

# The Catholic COURIER

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE

Journal

77th Year

ROCHESTER, N.Y., FRIDAY, JULY 1, 1966

Price 15 cents

## Let Freedom Ring on Fourth of July 'The Best Earthly Inheritance'

By THOMAS E. KISSLING  
(N. C. W. C. News Service)

July 4, 1966 will mark the 190th anniversary of the "unanimous" adoption of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress of the 13 United States of America, meeting at the State House in Philadelphia, now known as Independence Hall.

Recurrence of the anniversary recalls an impressive "supplementary declaration" which Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Md., the only Catholic signer, wrote on the 50th anniversary of the day he affixed his signature to the document.

In 1777, the first anniversary of the Declaration passed unnoticed. The war situation was not very encouraging for the Americans. By June of 1778, matters had so improved that Congress ordered July 4 to be celebrated as a holiday, and so it has been each year since 1778.

Some historians have thought that the date of July 4 was premature, that the anniversary should be on August 2, the date that most of the 56 delegates signed the immortal document. Others, including delegate John Adams thought that July 2 should be the day to be "solemnized" for on that date in 1776, Congress had passed a resolution affirming that the states were "independent of the British Crown."

In a letter to his wife Abigail, in Massachusetts, Adams remarked that "I am apt to believe that the event will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illuminations from one end of the continent to the other, from this time forward forevermore."

Senator Abraham Ribicoff of Connecticut, speaking in the U.S. Senate, Feb. 28, 1963, observed: "In the earlier days, the anniversary of our birth of freedom was actively observed by young and old. Lately the same spirit seems lacking." Some communities have prohibited fireworks, and parades are not so numerous.

The senator, inspired by an idea advanced by two of his constituents, artist Eric Sloane and Eric Hatch, introduced a concurrent resolution, passed by both houses of Congress declaring that on July 4 each year, "all church bells, all bells in government buildings, and all carillon bells in colleges and universities, will ring for four minutes in every part of the country. Every radio station will broadcast the sound of bells for two minutes, followed by the reading of the Declaration of Independence."

The proposal "to make freedom really ring" has been adopted by many communities.

July 4, 1966 will see thousands of Americans, visiting the exhibition hall of the National Archives building in Washington to view the original, engrossed copy of the Declaration of Independence, where it is enshrined with two other "Charters of Freedom," the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. During 1965, 1,500,000 persons visited the well-guarded exhibit, and on one day 22,000 made a patriotic pilgrimage there, its permanent home after many wanderings in more than ten cities, including Fort Knox, Ky., in war time.

Although the Declaration of Independence remained for half a century a forgotten historic document, buried in government archives, it was first brought to popular attention by the enterprise of a professor of penmanship, Benjamin Owen

**PERRY FLOWERS** for all occasions, Ethel M. Perry assisted by Tom Zavgaglia, Mgr., Egan Weingartner, Asst. Mgr., 441 Chili Ave. FA 5-7722.—Adv.

**IF YOU MOVE . . .**  
let us know about it so we can keep your Courier coming to you on time. Phone or mail us notice of your change of address. Include your old address and new address and the name of your parish.

Courier Journal, 35 Scio St., Rochester, N.Y. 14604. Phone - 716-454-7050.



An artist's imaginative drawing shows historic moment when United States declared its independence in 1776.

Tyler, who obtained permission to copy the faded document and had it engraved and published in 1818, in its original size, 29 1/2 x 24 1/4 inches.

A controversy with rival publishers, aired in the press, aroused interest in the historic document.

On its 100th anniversary, the Declaration was a featured attraction in Independence Hall, Philadelphia. From then it was exhibited in the State Department in Washington until September 1921, when it was on exhibition in the Library of Congress, its custodian until it was installed in the exhibits of the

National Archives building, in mid-December, 1952.

The first public religious commemoration of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence was held on July 4, 1779, in historic St. Mary's Catholic Church, Philadelphia. The president and members of the Continental Congress, were among those attending the Mass sung on this occasion.

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence Aug. 2, 1826, its last surviving signer — Charles Carroll, a close friend of Gen. Washington penned a "supplemental declaration." An official delegation from the City of New York, who visited the venerable patriot six years before his death, requested a statement from him. He wrote:

"Grateful to Almighty God for the blessing which through Jesus Christ our Lord, He has conferred on my beloved country in her emancipation, and on myself in permitting me, under circumstances of mercy to live to the age of eighty-nine years, and to survive the fiftieth year of American Independence, and certify by my present signature my approbation of the Declaration of Independence adopted by Congress on the fourth of July, 1776, which I originally subscribed on the second day of August of the same year, and of which I am now the last surviving signer; I do hereby recommend to the present and future generations the principles of that important document as the best earthly inheritance their ancestors could bequeath to them and pray that the civil and religious liberties they have secured to my country may be perpetuated to remotest posterity and extended to the whole family of man."

### The Migrant Worker

## 'Doesn't Belong Anyplace'

Rochelle, Ill. —(NC)— "One of the main problems a migrant worker faces is the feeling he doesn't belong anyplace," according to Father Louis Diaz, from Bogota, Colombia, who is working with the Spanish-speaking migrants in the Rockford diocese.

