



Bishop Kearney celebrated the Golden Jubilee Mass for Annunciation parish, Rochester, last Sunday, in the new church completed just in time for the festive occasion. An estimated 3000 people at-

tended Masses, many from other parishes anxious to see the new octagon structure with the altar in the heart of the congregation. Bishop Kearney, in his jubilee sermon, pointed out that the jubilee

celebration came during October, month of the Holy Rosary. He described the "Mass of our Lady" — the Visitation her offertory, the Nativity her consecration and the Crucifixion the communion. Mon-

signor Albert Simonetti is pastor of the new church. The parish was begun in 1917 in a cellar chapel, later used a frame structure across Norton Street from present new building.



Did you ever expect you'd see a nun with a banner like that in the background? Sister Helen Daniel of Nazareth College is at microphone to introduce a speaker at symposium at McQuaid Jesuit High School last weekend.

How Stop the People Boom?

Members of the Planned Parenthood organization must still be asking each other if what they heard at McQuaid Jesuit High School last weekend was real.

They heard a procession of priests, nuns and Catholic laymen say the Catholic Church's reasons against birth control were wrong.

No one spoke in defense of the Church's prohibition against it.

The speakers didn't say Catholics could disregard the Church's ban on birth control, however. They simply said they couldn't agree with the reasons Catholic moralists give which label the practice a mortal sin.

The speakers were participants in a symposium, believed to be the first of its kind, sponsored by the Jesuit faculty at the school and the Planned Parenthood League of Rochester and Monroe County. Lectures and panel discussions were held Friday evening and all day Saturday, Sept. 29 and 30.

About 600 people attended the symposium titled, from Pope Paul's Easter encyclical, "Populorum Progressio and the Twentieth Century."

All eight speakers at the symposium discussed in one way or another the worldwide problem of a "population explosion" as well as an individual cou-

ple's need to limit a family's size due to economic, health or social reasons.

Other topics also included in some of the talks were possible revision of present Church opposition to abortion and divorce.

Catholics reared in a tradition which considered all such subjects long since settled by Church authority will undoubtedly say the symposium was an unwarranted "rocking of the boat" — raising hopes which inevitably cannot be realized.

Lending the prospect of possibility to such hopes, however, was a statement presented to the Synod of Bishops meeting with Pope Paul this month in Rome. The statement warns the prelates that atheistic humanism is the greatest single threat to Catholic faith today.

The document does, however, leave the door open for discussion of subjects which are not of the "essence" of faith in order to meet "the difficulties and errors of today."

Pope Paul, in his encyclical issued this past Easter Sunday, which provided the McQuaid symposium with its theme, asked Catholics to join "all men of good will" in order to "open the paths which lead to mutual assistance among peoples, to a deepening of human knowledge, to an enlargement of heart, to a more brotherly way of living within a truly universal human society."

Only by such collaboration, he said, could a solution be found for the world's present troubles.

The McQuaid symposium sought to pinpoint the troubles — and agreed a sky-rocketing population was a major sore spot — and the most effective

remedy — and agreed contraception was a necessary first step.

Whether necessity could be squared with Catholic morality posed the major dilemma for the discussants.

"There is understandably a great deal of confusion about the theological status of the question of contraception," said Dr. John C. Meagher of St. Michael's College, Toronto. Although many Catholics thought the question was "irrevocably closed," he said, Pope Paul, by appointing more than 50 advisers to a special study commission on the subject, "showed himself willing to consider seriously whether it should be reopened."

Dr. Meagher then analyzed in detail the commission's recommendations to the Pope — a majority report advising a change in the Church's present position and a minority re-

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Confidence Betrayed

Fribourg — (RNS) — Publication in Paris of a book containing the confidential papers of the papal commission on birth control has been strongly criticized here by the former secretary general of the commission.

Writing in the Swiss Catholic daily, La Liberté of Fribourg, Dominican Father Henri de Riedmatten declared that "the elementary rules of respect for individuals, for authority and for the truth have been violated and this should be denounced."

The text to Rome after adopting it as the proposed text last June. Laymen in the pews will notice several variations from Canon translations currently printed in their missals. The new text will be published in the Courier prior to the October 22 changeover.

Latin, however, will still be retained in the offertory prayers and the priest's Communion prayers and other minor, silent portions of the Mass. A general revision of the offertory rite is expected to be made soon — so no new translation of the present offertory was asked for.

The switch from Latin to English in the Mass Canon was authorized in a Vatican decree last May, requiring only that a

A tired Pope, his voice repeatedly faltering, opened the first "parliament" of the Catholic Church, asking 182 representatives of the world's bishops for help in combatting the "immense dangers" threatening the Church today.

Bishop Sheen was one of the prelates in Rome for the historic event, appointed personally by the Pope himself.

The bishops there are members of a new Synod, an advisory senate for the Pope.

The Pope has obviously not recovered from an intestinal infection. He appeared weary. His eyes were sunken and deeply circled.

He insisted, however, on celebrating the Synod's inaugural Mass, giving its keynote sermon, and attending its first working session.

The gathering of the elected representatives of the various national hierarchies, he said in his discourse, is designed to rekindle the faith and the charity of the apostles.

He quoted from the discourse of Pope John XXIII in opening the Second Vatican Council, to the effect that its purpose was "to transmit doctrine, pure and simple, without any distortion or any attenuation."

