

COURIER-JOURNAL

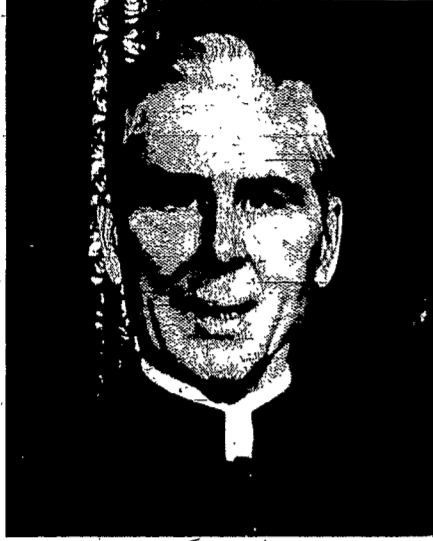
NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

Vol. 79 No. 25

Rochester, N. Y.

Price: 15 Cents

Friday, March 22, 1968



My dear People:

The role of bishops in the Church is changing. Previously, they were regarded as administrators. But Vatican Council II gave primacy to the pastoral office over administration. As the Lord washed the feet of His apostles, so the bishop is to be the servant of the priests and the people.

The role of auxiliary bishops must also change. The auxiliary bishop was generally assigned as pastor to a particular parish, given the burden of administering confirmation, attended conventions the Ordinary wished to avoid, ordained seminarians to minor orders, and in general functioned only in assigned areas.

In the new order of things the auxiliary bishops are not to be mere aids to the Ordinary. They are the multiplied Presence of Christ the Shepherd in the diocese.

They shall not be pastors of parishes and for that reason, an auxiliary should not be assigned to a local church.

Auxiliary Bishops Dennis W. Hickey and John E. McCafferty will relinquish their respective parishes of St. Theodore and Holy Rosary in June, Bishop Sheen announced at the Pastoral Office today. Their replacements will be named in the annual June assignments.

Both bishops will live in their own residences apart from parochial responsibilities in order to be free "to serve the people of every parish and the priests of the whole diocese," Bishop Sheen said.

Bishop McCafferty will live in the Southern Tier and Bishop Hickey in the Rochester area.

The ring the auxiliary wears is not to signify that he is wedded to one parish, but to the Church and all its parishes in the diocese. This is in keeping with his twofold episcopal duty: First to teach, sanctify and guide all the souls in the diocese, and second, to remain in unity with the world-fellowship of bishops through the Vicar of Christ.

As every priest is the Presence of Christ, Teacher, Priest, and King in the parish, so every bishop is to reflect that triple function of Our Lord in the whole diocese. Freedom to exercise a special ministry — within the common ministry of the people of God, is the vocation of a bishop.

Our ministry as bishops is not that of status or position; rather it is functional, self-emptying, and restless for service, ever at a point of contact with the world and the Redeemer of the world.

Freed from a local church to serve all the churches of a diocese, our auxiliaries Bishop Hickey and Bishop McCafferty will be free to preach the Word whenever and wherever they desire, and at all times to be the pastor parvorum, to be the open door for all priests and the people of God.

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.

Our Overseas Aid Funds Are Hitting the Target

Dollars given for the Bishops' Overseas Aid Fund get plenty of mileage, a Rochester priest who should know stated this week.

This money, used to back the Catholic Relief Services (CRS) program, gets careful husbanding, said Father Robert Meng, who has that responsibility in the new African nation of

Dahomey. (Pronounced Dah-Ho-Mee.)

(Catholics of the Rochester Diocese will be contributing to the Bishops' Overseas Aid Fund Appeal in special collections at their parish churches this Sunday, March 24.)

Relief programs run under CRS direction are carefully supervised, with the aid getting to the recipients as efficiently as possible, Father Meng

noted. The Rochester priest, presently on loan from the diocese for CRS work, spends much of his time doing just that.

"I am out in the bush regularly, going over our aid programs with mission personnel, checking their needs, making sure the aid is reaching the people who need it most," he explained to the Courier-Journal this week.

(Home for two weeks vacation after 18 months in Africa, Father Meng ac-

counted the value of the Bishops' Overseas Aid campaign by detailing the situation he sees daily in Dahomey.

The little West African nation has some 2.3 million people in an area the size of Pennsylvania. In a continent made up of new and often poverty-stricken countries, Dahomey has one of the most uphill struggles.

With little industry, less capital and without the trained skills of the French colonials who left the coun-

try when it became independent in 1960, Dahomey has to fight for its economic survival.

Between bad water (not enough wells, piped water system, etc.) and unhygienic living conditions, the Dahomey health picture is a painful one. Almost one of every two children born dies before the age of five.

Doctors estimate that 90% of the people have worms, which tend to (Continued on Page 2)



Rebels Snatch Latin Prelate — City Shaken

By JAIME FONSECA

Guatemala City (NC)—Sharp political repercussions have followed the kidnapping here of Archbishop Mario Casariego of Guatemala by terrorists whose identity remains a mystery.

Reacting to the latest development in the clandestine war being waged against the regime, the government imposed a virtual state of siege.

This meant an effective take-over of the country by the army. All police forces have been placed under direct military command, all political activity forbidden, and security forces given the right to search and seize persons and property without warrant.