Father Diaz explained that the migrant workers leave southern Texas in the spring to harvest the northern crops. They are assigned to living quarters with families of seven or eight sharing a room until the harvest is completed.

Salaries are generally determined by the amount of work accomplished, and a family of from six to eight people, can earn from \$15 to \$20 a day if the crop holds out and the weather is good. A small part of this is withheld and paid at the end of the season to the worker as a "bonus" for completing the harvest.

The Colombian priest works with the migrants and ministers in the field of spiritual needs. He is assisted by two Sisters from Mexico, Sister Maria Guadalupe and Sister Maria Carmen, who are sponsored by St. Patrick's parish.

The priest and the two sisters travel as a team to the

### A Jesuit 70 Years

Boston — (RNS) — Seventy years of service in the Jesuit order was observed here by Father M. Kilroy, S.J., one of the best known Jesuits in the East.

Father Kilroy, a native of Boston, celebrated Mass in the chapel of Boston College where he serves as spiritual adviser to the Jesuit community.

Now 89 years of age, the veteran Jesuit was ordained in 1911 by James Cardinal Gibbons in Woodstock (Md.) College. He was the founder and first provincial of the New England Jesuit Province, is former rector of Weston College, was the first prefect in New York and served on the faculties of the College of St. Xavier in New York and Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.

Diamonds of Quality. Reasonably Priced. William S. Thorne, Jeweler, 318 Main St. E. — Adv.

migrant camps offering religious instruction, group prayers, an opportunity to receive the sacraments and occasionally friendly advice and first aid. They also offer understanding and acceptance to a people away from home and provide a link with the rest of the established community.

"Sometimes the people just want to talk to someone," the priest said. "I may listen for an hour or two and try to help them see other sides to their problems and sometimes to achieve solutions."

Father Diaz attempts to meet the needs of his people on both a spiritual and social level. He sometimes manages to combine the two, talking to the workers who have migrated from the Rio Grande area of Texas and encouraging them to feel a part of a community.

"We encourage the saying of a nightly rosary to each of the camps," he said. "The rosary is a good and familiar prayer. The people all take turns saying it aloud so they each have a distinctive role and yet feel a part of the group."

### Low-rent Homes for Poor, Southern Diocese Project

New Orleans —(NC)—A non-profit corporation of priests and laymen to build low-rent housing for the poor has been organized in the New Orleans archdiocese.

Archbishop Philip M. Hannan appointed Father Eugene P. McManus, a Josephite priest, to head the project. As chairman of the board of Christopher Homes, Inc., Father McManus said plans are under way for a low-rent apartment dwelling for couples 62 years of age and older.

All occupants would come from the lowest income group and would be eligible for federal rent subsidies, he said. Rent subsidies are one of the programs undertaken by the federal government in an effort to stimulate private enterprise and civic minded non-profit groups into building apartments for the low and low-middle income groups.

## Nazareth Nun to Teach at Famed University

A Nazareth College faculty member will be the first nun to teach at Johns Hopkins University, famed medical school at Baltimore.

Sister M. Gertrude Christian will receive a Faculty of Philosophy Fellowship of \$2,000 in connection with her appointment to the faculty for the 1961-67 academic year. She was also awarded a Gilman Fellowship valued at \$1,990.

Sister Gertrude has completed two years of course work leading to her doctorate. The coming year will be devoted to

# Negro Clergy, Sign of Church Universality

St. Louis — (NC) — A comparatively healthy picture of the Catholic Negro apostolate in the United States was sketched here by Auxiliary Bishop Harold R. Perry, of New Orleans.

The first Negro to serve as a Catholic bishop in the U.S. in the 20th century told the 24th annual Serra International convention: "Actually the picture is not so bad."

For the 2,500 delegates from 20 nations, he couched this estimation with a warning—"The challenge of loyal Serrans and the Church in general is to uproot racial intolerance wherever it exists."

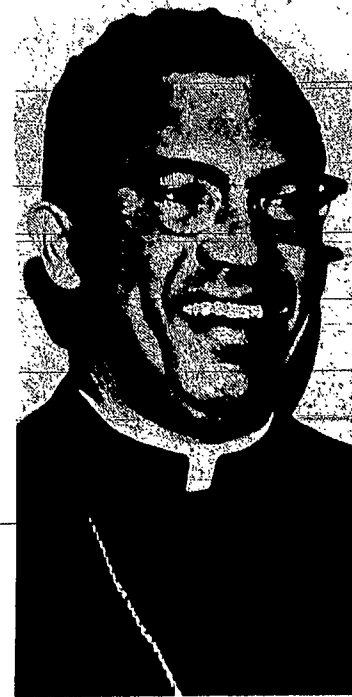
Bishop Perry, a member of the Society of The Divine Word, said the Church in this country "ought to grant her Negro sons" the highest of privileges, capped by sharing in Christ's priesthood, "long before the present day freedom movement" began more than a decade ago.

