



Mass In New York's Central Park

A Roman Catholic guitar, or folk, Mass was celebrated in New York's famed Central Park. It marked the first time Mass was said in the park since it was opened 110 years ago. The occasion was a visit to the Manhattan vicariate by Archbishop Terence J. Cooke. Top left is a view of the audience, numbering around 12,000 persons, among them 5,000 parochial school children. Upper right are three students of Cathedral College, the archdiocesan minor seminary, strumming their guitars as they accompanied the congregation. (Religious News Photo).

Archbishop Cooke at Folk Mass

'A Glad Generation, Not a Sad One'

By Religious News Service

New York — A Roman Catholic Mass was celebrated in New York's Central Park for what diocesan authorities here said was the first time since the famed park was opened in 1858.

An estimated 12,000 persons — 5,000 of them pupils of 153 parochial schools — gathered in the Central Park Mall for a guitar, or folk, Mass which was consecrated by Archbishop Terence J. Cooke with 12 monsignori and priests.

The archbishop praised the younger generation for its exuberant and hopeful spirit. "This," he said "is not a sad generation; it is a glad generation."

After Mass, 14 priests moved with ciboria to various parts of the Mall to distribute Holy Communion while the choir chanted a Communion hymn.

At the end of Mass, Archbishop Cooke, wearing his mitre and carrying his pastoral staff, moved up and down the rows of park benches to greet the children, their teachers, and the great number of adults present.

Adding to the drama was the fact that Archbishop Cooke was joining a small number of other American prelates who have officiated at a guitar Mass.

Three students from Cathedral College, the minor seminary of the New York archdiocese, strummed

Is Jerusalem Really United?

Jerusalem — (RNS) — How united is the reunited City of Jerusalem?

This question hovered over debates in the municipal council as plans were discussed for a religious observance on May 28 celebrating the city's reunification. The council, overruling a plea by Mayor Teddy Kolek, voted against allowing a public committee, sensitive to the feelings of Jerusalem's Arab population, to plan the event.

The council supported Vice Mayor Yehub Cohen's contention that Jerusalem is "a Hebrew city" and that Mayor Kolek was showing excessive regard for the Arab minority. It approved plans for the observance and appropriated \$28,570 to finance it.

Jerusalem Arabs, mostly Moslem but including some Christians, pointedly stayed indoors during the massive Independence Day parade on May 2. Many of them are still bitter over the military defeat which led to the reunification of Jerusalem and the May 28 celebration is expected to increase bitterness.

The high point of the celebration will be a massed prayer service at the Wailing Wall. Military leaders from the Arab-Israeli war last year will be specially honored.

guitars as they accompanied members of the seminary's glee club and the vast congregation in the singing of the melodious refrains that have become a staple of folk Masses.

One was the meditation chant called, "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love," which contains this plea for Christian unity:

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord.

And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

In his sermon Archbishop Cooke stressed the conviction that "it is possible for men everywhere to live

as brothers, to be one family, to help each other in every possible way."

"At home," he said, "Americans are separated, sometimes by color, by race, sometimes by religion, and sometimes by wealth, and this is most unfortunate. But we hope that this will not be the case in the future."

Alluding especially to the young people in the congregation, he emphasized the need to preserve the spirit of hope, saying:

"If you don't have hope, it is impossible to play in any ball game. The spirit of hope is necessary in human endeavor. It is true that we have many problems, but that is why we have young people — to figure them out."

New Labor Front Presses For Change in Guatemala

By JAIME FONSECA (NC News Service)

Guatemala City — The launching of the Frente Obrero Campesino (FOC), a 40,000-strong movement of farmers and industrial workers, adds additional strength to the forces pressing for social revolution in violence-ridden Guatemala.

Many observers believe that the Christian-inspired FOC might be the last hope for a radical but bloodless change in the working and living conditions of 80% of the families in this country. Thus far, it is a step forward in labor representation after years of repressive measures.

Among the seven nations in Latin America, Guatemala has the lowest degree of development but one of the highest cost of living rates.

"The existing power system—large land-holding groups, government politicians, army, business — has managed to weaken labor. Except for the village organizations, a few trade unions and some professional guilds, there has been no intermediate organization to defend the citizen from abuses from above," Luis Mata, a lawyer, said.

Meanwhile, some 1.5 million breadwinners, many of them women and children, eke out a subsistence living. Their yearly average income is between \$15 and \$400, with the majority earning under \$200, even though the national per capita average runs close to \$300.

They have been ruled by a group making up only 10% of the population. A struggling middle class, uninterested in the social problems — save for a few youths and professional men — makes up only 8%.

Guatemala does not produce all the goods it needs for consumption and

development, therefore it spends on imports large sums of dollar earnings. These earnings are low to begin with, because the limited exports — mostly cattle and crops — are controlled by a small group, in turn subject to risks in international markets.

This group, rather than reinvesting, can freely spend money in luxury goods, trips abroad, or simply fatten deposits in foreign banks. A defective tax structure and public administration also contribute to this drain of wealth. However, some corrective measures are expected, both from internal pressures and from the new makeup of the Central American common market.

Except for a few Church leaders, and of course the Marxists, no one seems too eager to challenge such conditions. Many efforts for change are called "dangerous" and "subversive." In such a political climate extremists of the right and the left have profited in recent months.

The establishment of the FOC as a left-of-center movement with experienced leaders is, therefore, well timed. It might also bring closer together some sectors of labor and capital. There are some signs of this already.

Much of the new social awareness comes from the Christian Family Movement and the Cursillos de Cristiandad (Short Courses in Christianity), which have succeeded in drawing rich and poor closer.

The new attitude is aided also — and in no small measure — by the bands of young rebels from wealthy families who have joined or helped the guerrillas.

Catholic Education Expanding in England

London — (NC) — The policy of Catholic education in England and Wales is to expand, said Archbishop Andrew Beck, A.A., of Liverpool, head of the Catholic Education Council.

Catholic schools here now enroll more than 655,800 Catholic children. The council's policy is to increase that number, which represents at present only 67% of all Catholic children.

The schools have been costing Catholics some \$9.6 million a year, which from a Sunday Mass-going population of over 3 million "does not seem unattainable," the archbishop added.

"The policy of the Catholic body . . . is the traditional one of seeking to provide places in Catholic schools for as many as possible of the Catholic children in the country," he said.

Proposals in some Catholic quarters that strictly denominational schools inside the state system should not extend beyond the primary stage (up to the age of 11), allowing Catholics at higher levels to benefit from contact with other Christians and also with non-Christians, will continue to be debated for many years, the Archbishop said.

The new financial conditions granted by the government last year providing a state grant of 80% toward the building of all Catholic schools inside the education system should enable Catholics to meet future building commitments, Archbishop Beck added.

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Sit-In At Marquette University

Demonstrator holds door in attempt to prevent guests from leaving Pere Marquette Day dinner on the campus of Marquette University in Milwaukee. Father Thomas J. Stemper, director of alumni affairs, points an accusing finger at the student-demonstrator. Sit-in leaders said they were protesting what they termed the university's lack of concern for the "plight of the black man." Two students were arrested when the police broke up the demonstration. (Religious News Service)

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