

First 365 Days

Bishop Sheen takes the occasion of his first anniversary as Bishop of Rochester to share his thoughts on the past year, his aspirations for the days ahead.

To others it may seem that much has been accomplished in a year, but to me it seems so little. If I examine a painting by candlelight the lines might seem well defined and the colors well chosen. But if it were brought under the light of the sun, many imperfections and crooked lines would be revealed. So it is in the shepherding of a diocese. On the surface the year's work may have seemed fair. But in the light of the Son of God, one feels like Peter prostrating before the Lord, "Depart from me O Lord, I am a sinful man".

"I sought not yours but you" (2 Cor. 12/14). I have had hours during the year when I should have spent myself more and been spent; I see sheep outside the fold which should have been shepherded; I see the poor unattended, and the Inner City is a reproach to all I preach and believe. So often we bishops say, "During my regime, I built twenty churches, ten schools and three hospitals". But who built them? You did. You the laity. It was "your ten cents and his ten cents" which lifted them from dreams to bricks. So with Paul I must ask myself: "What have you that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if it were not a gift" (1 Cor. 4/7).

More important still, what could be accomplished in a diocese without our good and zealous priests? I came into a field already richly planted so that "I reap where I have not sowed" (Mat. 25/56).

But bear with me! We hope to do much more as time goes on. Next year we will celebrate our one hundredth anniversary as a diocese. We have plans to do this not just in banquetings and feasting but by a spiritual and moral regeneration that we may "walk worthy before the Lord" (Col. 1/10).

We promise you, with the help of your prayers, to be a more worthy servant. "It is because we realize the paramount importance of the spiritual that we labor and struggle. We place our whole confidence in the living God, the Savior of all men, and particularly in those who believe in Him" (1 Tim. 4/20).



Ponders New Role

Bishop Sheen, who has been scholar, lecturer, TV-Radio Speaker, mission fund-raiser, reflects on his present role — Shepherd of a Diocese



Concern For The Poor

Bishop Sheen has set a personal example in caring for the poor. Here, he ladles soup to one of the evening guests at St. Joseph's House of Hospitality.

Peace Activity is 'Effect of Love'

Bordeau, France — (NC) — Action for peace is "an effect of love" that Christians "have to advocate and adopt," said Paul Cardinal Richaud of Bordeaux.

In a pastoral letter addressed to the Catholics of his archdiocese to call their attention to the Week of Peace (Dec. 10-17) Cardinal Richaud recalled the words spoken by Pope Paul VI during his 1965 visit to the United Nations: "Never again war!"

The cardinal asked: "Have all Christians really rallied to this cry? Why do many have difficulty in subscribing to it? How many see in it only a sentimental formula? For many, the Pope lacks realism and his instructions border on utopia."

The cardinal mentioned that, on the contrary, action for peace is realistic. "Everything," he said, "that is an obstacle to it delays true solutions. The equilibrium of the world is ceaselessly upset by hatred and combats. To pretend to settle conflicts by wars is to cause them to be reborn. We have had the sad experience of that. They succeed one another indefinitely."

ly. They multiply and beget one another."

Asking whether or not the ideal of the Gospel is possible to realize, Cardinal Richaud said:

"Let us recognize . . . that the present conditions of mankind should favor its application. Admirable modern discoveries have simplified communications between men. Mutual understandings should normally be easier . . . The play of the democratic spirit and the growing influence of public opinion strengthen the pressure of collective hopes. A convergence of wills should be possible."

The Inside Story

In the Courier-Journal's two sections this week, you will find:

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Bishop Leads Diocese On Road To Renewal

Bishop Sheen was installed as Bishop of the Rochester Diocese just one year ago today (Dec. 15).

Things have happened. Bishop Sheen has often stated that he wants Rochester to be a model diocese, styled and moved by the spirit of Vatican II Council.

He has indicated the shape of this spirit by a series of vigorous innovations which have touched every level of diocesan life.

Three touchstones of Bishop Sheen's brief but bold regime have been:

- Concern for the poor;
- Updated seminary training;
- Delegation of episcopal authority.

The new Bishop has manifested his concern for the poor in several ways. His personal presence is the most obvious of these—among the first churches he visited were three of Rochester's inner city parishes.

