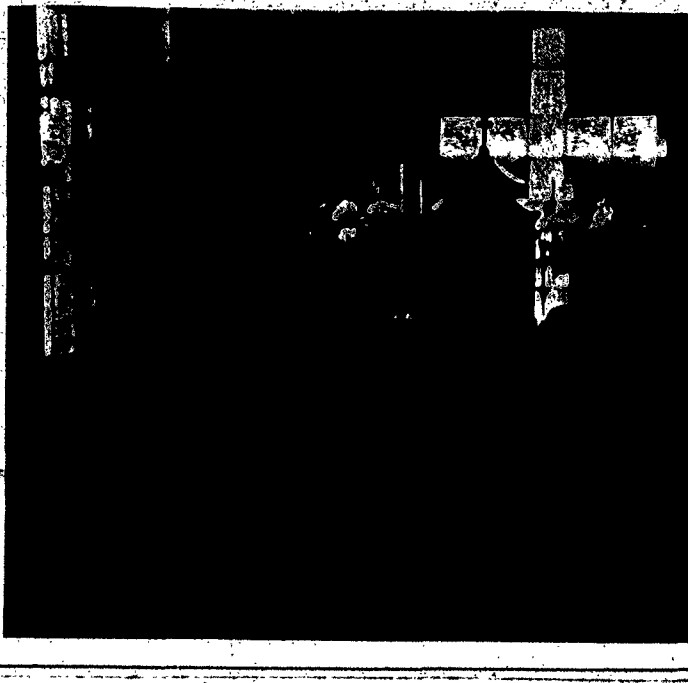
"Tolerance has nothing to do with a denial of logic and metaphysics," the Catholic prelate said.

The archbishop took speedy issue with a statement by Rabbi Reuben Slonin that, for the sake of tolerance and a better ordered society, church and synagogues should de-emphasize theology in relation to one another, and concentrate on ethical behavior.

Archbishop Pocock stressed the objectivity of truth. He said: "I do not believe that contradictory statements can both be true. Christians believe that Jesus Christ is Divine. Jews believe that he is not Divine. There are two contradictory statements. If Christians are right, Jews are wrong; if Jews are right, Christians are wrong. We are not both right, and tolerance has nothing to do with a denial of logic and metaphysics."

They agreed on many points in the dialogue on Christian-Jewish relations at the Primrose Club here. The event marked publication of Rabbi Slonin's book, "In the Footsteps of Pope Paul," for which Archbishop Pocock wrote an introduction.

Appointed Editor: Tucson, Ariz. — (NC) — Father James T. Stapleton has been appointed editor of the Arizona Register, newspaper of the Tucson diocese. Associate editor for the last year, Father Stapleton succeeds Father Vincent J. Hope as editor. The changes were announced by Bishop Francis J. Green of Tucson.



Parish 'Council'

St. Louis — (RNS) — Father Bernard Haring, a Vatican Council peritus, said here that the principle of collegiality will eventually be adopted on the diocesan and parish level and that the constitution on the church will build a "new atmosphere of freedom" in the Roman Catholic Church.

Father Haring, a leading German theologian and secretary of the Vatican Council commission now preparing Schema 13, The Church in the Modern World, spoke at the national convention of the Society of Catholic College of Teachers of Sacred Doctrine.

"He told the 300 delegates that the new freedom is already evident in liturgical reforms and new responsibilities of the laity.

"It is, however, most evident in the sacramental movement in which the Church dares to do everything necessary to promote unity and charity among all Christians, putting its full trust in the Holy Spirit," he said.

Father Haring, a supporter of the Council's draft declaration on religious liberty, said he was not discouraged when that schema was not promulgated at the last session.

"This is because I hope for an even stronger statement on freedom of conscience later," he said.

"Our disappointment that the Council produced no statement on religious freedom at the last session," he said, "should be tempered by the realization that it may have been providential. A better draft is now being prepared, and when a statement is issued by the Council in the next session, it will be a much better one than would have been possible last year."

Analyzing "De Ecclesia," or the schema on the Church, Father Haring pointed to new freedoms of thought and action that have developed since the Council ended its 1964 session.

"What we are now having is a variety in unity, and this is true freedom—for real freedom can only grow within the context of solidarity and unity," he said.

On the principles of collegiality filtering down to diocesan and parish levels, Father Haring said it would mean that bishops and pastors would have to share their authority. But, so, too, will the laity, he added.

"Sharing in the priestly mission of the Church doesn't mean a license to do as one pleases," he said, "but rather it is a call that one serve the Church in obedience to the Holy Spirit, and with a sense of real solidarity for the others in the Church."

