

Orthodox To Meet In Vienna

Athens — (RNS) — Archbishop Ieronymos of Athens, Greek Primate of the Orthodox Church, said here that a Pan-Orthodox Conference will be held in Vienna this fall at which a working committee of representatives of all Orthodox Churches will prepare an agenda for a "summit" meeting of all heads of Orthodoxy.

The "summit," which will probably take place during 1968, will attempt to unify the views of the autonomous branches of the Church, particularly on ecumenical activity, Archbishop Ieronymos told Religious News Service.

Preparations for the meeting now in the planning stage include not only the Vienna conference but a tour by Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras, spiritual leader of Eastern Orthodox, who will visit Orthodox patriarchs in Moscow and three Eastern European countries before visiting Pope Paul in late October.

The movement to consolidate internal unity and consensus among Orthodox Churches concerns more than their participation in ecumenical activities and particularly the development of closer relations with the Roman Catholic Church, though these are the aspects that have received the most general attention.

The meeting here of the Archdiocesan Council of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America was a significant step in the movement toward closer Orthodox unity. One of the Council's first actions was a vote to hold next year's Clergy-Lay Congress in Athens.

The Congress, chief policy-making body of the archdiocese, had originally been scheduled to hold its next biennial meeting in Chicago.

Archbishop Iakovos of New York, Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church in North and South America, said that the purpose of holding these meetings in Athens was to strengthen ties between the Greek Orthodox in the Western Hemisphere and in Greece.

Excavations To Begin at Wailing Wall

Jerusalem — (RNS) — Excavations which may eventually lead scholars to parts of the original Temple of King Solomon will begin at the Wailing Wall, Judaism's most sacred shrine, Israeli officials announced here.

When Israel captured Jerusalem's Old City from Jordan, Jews were given access to the Wailing Wall for prayers for the first time in nearly two decades. Now, after consultations among government officials, religious leaders, archaeologists and archaeologists, the Wailing Wall will also be made the site of scholarly excavations.

It is estimated that the wall now visible on the surface stands atop some 20 tiers left from former structures. The part of the present wall immediately above ground is said to be a remnant of the Second Temple, begun by King Herod the Great and completed only in 64 a.d., six years before it was destroyed by a Roman army.

King Solomon's temple, which was destroyed by the Babylonians in 587 b.c., occupied the same site and remains of it are believed to lie far below the Wailing Wall under tons of debris. The present excavations are not expected to get as far down as King Solomon's Temple, but they will probably lead to further excavations at the site.

Question Bus Safety Evanston, Ill. — (NC) — The American Academy of Pediatrics has called for strict safety standards on school buses in the wake of a 75% increase in injuries on the buses in the last five years.



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A Family Retreat

Hamilton, Mass. — (RNS) — Mr. and Mrs. John Regan of Mahopac, N.Y., and their six children are among 150 families attending vacation retreats at the Carmelite Retreat House in Hamilton, Mass. The Regan children are: Mary, Michael, Anne, Brendan, Kathleen and Patrick. With the family at left is Father Elliott Egan, O.Carm., of the Carmelite Retreat House in Oakland, N.J., on loan to the Hamilton program. Family retreats have been held by the Carmelites since 1953.

'Open Circle' Replaces 'Pyramid'

Savannah — (RNS) — The Roman Catholic Church is finding a "new form" which is not a novelty nor an invention but a correction, Archbishop Paul J. Hallinan of Atlanta said here at the installation of Bishop Gerard L. Frey of Savannah.

He criticized the old view of the Church as a "pyramid" with the Pope at the top, the laity on the bottom and other layers including bishops, priests and religious descending in between. According to the Second Vatican Council, he said, the bishop should not occupy a place near the top of a pyramid; he should be "in the midst of his people as one who serves."

He spoke at a consecrated Mass in Savannah's Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, in which the bishops and abbots of the Province of Atlanta participated. Protestant and Orthodox representatives attended the ceremony.

The Church's "new form is a

rediscovery of the Gospels — what God wants His Church to be," Archbishop Hallinan said.

"In other times, other shapes may have been effective, but in a world grown used to self-reliance, dialogue, involvement and the democratic way of life, the pyramid concept of the Church just will not do," the archbishop said.

He added that a radical, far-flung, internal reformation is going on today in the Church. "Out of the ideas, the dialogue and the interaction that make up our daily fare, out of the guidelines of Vatican II and the theological studies and sociological surveys which have followed it — a new Catholicism is being born."

