

**Jesuit Helps Spring American Pilots Imprisoned in Hanoi**  
— See Page 3

# The Catholic COURIER

Journal

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE

**Parents Clued In On School Program For Sex Education**  
— See Page 5

79th Year

ROCHESTER, N.Y., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1968

Price 15 cents

## Thomas H. O'Connor Retires; Veteran Courier Newsman



A FOUR DECADE FIXTURE in Rochester's Catholic Press field, Thomas H. O'Connor wrote "30" to his long newspaper career this week.

Thomas H. O'Connor, a 44-year veteran of Rochester's Catholic press, is retiring from the Courier-Journal.

Mr. O'Connor, 74, has been with the Courier since 1932. Previous to that, he worked for eight years on the Rochester edition of the Catholic Echo, which originated in Buffalo.

"When I joined the Echo in 1924, I thought it would be for just a year," he smiled reminisciently this week. His venture into the Catholic press field turned into an editorial apostolate that covered more than four decades.

Handicapped by failing eyesight in recent years, Mr. O'Connor continued to come in a few hours each day. For the past two years, he had managed to handle the obituaries, the "25 Years Ago" and "Forty Hours" pieces and on occasion, polish

## Bishop Is Honored by Synagogue

New York — (NC) — Bishop Fulton J. Sheen of Rochester, N.Y., and Msgr. Timothy J. Flynn, pastor of Holy Family Church here, were honored by a New York synagogue for their efforts on behalf of brotherhood and ecumenism.

Bishop Sheen received a brotherhood award from Mount Neboh Congregation here. The award, an illuminated parchment scroll encased in a red leather binding, opened with these words from Psalm 133:

"Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

Dr. Edward Jacobs, president of the Metropolitan Conference of the National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods, conferred the award on Bishop Sheen, who hailed recent advances in ecumenicity within Christianity, and commented on the growing rapprochement between Jews and Christians.

Msgr. Flynn, who is also director of the Catholic Center for the United Nations, was presented a bronze figure of Jesus. The figure will be placed in the Pope John XXIII Library at Holy Family Church.

### 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.

off a "looking backwards" article on days of yore. This week, he retired for good.

Nineteen years ago, at a dinner honoring Mr. O'Connor for a quarter century of service in the Catholic press, Monsignor John S. Randall, managing editor of the Courier, called the

quiet, unassuming newspaperman, "the anchor man and the balance wheel" of the paper's staff.

That tribute remained a reality until the day he pulled the final sheet of copy paper from his battered typewriter (Continued on Page 5)

## Around the Globe

### Mission Hazards Growing

Sudden, violent death in Vietnam has dramatically underlined the precarious position of missionaries in many parts of the world.

Two French priests were gunned down in Hue last week while on their way to help some Vietnamese nuns in a danger zone. The military apparently had authorized the errand.

Six missionaries were killed in a Communist attack on the leprosyarium of Ban Me Thout. Two more were seriously wounded and two reported missing. The facilities were "totally obliterated," according to the Christian and Missionary Alliance. The agency later evacuated 48 women missionaries and 45 children from Vietnam. Fifty male missionaries remain.

The mission station apparently was chosen deliberately as an object of attack. Four of the missionaries' bodies were booby-trapped to increase casualties.

The attack apparently was a calculated exercise in terrorism that may mean the Communists are planning to make missions in exposed positions a special target.

Elsewhere, recent attacks on missionaries have been largely verbal. Macao, Portuguese enclave on the coast of Red China, has been the scene of intermittent Communist demonstrations against mission schools for more than a year.

Not all opponents of missions are Communists, however. In Syria, where all mission schools were confiscated late in 1967, Islam and pro-Communist elements presented a united front against Christianity.

Some nations oppose missionaries selectively, such as Malawi, which is presently expelling foreign members of Jehovah's Witnesses.

In South Africa, white missionaries frequently have been assailed and sometimes expelled for opposition to the nation's racial policies.

Missionary policy in the Sudan reflects the nation's division between the Islamic and Arab-orientated North and the non-white South, where most natives are Christians or adherents of African religions. In recent years, all missionaries gradually were expelled, but a small number have been allowed to return in the last few months. The present policy of the Sudan seems to reflect a view that Islam and Christianity must cooperate against their common enemy, paganism.

India, proud of its own ancient religions and suspicious of Christianity because of its as-



New York — The Rev. Robert Ziemer, 49, of Toledo, Ohio, was among three men and three women missionaries killed by the Viet Cong at a leper mission compound operated by the Christian and Missionary Alliance at Ban Me Thout, South Vietnam. Mr. Ziemer's wife, Marie, was seriously wounded in the attack. The other slain missionaries included another clergyman, a nurse and staff workers.

sociation with former colonial powers, has restricted the entry of missionaries for years. Recent developments have led to even greater restrictions. Virtually all missionaries have been expelled from the Mito Hills district of Assam, scene of a revolution by tribesmen who seek to establish an independent state.

In Spain, where about one half of one per cent of the population is Protestant, the new religious freedom law was amended to prevent non-Catholics from seeking converts.

## Cardinal Lercaro Resigns His See

Vatican City — (NC) — Pope Paul VI has accepted the resignation because of age and health of Giacomo Cardinal Lercaro, 76, of Bologna.

Cardinal Lercaro resigned last month as head of the Vatican's Consultative Commission for implementing the Second Vatican Council's decree on liturgical reform.

## Draft Policy Rapped

(NC News Service)

Officials of two of the nation's largest Catholic universities have attacked the recent curtailment of graduate student draft deferments.

Father Paul C. Reinert, S.J., president of St. Louis University, said the policy would "set the country back many, many years."

