

'Christ, Women, World'

Theme for 3-Day Congress

Bishop Sheen will conduct a three day congress "Christ, Women and the World" at Rochester's Auditorium Theatre, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, April 5, 6 and 7.

He will give three talks each day of the congress — at 12:30 noon, at 3 and 5:30 p.m.

The congress is open to college students and other young women, single or married, of post-high school age.

Besides the three conferences each day, Bishop Sheen will also celebrate Mass at Corpus Christi Church on Wednesday and Friday evenings of the congress at 7:30 p.m. On the Thursday of the three-day event, Mass will be celebrated at the Auditorium Theatre at 3 p.m. with Bishop Sheen narrating an explanation of the rite.

The congress grew out of an invitation to the Bishop to give the Nazareth College retreat.

He decided to move the conferences from a quiet campus to bustling Main Street and open the doors to a wider audience.

Nazareth College will sponsor the congress and its students will make the needed arrangements.

The college Glee Club, directed by Dr. David Fetter, and the Sisters of St. Joseph Choir, directed by Sister M. Florian, will sing at the congress ceremonies.



Monsignor Governatori, at right, with aides in office of Vatican Council archives, checks Xerox copies of historic documents.

A Treasurehouse of Knowledge ... within the Reach of All

Vatican Council Gets Xeroxed

By MONSIGNOR EMILIO GOVERNATORI
(Special to The Courier)

One of the many problems facing the Technical Organizing Committee for the preparation of the recent Vatican Council prior to this great event was the collection and keeping of the conciliar documents.

The advent of printing, the use of typescript and of tape recordings, and the attendance of close to 3,000 bishops made this new Council very different from previous assemblies, creating difficulties and problems by no means easy to solve. It was impossible, on many issues, to make conjectures or determine solutions in advance.

Only in the light of experience acquired during the first General Congregations or the early work of the Council was the General Secretariat able to find the answer to certain organizational dilemmas, and adopt measures and provisions that were proved by the subsequent course of events to be as timely as they were expedient.

On the assumption, later borne out, that a large number of the bishops would take part in the debates on the Conciliar drafts, and that the majority would give their opinion at least in writing, the knotty problem arose of retrieving and keeping such a large number of documents, and of their timely transmission to the proper Council committees for actual use in revising the drafts.

One of the general principles adopted by the Technical Organizing Committee of the Council was, quite rightly, that all work done at the Council should if possible be recorded in a written or printed document. On this principle votes were cast in St. Peter's by punched card in preference to the push-button, which would actually have been faster and less complicated.

Considerable difficulty and many setbacks were encountered at the outset in making large numbers of copies of the spoken statements made by the Fathers in the debating hall. No less than 40 copies had to be made in good time on the same

A Rochester product, two Xerox 914 copy machines, put in a ten-hour work day at the Vatican, documenting the historic deliberations and decisions of the world's Catholic bishops at the Vatican Council. This article, by Monsignor Emilio Governatori, official keeper of the Council's archives, provides an up-to-date report on one of history's most massive efforts at a prompt and total documentation of a Church Council.

evening, after manuscripts had been handed in, so as not to hinder the often hustling pace of the work done in the Committees. There were often many speakers taking part in each debate, and statements were on many occasions anything but short.

At first, the bishops handed in only one copy of their statements made in the hall or of their written remarks. Although these documents were typed and mimeographed in the required quantities in record time and made available to the Committee Members and Experts, this effort was inadequate.

Manuscripts often proved difficult to decipher... sometimes the manuscript was considerably changed from the viva voce address, and to transcribe it from the recorded tape without a comparison with the manuscript took more time than the Committee were in a position to allow.

It was at this juncture that an invaluable, unrivaled facility was provided by the installation of two Rank-Xerox 914

copying units. The two machines were located at the General Secretariat, at St. Martha, in the immediate vicinity of the Council Hall. They were put to work at once, operating unceasingly at top speed for at least ten hours daily, copying publications, schedules, speeches, etc.

This enabled transmitting an appropriate number of copies to the proper Committees only one hour after manuscripts had been handed in at the end of each General Congregation. One of the copies was given to the Council stenographers who worked in teams of three every day taking down the magnetic tape recordings of the Council Sessions, so that they could check the spoken statements, often difficult to understand, being delivered in a wide gamut of pronunciations and accents. The entire job was thereby enormously speeded up and made more accurate.