He pointed out that the Society of the Divine Word as early as 1914 established its seminary at Bay St. Louis, Miss., for the specific purpose of training Negro youth for the Catholic priesthood. Bishop Perry is an alumnus and former rector of that seminary.

From the days of Bishop James A. Healy, first U.S. bishop of Negro blood who headed the Portland, Maine, diocese from 1875 to 1900, there have been 195 Negro priests in the U.S., Bishop Perry said. "Our figures do not include those who came to this country on visits or for studies. They include those who were born in this country and who came from foreign countries to be ordained in and for the Negro apostolate," he said.

Bishop Perry said the chief reason why there are not more than 165 is answered by the facts which "seem to indicate that for many years there was a policy of non-encouragement of Negro vocations, in general." He added: "And for a long time the Divine Word Seminary in Mississippi was the only seminary which welcomed Negro vocations. Today virtually all Catholic seminaries of the United States admit Negro candidates."

A CLOSER study of the statistics relating to the priest-



BISHOP HAROLD PERRY  
'not so bad'

hood however, indicates that the total 165 is not extremely low in comparison with the total number of priests emerging from the 50 million Catholics of the country."

Bishop Perry said: "Approximately 55,000 priests have come from this vast number of Catholics. The emergence of 165 Negro priests from the ranks of 750,000 Negro Catholics is not abnormal, considering the few high school opportunities for the Negro youth in earlier decades. Nor is the number extremely low when the statistics relating to seminarians are considered. Approximately 1,500 Negro boys have entered American seminaries. The perseverance of these 165 is approximately the same ratio as the general body of seminarians in the United States."

"The perseverance of 10 per cent of the class is considered normal, especially when the class begins in the minor seminary," he added.

"If you consider the social and economic condition of our Negro Catholics, the number is indeed high," the bishop continued. "Victims of prejudice and discrimination Negro Catholics of both rural and slum areas have had a much harder struggle than any other minority group. The fact that this

number of priests and seminarians should arise from their midst is a tribute to their sterling faith and generous spirit of sacrifice."

The bishop said today there are 165 priests of whom 119 belong to religious communities and 46 to the diocesan clergy. The Divine Word Missionaries, Benedictines and Josephites lead with 58, 17, 10 respectively, he said. The greatest number of vocations comes from Louisiana

### 1 Negro Priest From Rochester

Only one Rochester Negro has become a Catholic priest—Josephite Father Charles Hall.

He recently underwent surgery at a New Orleans hospital and he plans to visit his home as soon as he is able to make the journey north.

He is the son of Mrs. Anthony Hall and the late Mr. Hall of immaculate Conception parish, Rochester.

Since his ordination in 1960 he has taught science at St. Augustine's High School in New Orleans and was featured in a Time magazine article a year ago for the outstanding achievements of his pupils.

with 35 native Negro priests, he declared. New York follows with 18, while the District of Columbia, Mississippi and New Jersey have 9 each.

There were only three Negro priests ordained in 1966, but in 1961 and 1965 there was an all time high of 15 ordinations, the bishop said.

"While I have tried to be optimistic about the situation of Negro vocations, it should be evident to you that the Negro Catholic population is a virtually untapped source of future priests," Bishop Perry reminded. The talents of Negro young men for all the various parochial and priestly fields of endeavor, are being lost to the Church. Secondly, and an equally vital reason, is the need for the Catholic Church to be Catholic—universal in fact, as well as in doctrine."

### 'Total Job' Of Teaching Faces Nuns

New Orleans —(RNS)—Plans were announced here in which two nuns in the Archdiocese of New Orleans will "take special training so that they can direct the total religious education programs of two parishes.

The two parishes, two religious communities, the archdiocese and the archdiocesan Confraternity of Christian Doctrine are cooperating in a program designed to spearhead the pastoral renewal inspired by Vatican II.

The nuns will assume their duties after studying for a year at Divine Word, the new International Center of Religious Education in London, Ont. They are Sister Louise Augustine, C.S.J., of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Bourg, and Sister Mary Ellen, M.S.C., of the Sisters Marianites of Holy Cross.

After their year of training they will assume full-time duties in their respective parishes. They will work with the parish priests and the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine boards in planning, programming and evaluating the total plan for the Christian formation of people in the parish as well as with those who carry out the formation programs.



### DeGaulle at Mass in Russia

Leningrad —(RNS)—President Charles de Gaulle of France and his wife attend Mass in the French Church of Notre Dame de Lourdes in Leningrad during an official visit to the Soviet Union. He and his party were joined at the service by an estimated 500 worshippers. Notre Dame is the only Catholic church in the former Russian capital.

study for the oral comprehensives and work on her doctoral dissertation. She expects to receive her degree in June, 1968.

She will lecture on English Literature from Chaucer to the 18th Century to undergraduates, both upper and lower classmen.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Christian, of 114 Aldine St. in St. Monica's Parish, Rochester. She is a graduate of Nazareth Academy and College and is spending this summer in research work in Washington, D.C.



SISTER GERTRUDE