

# Leadership in Rights Battle, Duty of Laity

By MARJORIE L. FILLIYAW  
Miami Beach (NC) — The prime obligation of working ceaselessly on behalf of civil rights falls upon the laity, Baltimore's Cardinal Lawrence Shehan asserted here.

Addressing the 55th National Conference of the Urban League, the cardinal acknowledged that the obligation belongs to all citizens, including priests and Religious. But priests and Religious, bound by vows and other obligations to ecclesiastical authority, do not have the same fullness of freedom possessed by the laity, he added.

Speaking on "The Essential Quest in a Great Society," Cardinal Shehan said the Catholic

Church, as well as all other religious bodies, has the obligation to strive for "those civil rights of the Negro which are guaranteed by our Constitution and are an integral part of racial justice."

"Although religious bodies may be accused of having been somewhat slow in getting started," Cardinal Shehan declared, "yet they must also properly be said to have played an honorable, important, and even essential role, particularly during the past few years."

Discussing the role of priests and nuns in demonstrations for civil rights, Cardinal Shehan, who is a member of the league's board of directors, emphasized:

"I do not undertake to speak for the Church or for the American hierarchy, but express only my personal opinion.

"It seems to me, however, that in such demonstrations, when they are peaceful and not calculated to provoke violence and are held within the framework of the civil law — when, too, they are aimed at the correction of clear abuses of justice — priests and nuns do have a definite role to play. The results achieved by some of these demonstrations indicate that they can be effective.

"But it must also be added that priests and nuns, bound by vows or obligations to proper ecclesiastical authority, have not the same fullness of freedom as do the laity," Cardinal Shehan asserted.

"For the establishment of a great society in this country, there is needed among all our people, Negro and white, the

spirit of understanding, good will, and cooperation," Cardinal Shehan stated. "For this, it is necessary that we should have sound and courageous leadership within both groups. But how does a community and nation produce such leadership when often the ablest and most trustworthy shrink from what one may call the battle of the political or social arena?"

"Such leadership will almost inevitably emerge when all responsible elements become concerned with — and involved in the solution of the urgent practical problems which everywhere threaten our country's welfare and progress," the Cardinal noted.

The cardinal cited the presence of extremists on both sides as an obstacle to the creation of the necessary understanding, good will and cooperation.

"Among the whites, these extremists are moved by hatred

and hatred, once aroused, is notoriously difficult to allay, and still more difficult to root out, especially when, as in the present case, it is fed by conscious or unconscious fear," Cardinal Shehan explained.

"Among Negroes, the danger is that extremists, out of corresponding motives of hatred, or out of personal ambition, or to gratify that nihilistic desire for destruction which is not unknown among modern revolutionaries, may be able to exploit the sense of injustice and resentment, which certainly has a basis in fact, to negate that step-by-step progress by which alone true victory can be won," he asserted.

"I am speaking of that kind of progress of which Pope John XXIII, who was certainly no gradualist, spoke in his encyclical *Pacem in Terris* — evolution and not revolution, as the way to achieve true reform," the cardinal declared.

## Vatican Raps Film Ridicule

Vatican City — (RNS) — A Vatican City weekly took sharp issue with the Italian movie industry's growing trend toward films that show the Vatican, Catholic priests or religious surroundings in "a tone of ridicule."

Osservatore D'Ala Domenica, the 1964 Italian hit, "Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow," starring

**Bowling Meeting, Elections Slated**

A captains' meeting will be held for the Catholic Men's Bowling League, Friday, Aug. 13, at North Park Lanes. The status of all teams must be known at this meeting.

Bill Hebing is league president. Meeting is set for 8 p.m. and new officers will be selected at that time.

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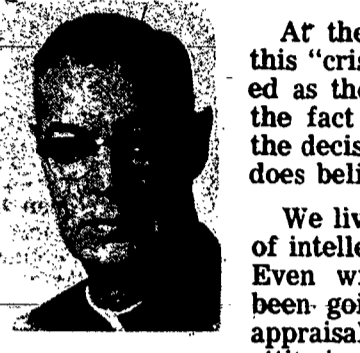
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## Crisis in Faith?

By FATHER LEO J. TRESE  
Currently there is quite a bit of discussion, in Catholic intellectual circles, about a so-called "crisis of faith" in the Church.



At the risk of oversimplification, this "crisis of faith" may be described as the awakening of Catholics to the fact that every man must face the decision as to what, in reality, he does believe.

We live in an era of rapid change, of intellectual and scientific ferment. Even within the Church we have been going through a period of reappraisal and revision. Ceremonies, attitudes and points of view which we had come to look upon as irreformable have been dropping away like feathers from a moulting bird.

Changes always are unsettling, especially so when they touch us so personally as do changes in our religious environment. If we fail to distinguish between what is incidental and what is essential in our religion, we can find ourselves shaken.

Is there anything we can be sure of, we wonder, if the Church can have been so long mistaken about such matters as the sacredness of Latin, our relationship with Protestants and the historical factuality of some Biblical stories?

Another element in our crisis of faith is the higher educational level of the average Catholic. Until quite recently the priest was, with few exceptions, the best educated person in the parish. His opinions were listened to with respect and "Father knows best" was pretty generally the attitude of parishioners.

Now, however, a large percentage of Catholics are university graduates. They have been trained to ask questions and to think for themselves: "Is it really so? How do we know? What are the arguments on the other side?" In almost every parish there are dozens of parishioners whose education, at least in secular matters, exceeds that of the priest. The pastor no longer is the oracle he once was.

However, the unsettling effect of change and the questioning nature of an educated mind really are triggering mechanisms rather than cause of the crisis of faith. The real reason why some of us may experience such a crisis is that we never did make a personal act of faith — of faith in God, that is.