The complicated conciliar machinery was thus able to run smoothly and with precision. It is doubtful, however, whether

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Holy Week's Solemn Rites At Cathedral, Parishes

Palm Sunday rites in parish churches will begin the solemn observance of Holy Week, a week when Christians recall the climactic events in the life of their Lord.

Parish bulletins should be consulted for precise time of ceremonies which follow a different schedule than ordinary weekday services.

Bishop Sheen will preside at rites in Sacred Heart Cathedral — Palm Sunday at 1 p.m., Holy Thursday at the Christ Mass at 12 noon and Good Friday at 1:30 p.m.

He will preach on the seven last words of Christ following the Good Friday liturgy.

Bishop Kearney will lead in recitation of the Rosary on the Family Rosary for Peace radio program at 7 p.m. on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. The program is broadcast nightly by station WSAY, Rochester; WMBO-FM, Auburn; Channel 8, Elmira; Channel 5, Hornell, and at 88.75 mc in Corning.

The Catholic COURIER

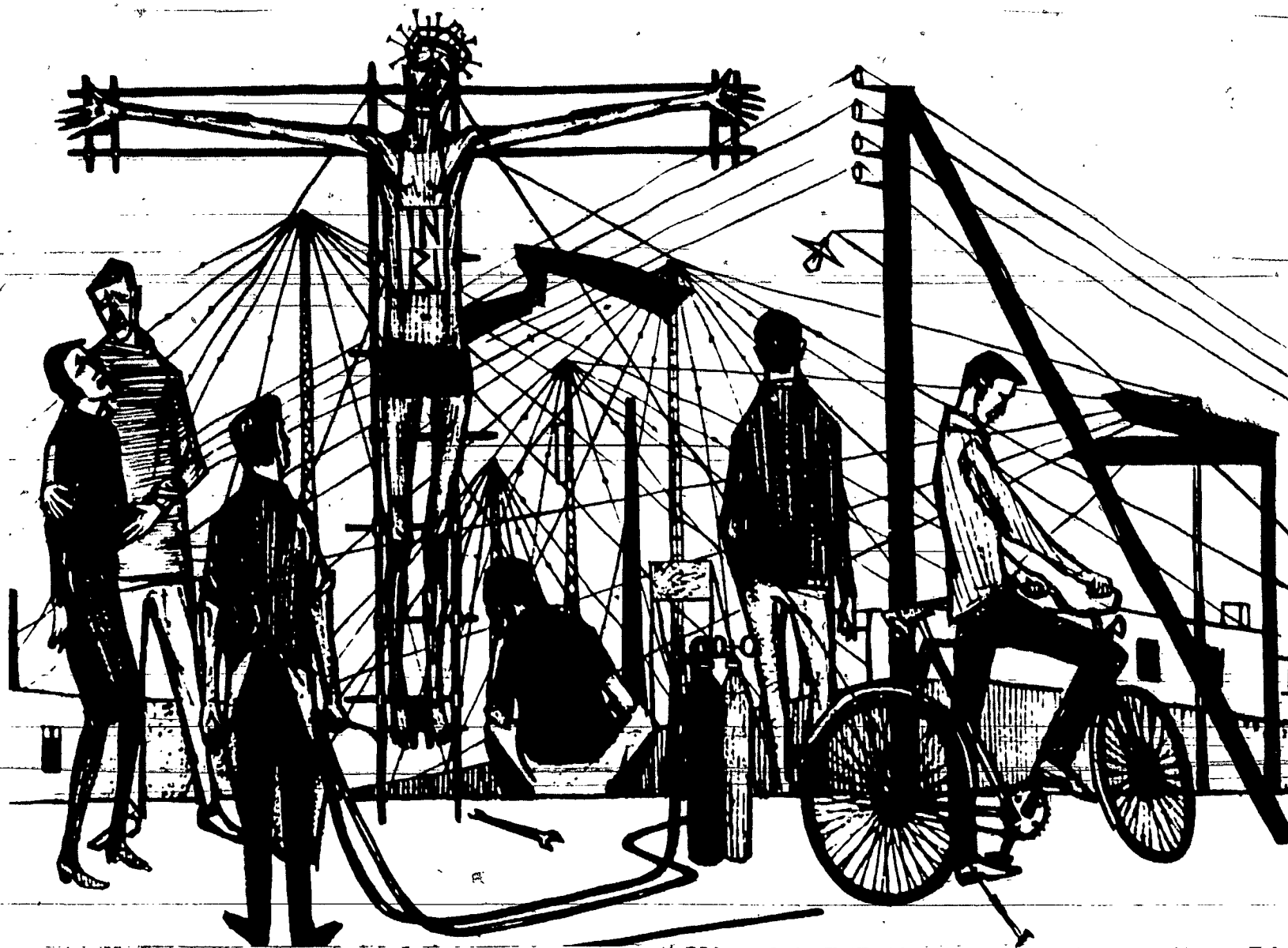
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"Christ is our contemporary," wrote Bishop Sheen in 1935 in his book "The Mystical Body of Christ." This drawing by artist Emil Scheibe puts crucifixion scene into modern setting.