United Press International reported Thursday at press time that Archbishop Casariego had been released by his abductors after four days of captivity.

Immediate details of his release and his condition were not made known.

A leading newspaper commented editorially that the prelate apparently had been kidnapped to exert political pressure on the government.

Priest Advocates New Procedure For Confession

A strong recommendation for deferring children's first Confession until after their first Holy Communion was given to priests of the diocese by a liturgy expert this week.

Father John Corrigan, secretary of the National Liturgical Conference, addressed clergy conferences in Elmira at St. Joseph's Hospital on Tuesday and in Rochester at Sacred Heart Cathedral on Wednesday. The other speaker on the "Sacrament of Penance" topic was Father John Wagner of St. Bernard's Seminary faculty.

Children should be admitted, after due preparation, to Holy Communion when they are in the second grade, Father Corrigan suggested.

Their introduction to the Sacrament of Penance should be in the third grade, but through a public Penance celebration rather than private confession, he continued.

In the fourth grade, the Washington, D.C., priest went on, children should be given the opportunity of private confession if they so desire, but the custom of group celebrations of Penance should continue.

In making his case for public celebration of Penance, Father Corrigan stressed the notion that sin is "an offense against the Christian community as well as against God."

In the early Church, he reminded his clerical listeners, the Sacrament (Continued on Page 2)

Bishop Walsh Dies, City Alumnus

Bishop Emmet M. Walsh of Youngstown, Ohio, a member of "the famous class of 1918" at St. Bernard's Seminary, died last Saturday (March 16) in a Youngstown hospital after a long illness. He had passed his 76th birthday—10 days before.

Elevated at 35 to the episcopacy in 1927, he was the youngest U.S. bishop of that time.

Bishop Walsh served the Youngstown diocese from 1949 until illness forced his retirement in January, 1966. He had been bishop of Charleston, S.C., from 1927 until 1949.

The class of '18 at St. Bernard's, numbering 51 priests, produced five bishops of whom Bishop Walter A. Feery of Syracuse is the sole survivor.

Monsignor Joseph Grady, vice-rector of the seminary, and Monsignor Leo Smith, lately retired as pastor of Good Counsel Church in Rochester, also were graduated with that class.

The other bishops were the late John J. Boylan of Rockford, Ill.;



BISHOP WALSH

Matthew F. Brady of Manchester, N.H., and Francis P. Keough of Baltimore.

Bishop Walsh worked for more than a quarter of a century on ad-

ministrative boards of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, forerunner of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops and the United States Catholic Conference. For 10 years he was chairman of the NCWC legal department.

In the Charleston diocese, which encompassed all of South Carolina, the bishop built four hospitals and 25 churches and saw a 25 per cent increase in Catholic school enrollment during his tenure, the number of parishes. In the Youngstown diocese schools increased from 58 to 82; the enrollment, from 17,500 to 41,000. More than 31,000 public school-pupils were brought into an intensified Fraternity of Christian Doctrine program and twenty-one new parishes were founded.

Bishop Walsh was born in Beaufort, S.C., the eighth in a family of 11 children, and was brought up in Savannah, Ga. He spent five years in parish and mission work in Georgia before his appointment as bishop.

The funeral was held yesterday in St. Columba Cathedral, Youngstown.

Dutch Bishops Face Decision on Catechism

Rome (NC)—The bishops of the Netherlands have to decide what to do about revisions recommended for the new Dutch Catechism, and this puts them in a "difficult situation," according to a theologian who worked on the changes.

Dutch Redemptorist Father John Visser, interviewed here, said he foresaw possible opposition from the Catechetical Institute of Nijmegen, which wrote the catechism originally and was not represented, finally, on the board that revised it. His remarks were published in Vita, a Rome weekly.

Father Visser spoke of "errors" in the original text, not "heresies," as some critics had done.

"Heresy is a very strong word," he said. "In our case we are speaking of presenting to the faithful a sure guide of the teachings of the faith, a preaching of the Christian message, and to do this responsibly does not only call for freedom from heresy."

As for "errors" contained in the text, Father Visser preferred to say: "One is not dealing so much with clear and positive errors but rather with modes of expression of speaking (or of omission) which do not relate

to the sure doctrine of the Church, or which give only a partial sense, leaving aside important elements or passing over them in an improper way."

A group of theologians named by a Cardinals' commission submitted their report in February to the Dutch bishops.

Father Visser said:

"It awaits the bishops to decide if they are to accept the result... and to seek to convince the Nijmegen Institute as well, or to put themselves in conflict on one side or another.

Their word will be decisive, given that the catechism was drawn up in their request and issued with their express approval as a sure guide.

"The right, then, of authorizing translation is theirs; and it is principally because of the announcement of these translations that it became a question involving the universal Church. And I believe that the universal Church may obtain great good from this catechism, its excellent and original character will not be absolutely diminished by the alterations already done and deposited in the hands of the Dutch bishops."

Bishop Sheen On Courier Goals

The mission of the Courier-Journal was described this week by Bishop Sheen:

"To Christianize the press, correctly interpret facts in all phases of life and make a Christian evaluation of all that happens."

"We pledge ourselves not to be negative, but positive; not just to make news out of those who break the Ten Commandments, but also news out of those who keep them."

"We promise to move creatively and spiritually with the hope that the Word may be made Press."

(The Bishop's message is on page 6.)