We grew up in a Catholic home with parents whom we loved and respected. Because they said that the Catholic Church is the true Church, we accepted that fact without question. Our acceptance was further fortified by the respect and affection we felt for the priests and nuns whose lives touched ours.

We never really did make the transfer of faith in parents, priests and nuns, to faith in God. We never made an act of personal, irrevocable commitment to God and especially to our Lord Jesus Christ. Our faith remained human faith, even in adulthood, instead of maturing, as it must, into divine faith.

It perhaps is not surprising then that if and when we encounter a false prophet, perhaps an eminent but unbelieving writer or lecturer, we find

**Pastor Brings Kids to Fair**  
New York — (RNS) No visitors at the World's could have been as excited as 36 Negro children from poor and segregated towns of Elston and Basile in southwest Louisiana, brought here to view the exhibits by the pastor.

Father Thaddeus Boucree, S.V.D., Negro pastor of St. Joseph's church in Elton, had been dreaming and planning for the trip North since he was assigned to the parish last year.

**Priest Pilot Wins Award**  
Munich — (RNS) — Father Paul Schulte, O.M.I., noted German-born priest who promoted use of airplanes in mission work, received the "Pioneer Chain of Compass" Award at the International Transport Exhibition here.

The 70-year-old priest was cited as "the world's first flying missionary." The citation said that through his use of planes — in mission work he "paved the way for the Catholic Church's present interest in aviation and space exploration."

His efforts also contributed to "convincing the general public of the usefulness of the airplane," the citation added.

Father Schulte was one of 12 famous international aviators receiving the award. Others included Hans Von Schiller, an officer of the Graf Zeppelin dirigible which in 1929 made the first trip around the world, and Prof. Willi Messerschmidt, famous German plane designer.



**Mementos of Matt Talbot**

Peabody, Mass. — (RNS) — This collection of some personal belongings of Matt Talbot, the saintly Dublin laborer and reformed alcoholic whose beatification cause is under consideration at the Vatican, were exhibited at the Peabody, Mass., Carmelite Chapel. Examining them is Father Christopher McElroy, O. Carm., national director of the Matt Talbot Legion. The mementos are being displayed in various cities to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Talbot's death. Matt Talbot waged an heroic struggle to overcome alcoholism and lived a life of extraordinary penance and prayer. He died in 1925 while on his way to early morning Mass at St. Saviour's church in Dublin.

## Auburn Knights Slate Annual Golf Tournament

Auburn — The annual Knights of Columbus Golf Tournament will be held Thursday, Aug. 19 at Owasco Country Club. Grand Knight John Schattinger has appointed Jeremiah McCarthy and William A. Shaw, cochairmen of the event.

The number of golfers will be limited to 72 because Owasco is only a nine-hole course, the cochairmen stated. Dinner will be served in the club's dining room after the matches. Prizes and trophies will also be awarded at the dinner.

Non-golfers have also been invited to attend the dinner and there is no limit to the number of reservations but they must be made prior to the tournament.

The golf tournament will be a handicap affair using the Galloway System of handicapping. The first foursome will tee off at 12 noon.

Cochairmen Shaw and McCarthy are being assisted by a committee composed of Michael Bayus, eight time city golf champion; Charles E. McKeon, Frank M. Leary, Joseph J. Shaw and another consistent city champion Dr. Rocco A. Impaglia.

**DEADLINE MONDAY NOON FOR ALL NEWS**

**MONROE COUNTY FAIR AUG. 16 - 21**

**MON. QUEEN'S DAY**  
5 P.M. — Opening Ceremony by Harvest Queens and County Officials. Interfaith Service — Bishop James E. Kearney, speaker — Chertan Awards  
7 P.M. — DRAG RACES  
8:30 P.M. — Flower Show Judging

**TUES. YOUTH DAY**  
Free Admission for adults accompanying children 9:30-11 A.M. Games and events for children 7-15. Prizes!  
3 P.M. — Drawing for Free Ride tickets  
4 P.M. — Drawing for Transistor Radios and Cash Prizes!  
5 P.M. — Drawing for Girl's and Boy's bicycle.  
12 Noon — Free MEN for children  
9 A.M. — GRANGE and POULTRY Judging  
10 A.M. — HOME ARTS and 4H CATTLE Judging  
8 P.M. — STOCK CAR RACES

**WED. WOMEN'S DAY**  
10 A.M. — CATTLE, SWINE and SHEEP Judging  
2 P.M. — MEET LOUISE WILSON  
7 P.M. — FLOWER ARRANGEMENT and RABBITS Judging  
3 P.M. — JOHNNY KING AUTO THRILL SHOW  
8:30 P.M. — Square Dance Exhibitions — Friendship Square

**THURS. FARM DAY**  
10 A.M. — OPEN CLASS CATTLE Judging  
12 Noon — TRACTOR PULL CONTEST  
2 P.M. and 5 P.M. — GENE HOLSTER'S OSTRICH RACES and WILD ANIMAL SHOW local personalities participating in races. (Two performances)  
5-7 P.M. — CHICKEN BAR-B-Q  
7 P.M. — VARIETY AUCTION

**FRI. GOLDEN AGE DAY**  
12 Noon — GOLDEN AGES LUNCHEON  
3 P.M. — STOCK CAR RACES  
8:30 P.M. — "THE ANGRY YOUNG MEN" — TEEN AGE DANCING

**SAT. FIREMAN'S DAY**  
10 A.M.-5 P.M. — FIREMAN'S FIELD DAY  
10 A.M. — 4-H HORSE SHOW  
8 P.M. — DEMOLITION DERBY

GOVERNOR ARRIVES TODAY — 2 P.M.  
**FAIRGROUNDS ROUTE 15A**  
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**Back to School**

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