Prelate Raps Backbiting

Bois-Le-Duc — (RNS) — Roman Catholic Bishop Willem M. Bekkers of Bois-Le-Duc took sharp issue here with persons who, he said, had been sending complaints to Rome behind his back.

The complaints, he explained, concerned theologians engaged in trying to formulate the manner of Christ's Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist.

Addressing a group of priests, religious and laymen, the bishop reminded that the Dutch hierarchy recently issued a pastoral letter which gave free scope to theologians in thinking about the way in which Christ was present in the Eucharist, but within the limits fixed by the Church's doctrinal authority.

"Nobody," he said, "needs to think along the same lines, but condemning those theologians without real grounds borders on backbiting."

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Court St. Rita Slates Cards

Members of Court St. Rita, Catholic Daughters of America are sponsoring a benefit card party to be held in St. Cecilia's parish hall, Elmira on Wednesday, May 26 starting at 8 p.m.

Mrs. Emil Segur, honorary chairman and the Court officers are in charge of details. Mrs. Francis Crowley is ticket chairman.

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INDIA: SCHOOL IN A SHED

Thottakadu is a woeful village in southern India. Catholics there are in the vast minority. The Most Reverend Mathew Kavukatt, Archbishop of Changanacherry warns of the constant peril to the faith of the children. The parents want their children to have a Catholic education, "to have the Sisters teach them." . . . Nine years ago the Clarist Sisters came to Thottakadu and opened a temporary school in a shed. Imagine the joy! Now all might be lost. The local authorities insist that a permanent school building be constructed within six months or the government subsidy will be cut-off. The people of Thottakadu are poor—their income hardly adequate for food and necessities. The Sisters depend on the government subsidy — although small — to help operate the school.

PARENTS PLEAD FOR A CATHOLIC EDUCATION FOR THEIR CHILDREN.

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SISTER MATILDA HAS PLANS . . . LOOKS FOR HELP.

The Superior of the Clarists, Sister Matilda, writes that she has plans for a permanent school building measuring 150 feet by 20 feet. \$4100 is the cost estimate Sister has received. Build it all yourself, and name it for your favorite saint, in memory of your loved ones. Your \$100, \$50, \$35, \$20, \$10, \$5, \$1, whatever you can afford, will help Sister buy desks, chairs, books, pencils. Help Christ in Thottakadu.

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GOD LOVE YOU
Most Reverend **Fulton J. Sheen**

Children are often deeply touched by the poverty and hunger of other children in the world. They have souls that are receptive to God's grace and are quickly moved to action on hearing of grave need. Letters from children come into our office telling of the many ways they earn money for the Missions. Some, who are too young, have their parents write for them.

One mother wrote to us that her seven-year-old daughter would rarely finish her dinner, and when told that there were many starving children in the world who would LOVE to eat it, she answered: "I'll bet!" Then she saw a picture of a starving child in the January-February issue of MISSION. From that moment she has been anxious to send all her sacrifices to the needy. It is not unusual to receive letters such as this. The distress of other children with open running sores, painfully bare ribs, who live in shacks or nowhere at all, inspires gifts of "all my allowance," "everything I have been saving up" or "my birthday money."

A nine-year-old girl who wears braces and suffers much from a back affliction sent \$1.30 for children who suffer more than she because of hunger. Another writes, "I don't get an allowance, so whenever I want to go to a good movie or something, I have to wait a long time until I can save enough. But I know that helping God's poor is better than a movie any day—so here are my savings!" How many children are there who will answer our appeal to help their brothers and sisters in poor mission lands and inspire their parents to be mindful of the hungry of the world?

GOD LOVE YOU to M.L. "This is from my paper route. It is for those who cannot earn money as I can. . . . to B.W. and Steven for \$1 "My younger brother, Steve, and I have been saving pennies for quite awhile to get just one dollar. Steve is only six and he has been very unselfish for a little one. He and I hope this will help some poor child."

Now is the time to plan ahead for a special Father's Day, birthday, anniversary, bridal or ordination gift. **THE POWER OF LOVE**, Bishop Sheen's latest book, is available in both paperback and a deluxe slipcased, hardbound edition. Based on His Excellency's nationally syndicated column and including material never published before, **THE POWER OF LOVE** shows how love belongs in every major area of our lives; how it can give us direction in the complexities and distractions of our time. This will be an important contribution to your daily life and the lives of all to whom you give it—Catholic and non-Catholic alike. It is available for \$6.00 in paperback; \$3.50 hardbound, by writing the Order Department of The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, 366 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10001.

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 Avenue, New York, New York 10001, or to your Diocesan Director, Rev. John F. Duffy, 50 Chestnut Street, Rochester, New York 14604.