"What is the shape of things to come? A great deal more freedom, much flexibility. And lest these two conditions might destroy the skeleton and flesh of our faith, we need a growing

loyalty to Christ and these He chooses to carry out his will — laymen, religious, priests and bishops."

The old "pyramid" idea, he said, "was symmetrical, pleasing to look at, easy to understand, but it was closed, and tight, a little too smug, a little too secure."

"It failed to catch the high spirits and daring of fire cast upon the mountain, a fishing boat setting out from shore, a net cast into the sea. The shape of the pyramid satisfied the eye, but not the mind and certainly not the heart of man."

The archbishop commented, "We might find many figures of speech to describe the new shape of the Church, to replace the pyramid. Perhaps the phrase 'Open Circle' defines it best."

"In the Last Supper of da Vinci, the open circle is indicated by the central figures, the

high priest, Christ, turning on either side to His apostles, speaking with them in every day dialogue, feeding them with the sacrament of His body and blood, climaxing the eucharistic sacrifice. There is nothing closed or tight or pyramidal in this scene."

"In fact it has been observed that for centuries, priests turned their backs on their people at Mass in sharp and ironic contrast to our High Priest, Christ, who stood in their midst, sharing His presence, words and even Himself with them. I recall no artist who ever painted a Last Supper that had Our Lord facing the wall."

New Archbishop Vatican City — (NC) — Pope Paul has named Bishop Jorge Manrique Hurtado of Oruro, Bolivia, as the new archbishop of La Paz, Bolivia, to succeed Archbishop Abel Isidoro Antezany Rojas, C.M.F., who resigned last April.

'Latent Seeds' of Devotion

Lisbon — (RNS) — A statement issued at the conclusion of the Fifth Mariological Congress here declared that while the conference was not intended to solve theological questions concerning devotion to the Virgin Mary "there is much to be said to affirm the historic foundation of the Marian cult."

At the same time, the statement pointed out that although Scriptural and traditional origins of the Marian cult were discussed at the congress, its aim "was not a theological explanation" of the Church's teachings regarding Mary.

"Some latent seeds of veneration of Our Lady," the statement said, may be found in the New Testament, particularly in Luke 1:8, where Mary says, "henceforth all generations will call me blessed."

However, it continued, "this veneration should be understood in the sense that Elizabeth called Mary 'blessed and fortunate.' The foundation of this veneration is the fact that Mary is the Mother of God."

In other Biblical passages, the congress said, "it may be seen how Mary was esteemed by the first (Christian) community. These latent seeds in Holy Scripture are found clearly manifested in the life of the Church, and the writings of the Holy Fathers and others, stressed her excellence in the Second Century."

"In the Third Century, the faithful were urged to imitate her virtues and she was invoked in some prayers."

The statement went on to declare that the Scriptural "seeds" of the veneration to Mary "obtained a progressive expression in the Eucharistic liturgy in the Third and Fourth Centuries, and Mary was associated with

festivities of Christ such as Epiphany, etc."

Following the Council of Ephesus in 431 — which declared that Mary was the Mother of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity made Man — there developed a "new evolution of festivals in honor of Mary," according to the statement.

In its statement, the congress also noted that "it is necessary

to admit that history gave occasions for Christians living with pagans to see the veneration of pagans as heroes and other celebrated national figures."

The Mariological Congress in Lisbon and the 12th International Marian Congress at Fatima were held in connection with the 50th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal.