He quickly appointed a "vicar for the poor," Father P. David Finks, whose civil rights activities as an inner city curate were well known. Father Finks' official title is Vicar for Urban Ministry.

(An Episcopal Vicar, a new rank created by Vatican II Council, is a priest acting as a delegate of the bishop in some special field.)

Bishop Sheen also announced a "tax" on all new construction in the Diocese, proceeds of which would go to "the poor of the Diocese and the poor of the world." He made it clear, too, that he had another aim in mind — to discourage expensive church buildings.

Only this week he challenged business, industry and union leaders to restore the decaying houses of the inner city. Addressing a management seminar arranged by Rochester Institute of Technology, the bishop called for volunteer labor, skilled and unskilled. He asked business and industry to supply materials.

"With the managerial know-how," he said, "it is likely that 30 per cent of these dilapidated

houses could be made fit for human habitation within the course of a year."

"We, who are not living in these conditions can wait for their correction," the bishop commented. "They who are living in these conditions cannot wait."

The former national director of the Society of the Propagation of the Faith has by no means limited his vision to the inner city. Early this summer, he established a "Secular Mission," to reach those not normally touched by parish ministries in the rural areas.

He sent three talented young priests into this untitled vineyard, and hopes to augment their number in the future.

Seminary Changes

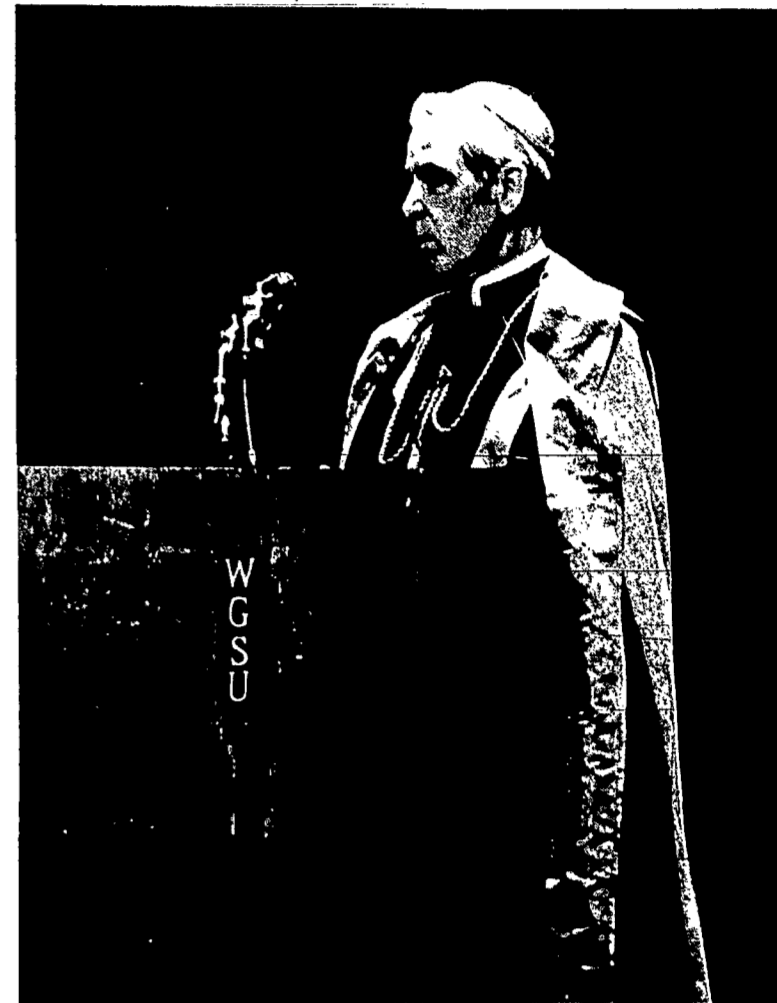
The diocesan institutions which have felt the forward thrust of Bishop Sheen's hand most have been the seminaries. He stated in his early days here that the training of future priests was a vital work, that it must be attuned to the needs of the times.