No Greater Story

Is there any other story which can so hold the attention of so many people for so long a time as the crucifixion of Jesus?

The story has been told in the stained glass windows of Chartres cathedral, in the overpowering music of Johann Sebastian Bach, in the soul-stirring poetry of John Milton — but no man's art or eloquence matches the force of the simple, straight-forward narrative of the Gospel writers.

Year after year, Christians of all denominations and varying degrees of piety are attentive to the story of how God so loved the world that He gave His Son, and the Son so loved that world that He gave His life for its redemption.

The time to hear that story again is now upon us — Holy Week, next week.

To those who want the story to be for them more than just a spiritual message for the moment, no better recommendation can be made than to advise such people to take up their Bible or their New Testament or their Missal and, at some time of quiet and calm, read slowly and thoughtfully and prayerfully the Gospel reports of the Saviour's sufferings and death.

In brief, the story is this —

Jesus had told his disciples early in the springtime of that year, "We are now going up to Jerusalem, and everything that has been written by the prophets about the Son of Man will come true. For he will be handed over to the heathen, and he is going to be jeered at and insulted and spat upon, and then they will flog him and kill him. But he will rise again on the third day."

And that's the way it all happened.

Silent and pensive, Jesus walked from Galilee, along the valley of the Jordan River, up to Jerusalem where He knew the Cross awaited Him.

He arrived at Bethany, a little village near the Holy City, and there the crowds went to meet Him to give Him a triumphal entry, waving their palm branches, and shouting their hosannas — the same crowds who five days later would either desert Him or shout for His death.

Thursday night He had Pass-



"Christ Mocked" by French artist Millet pictures in classic style a theme for Holy Week meditation.

over dinner — the Jewish religious national feast like a combination of our Thanksgiving and Fourth of July — and told His twelve apostles, "With all my heart I have longed to eat this Passover with you before the time comes for me to suffer. Believe me, I shall not eat the Passover again until all that it means is fulfilled in the kingdom of God."

Then He took the bread and the wine and said those awe-inspiring words which change lifeless bread to the Bread of Life and told the apostles, "Do this in remembrance of me."

Has ever a command been so faithfully kept as that one!

Despite our failures as Christians in so many ways, at least we still "do this" as the Lord told us to.

It must have been close to midnight when Jesus ended His conversation, His last with His

friends on earth, and went off to Gethsemani, a garden just outside the city's walls.

The Passover full moon, the warm spring air, the amber glow of lamps in hundreds of windows where families were still celebrating the Passover feast, the age-old chants telling of God's loving care for His people — all these gave little

indication of the plot that even then was about to erupt.

Then, while Jesus was at prayer, the gates of hell had their hour, swinging open to flood the Holy City with curses and traitor's devilry and lies and, at last, the blood of the Saviour and the death of God.

St. John, youngest of the twelve apostles and the only one who didn't desert the Lord at the Cross, brings the story to a close, "In the place where he was crucified, there was a garden containing a new tomb in which nobody had yet been laid. Because it was the preparation day (for the Sabbath) and because the tomb was conveniently near, they laid Jesus in this tomb."

But really the story doesn't close with the closing of the tomb. To those who have faith, there is yet to be Easter.

—Father Henry A. Atwell

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