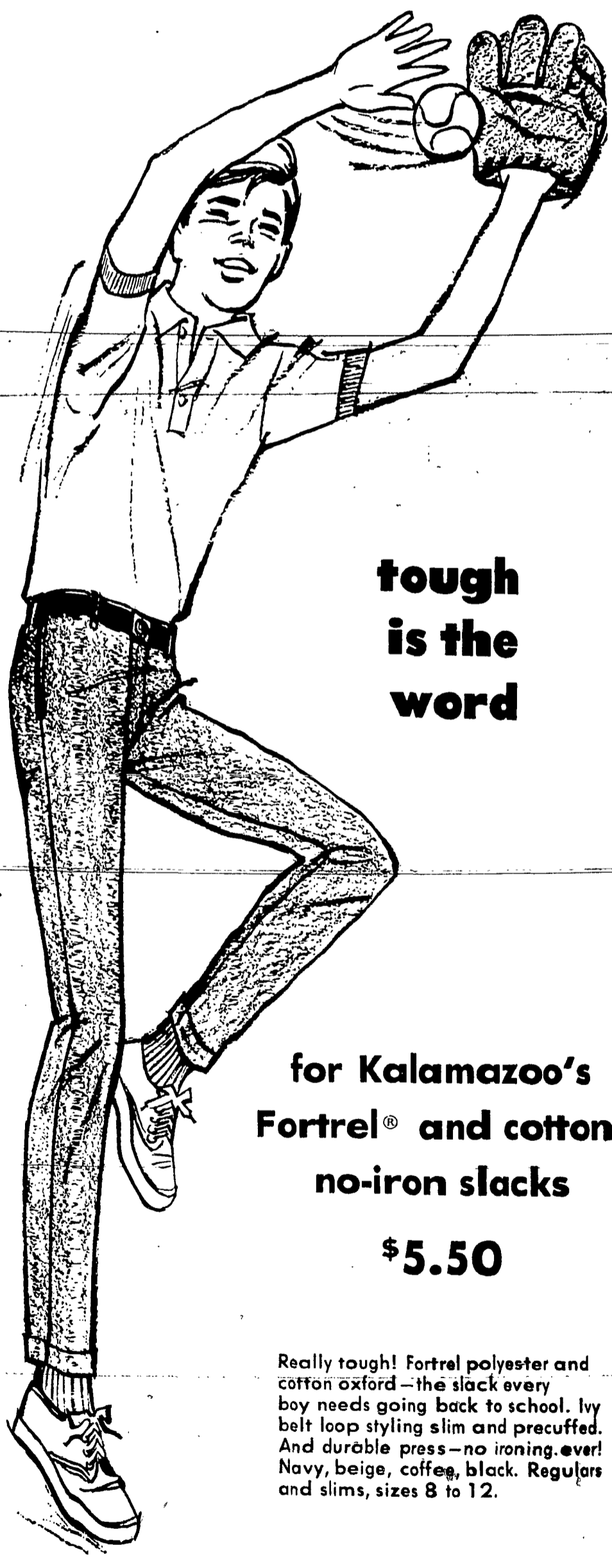
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To Take Out

'Bec Who

New York — At first it would appear that if the one thing the Church does need right now it is an organization that would make transition to laylife easier, priests who want to give their clerical life.

But one such organization called "Bearings for Re-lishment," has in little more than a year produced second thoughts — and some interesting results.

"Bearings" was established by a 35-year-old ex-priest, William Restivo to help those who have left the priesthood their secular bearings; placing assistance in getting a place to live, a temporary aptitude tests, career coun and then a job in which can be happy and product

Restivo's organization given assistance to about men in its brief history, is winning the support of and more priests who had intention of leaving the hood because of its technical methods and goals.

"Several priests, contact for assistance and said were about to hold pressferences telling why they leaving," Restivo said. "W them that if they did th wouldn't help them. The without press conference

One of the major aims "Bearings" is to do away the bitterness and harsh and public scandal that been associated with receditions by some priests t up their priesthood, for ever reason. Besides helpi priests to adjust to the la Restivo said, "Bearings" to help the Church avoid i ing needlessly from the p

Religio On Hu

Traverse City, Mich. — (R Christians, increasingly little consolation in worship prayer, often because of f fears, a Catholic theologian a mixed group of Protesta Catholic clergy and la session here.

Addressing the first Inter-Faith Seminar on R and Contemporary Man, Gregory Baum, O.S.A., s lition is facing a "crisis sacred."

The five-day seminar campus of Northwestern gan College was sponsored by the Grand Traverse oil of Churches and the C Diocese of Grand Rapids.

Father Baum, an August is associate professor o gion at St. Michael's C University of Toronto, ar a theological adviser to b of the Second Vatican C

"Objections to religio longer come only from 'the church,' he said. "inside the church also ha faculties.

"They remember when were consoled by praye worship, but today these mean less to them, even those in the ministry i seminarles."

Father Baum said some estant theologians have pretd this crisis of relig the "death of God," but th have not been helpfu-to in spiritual distress.

"At the same time," h "many Catholic theologisist that religion does n with a special super-world, occupying a pious of man's life, with a d-divine being, far away i other world.

"They insist that the of Christ deals with wh pens in the present wo the center of human l deals not with the 'sp side of life, the pious a-gious side, but with the of man's life, with his as a human being."

People fear to pray, Baum said, because:

1. By being preoccupied a God outside of life, th they are by-passing th problems of life and th responsibility for the fut

2. They fear that pray be an "unreality fact "fantasy" in their live that they thus fail to se real life problems.

3. Prayer to a heaver threatens to make dependent, and they have difficulties growing maintaining maturity.

Along with his growi sions to prayer and w man's appreciation of t has undergone a change, Baum continued. The ness" of God is no long

Festival At Holy Ghost

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