The most startling step taken toward this goal was the transformation of St. Andrew's Seminary, which included the high school years, into an entirely new concept — King's Preparatory.

King's Preparatory is now a co-educational high school geared to producing "Christian leaders," whether lay or clerical. Bishop Sheen stated that he hoped it would attract a "spiritually elite" student body — "eagles who want to rise above dull conventionality."

St. Bernard's Seminary, the major seminary, has also undergone a major updating. The program aims at a fourfold emphasis: spiritual, intellectual, pastoral and psychological.

Bishop Sheen lent a personal hand in attracting a number of talented experts in various fields to the seminary faculty this fall. He invited Douglas Hyde, famed ex-Communist and Catholic social action leader, to be a guest lecturer this semester. He welcomed Dr. Conrad Massa, pastor of Rochester's Third Presbyterian Church, to the Homiletics (preaching) department of the faculty.



In spite of a heavy schedule at home, Bishop Sheen still fits in time to tape his nationally-beamed TV show.

Four psychologists, either as teachers or as resource guides, joined St. Bernard's staff. Two veteran priests with young ideas, one a pastor, one a missionary, became the spiritual directors.

In addition, the Bishop has recently appointed a lay advisory board for St. Bernard's, to assure the Catholic laity a voice in the way their priests will be trained.

St. Bernard's has "opened up" in many ways, including a many-faceted apostolic program now available to the students. Today's St. Bernard's men can be found visiting jails, developing area youth programs, interning in social agencies and helping build neighborhood improvement associations. This is linked to an academic program well grounded in fundamentals, but

honed in to the problems of 1967.

If there has been no radical change in the college division of the seminary, Becket Hall, it's because that branch has been a pioneering venture ever since its inception two years ago. Becket students have a residence hall adjacent to St. John Fisher College, take a full part in the scholastic and extra-curricular life of that school.

A Sharing of Power

While displaying a youthful energy that belies his 72 years, Bishop Sheen has shown no desire to keep all the reins in his hands. He has developed his own diocesan "collegiality,"

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Macao Reds Rap Catholic Schools

Hong Kong — (RNS) — Communist attacks on Macao Catholic schools have resumed with added virulence.

Student unions are now "covering" the enclave's streets with posters, in Chinese and Portuguese, attacking Bishop Paulo Tavares of Macao and his refusal to allow study of Maoist teachings in Catholic schools.

The students say he has by his attitude brought events concerning St. Joseph's College to a more serious phase and has extended the issue to all Catholic schools in Macao. "We, the Patriotic Students of Macao," a statement said, "are determined to continue to follow the teachings of President Mao and to mobilize, organize and make our fight to defeat Tavares' new offensive. We will not cease our efforts as long as we do not obtain total victory. We again warn Tavares he must accept immediately and totally the three just and serious demands formulated by this Union and desist in his machinations and in his crafty ways."

Trouble with the students began last May when the Leftist Students Union lodged a protest with St. Joseph's College about the removal, six months earlier, of a Mao badge from the lapel of a student.

They then demanded severe punishment for the teacher involved, freedom to conduct "patriotic" activities in the school, and a guarantee that no "National Chinese or United States agents" should in future be employed as teachers in the school.

Catholic school authorities finally dismissed the teacher who had barred the Mao badge but refused to permit political activities at St. Joseph's College.

On his return from abroad in August, Bishop Tavares expressed his wholehearted support of the stand taken by the school's principal. Furthermore, he warned students at the beginning of the school term that if they wished to study in a Catholic school they must conform to its rules and regulations, one of which banned the

study of the "thought" of Red China's leader.

This statement was published in two Portuguese language Catholic papers, both of which were subsequently suspended for 15 days by the Portuguese government.

Since Student Union leaders had gone to Peking for the Oct. 1 National Day celebrations there was no immediate Communist reaction to this statement. On their return, however, the attacks started again. Anti-Catholic tracts were distributed

and the bishop's residence was attacked.

A truce was called to all Communist activities before and during the annual Grand Prix in Macao but now the attacks are being renewed—and more violently.



What Color Is Santa Claus?

Santa Claus has no color to a child at Christmas — this was the theme of Together Magazine/New York Area edition, a Methodist publication. (RNS Photo)

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