"The solicitude for doctrinal fidelity, which was so solemnly declared at the beginning of the recent Council," Pope Paul said, "must therefore direct our post-Conciliar times."

"More watchfulness is required on the part of those who in the Church of God have from Christ the mandate to teach and spread His message and to guard the deposit of faith."

He said this must be "in proportion as the dangers which threaten her today are more numerous and serious."

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Ailing Pope Warns Bishops:

New Peril to Faith In Post-Council Era



Bishop Sheen and Philadelphia's Cardinal John Krol at Vatican Synod of Bishops.

Pope Paul described these "immense dangers" as those caused by "the irreligious orientation of the modern mentality."

He expressed special alarm at "insidious dangers which even from within the Church find utterance in the work of teachers and writers" whom, he said, are "desirous, it is true, of giving new expression to Catholic doctrine, but frequently desirous rather of adapting the dogma of faith to secular thought and language, than of adhering to the norm of the Church's Magisterium."

"Thus they allow free rein to the opinion that one may forget the demands of orthodoxy and select from among the truths of the faith those

which instinctive personal preference finds admissible, rejecting the others as if the rights of moral conscience, free and responsible for its acts, may be claimed in preference to the rights of truth."

The Synod's first working session was Saturday, Sept. 30. Pope Paul attended the session — including a lunch break when the bishops joined him for sandwiches and coffee.

He voiced his "strong sense of regret" that Poland's Communist officials refused visa permits to prelates from that country for the Synod. He also expressed his intention to curtail his peace efforts to halt the Vietnam war.

Pope Paul told the prelates

he wanted the Synod to advance "the progress in the ecumenical dialogue already underway" and announced that Greek Orthodox Patriarch Athenagoras of Constantinople would come to Rome at the end of October. The bishops, it was reported, applauded this announcement.

The Pope made it clear he also intends to take the Synod seriously. Critics of many current changes in Catholic rites and customs had hoped the Synod would have nothing to do but rubber-stamp decisions already made. The Pope said he wasn't going to get involved in technical details of whether a Synod is exactly like a Council or not—he simply said it has "great authority" and, he hoped, "the charisms of wisdom and charity."

A document prepared by Vatican officials prior to the Synod was given the bishops, telling them the Catholic faith is beset by a powerful enemy — atheistic humanism.

To meet the challenge, the faith is to be proclaimed with greater emphasis on "those things which pertain to its essence" and in such a way that it can be made clear "for the men of our day."

The document admitted that present day atheism "could contribute to purifying, if necessary, our ideas about God and also to rendering urgent our testimony in the world today."

The bishops next tackled the Synod's actual agenda — five topics listed for their discussion and advice.

First topic was the long-recommended revision of the Church's canon law — a collection of over 2000 regulations, many with heavy penalties for violation.

Synod sessions are technically "secret" but an official and somewhat noncommittal press release provides clues for unofficial but allegedly "well informed sources" to report in greater detail.

Pope Pledges U Thant Help in Peace Work

United Nations — (RNS) — Pope Paul VI has offered to collaborate with Secretary General U Thant in efforts to bring the war in Vietnam to a peaceful solution, the United Nations has announced.

The pontiff made it clear, however, that he did not have any plan or initiative of his own to offer. Instead, he said that he hoped that a basis for a peaceful solution of the Vietnam conflict might emerge during the current session of the U.N. General Assembly.

In his message, Pope Paul spoke of his profound satisfaction at the news that "new initiatives are underway, or are being planned, for the purpose of establishing a basis for an honorable and peaceful solution of the problem."

Such a hopeful basis was understood to have been Mr. Thant's decision to bring the visiting foreign ministers of the United States, Britain, France and the Soviet Union together in order to break the diplomatic log jam on Vietnam talks.

Mass Canon in English on October 22nd Communion from Chalice for Laity

The last major remnant of Latin at Mass will change into English in U.S. Catholic churches Sunday, October 22.

The historic Canon of the Mass, said in Latin in its present format since the fifth century, will now be said, as most of the rest of the Mass, in the language of the people.

Catholics will now hear the words of consecration and the prayers immediately before and after this most solemn portion of the Mass, in English — in a new translation authorized by the Vatican this past week.

The American bishops sent

the text to Rome after adopting it as the proposed text last June.

Laymen in the pews will notice several variations from Canon translations currently printed in their missals. The new text will be published in the Courier prior to the October 22 changeover.

Latin, however, will still be retained in the offertory prayers and the priest's Communion prayers and other minor, silent portions of the Mass. A general revision of the offertory rite is expected to be made soon — so no new translation of the present offertory was asked for.

The switch from Latin to English in the Mass Canon was authorized in a Vatican decree last May, requiring only that a

nation's bishops submit their proposed vernacular text to Rome for approval.

That same decree eliminated the numerous signs of the cross and genuflections and other repetitive prayers or rites of the Mass.

A SECOND Vatican directive that same month, effective August 15, opened the door to lay people to receive Holy Communion frequently under the two forms of bread and wine.

"Holy Communion, considered as a sign, has a fuller form when it is received under both kinds," the directive states. "For under this (twofold) form the sign of the Eucharistic banquet appears more perfectly," the directive stated.

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Don't Miss These . . .

Joe Breig is back. His column will again be a regular Courier feature. See page seven.

A teacher for every classroom — the lady who made it possible. See page six.

'Fairness to Children' campaign to rid New York State of nineteenth century bias — articles on pages 7 and 20.

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