He said 40% of his university's graduate students—except for the medical and dental students exempted by the order—would be drafted within a year.

This, he said, "will mean a drop in tuition income of between \$500,000 and \$1 million."

Georgetown University academic vice president Father Thomas R. Fitzgerald, S.J., said the financial consequences of the new policy "could be catastrophic."

He said 15% or 20% of Georgetown's 900 first-year law and graduate students could be drafted. The figure could go as high as 30%, he added.

Both priests also noted a hidden danger in the new ruling: the loss of significant numbers of graduate students will damage the undergraduate programs because there will be fewer graduate assistants available to run laboratories, grade examinations and otherwise aid professors.



Larry Coppard and Sisters Josepha and Kieran talk over report of day's work.

## Nuns in Urban Ministry

# They Go Where The People Are

By MONICA REEVES

Instead of black serge and starched white celluloid, they wear wash and wear navy blue from Bruck's Uniform store.

Instead of a class of 10-year-old 5th graders, they now serve people of every age grouping — from the tiny tot with the runny nose down the street to the elderly gentleman living out his last years in Kennedy Towers.

Instead of a convent with its properly stiff parlours and crocheted dollies, they live in a rented house on Hawley St. where they come and go as they like and do their own cooking and cleaning—when there's time.

"They" are Sisters Josepha and Kieran, and a Mercy nun, the other a Sister of St. Joseph. Their turf—with its tiny tots and Kennedy Tower residents and house on Hawley St.—is the Third Ward. Needless to say—there's rarely any extra time.

When Father P. David Finks, vicar for Urban Ministry, asked last June for two full-time nuns to work out of his inner city office, both the Mercy Sisters and the Sisters of St. Joseph volunteered a recruit for the job. This itself was an idea out of the ordinary. Sisters of different orders would be

pounding the pavements of some of Rochester's roughest neighborhoods without a nearby convent to return to at day's end.

Instead of fixed hours and supervision by a superior, Sisters Kieran and Josepha would set their own hours and play it by ear as their jobs demanded. They'd be working with and living among the people in their inner city neighborhood. As Sister Josepha says, "You've got to go where the people are."

### On the Job Training

The pair have been working with Larry Coppard, Community Minister at Immaculate Conception parish as part of their training for the jobs they will assume in June in the office of Urban Ministry.

Father Finks had this to say: "In that whole Third Ward Ministry this year we have a workshop, an experiment to see in what ways the Church — clergy, sisters and lay people — can meet the needs of the people in the community that the ordinary Church structure doesn't touch. The sisters are involved with an in-service training program which will enable them to take really new directions. Their ministry is an example of the Church trying to find out — with great humility — how to serve the community. It listens to the people and asks how they might best be served rather than coming in with the idea of changing the community's way of life. This is the obverse of the old colonial missionary idea. The sisters' work

is an attempt to learn how we can cooperate with the community."

To realize this end, the sisters have thrown themselves into Community Ministry work. Sister Josepha is coordinator of an Ecumenical Religious School operating in three sites: Immaculate Conception, Emmanuel.

(Continued on Page 5)

## New Bishops For Two Sees

Washington — (NC) — Pope Paul VI has made the following appointments in the hierarchy of the United States:

Bishop John J. Carberry of Columbus to be archbishop of St. Louis.

Bishop Paul F. Tanner, general secretary of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops and of the United States Catholic Conference, to be bishop of St. Augustine, Fla.

The Holy Father's actions were announced here by Archbishop Luigi Raimondi, Apostolic Delegate in the United States.

Bishop Carberry succeeds to a See left vacant by the death of Joseph Cardinal Ritter on July 11, 1967. Bishop Tanner succeeds to a See left vacant by the death of Archbishop Joseph P. Hurley on Oct. 30, 1967.

St. Louis was erected as a diocese on July 14, 1820, and has been an archdiocese since July 20, 1847. It has a Catholic population of 518,142 in a general population of 1,928,295, according to the latest Official Catholic Directory.

Bishop Tanner's new see was made a vicariate apostolic in 1857 and became the diocese of St. Augustine in 1870. It has a Catholic population of 109,946 in a general population of 3,401,392, according to the latest Official Catholic Directory.

## Fish Again On Fridays

The old-fashioned Friday abstinence from meat binds us all again one week from today.

The no-meat regulations which used to bind on all Fridays are in force for each Friday of Lent.

Ash Wednesday, on Feb. 28 next week, and Good Friday, April 12, are days requiring both fast and abstinence, the only two days left in the year when Catholics are obliged to abstain from meat and also fast by limiting the quantity of food eaten in the day.

Bishop Sheen's letter calling for special penitential observance of Lent is printed on page four of this issue.

## Courier Changes Coming

The renewed COURIER promised two weeks ago with the announcement of a new editor is slowly developing. The new look and new features we hope to offer to attain our goal of a more-readable and instructive force will soon be in your hands.

The debut-day will be in mid-March. Please be patient and hopeful.

Aiming at a broader and deeper reflection of the life of the family of God, your new COURIER will combine news and opinion, insight and outlook, worldly scholarship and other-worldly spirituality. Keep your subscription going to be with us right from the first issue.

## ON THE INSIDE

Conditional Ordination Rocks Ecumenical Boat — page 2	
Bishop Sheen Offers Prescription for Fruitful Lent — page 4	
Easy Abortion Series, Part 3 — page 6	
Around the World . . . . . 3	School News . . . . . 11
Probing the Word . . . . . 3	Sports . . . . . 13
Editorial Page . . . . . 4	Classified Ads . . . . . 14
Around the Country . . . . . 7	Spectrum of Opinion . . . . . 15