

# Diocese Will Receive Ten New Priests on June 1

(Pictures on Page 2)

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"I sign you with the sign of the Cross..." Bishop Sheen said more than 300 times last Sunday as he confirmed two large groups of adults in Rochester. Here he reaches to put holy oil on the forehead of a member of the class at Sacred Heart Cathedral. The Bishop holds a crozier (a crucifix on a metal staff) in his left hand and wears the peaked cap of gold cloth called the mitre. Sponsors in the second row have placed their hands on the shoulders of the candidates.

### 337 Adults Confirmed Here

Two large groups of adults were greeted as "converts in historic times" when they received the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop Fulton J. Sheen in solemn ceremonies last weekend.

The Bishop confirmed 337 men and women: 215 in Sunday afternoon services at Sacred Heart Cathedral and 125 at St. Ambrose Church in the evening. Nearly all of those confirmed are converts, having entered the Church in the past year.

"The spiritual renewal of the Church in our times will come through the laity," the Bishop prophesied. "As the laity saved the Church in centuries of heresy and schism, when often even Bishops and clergy fell away from the faith, so today's lay people are bulwarks for the Church in her troubles."

Explaining that "every conversion shows an invasion of divine grace," Bishop Sheen challenged the confirmation classes to question "Why did God choose me?"

"Conversion requires great gifts

#### Diocese to Get 10 New Priests

Twins from Watkins Glen are among the 10 St. Bernard's men who will be ordained for this diocese this week.

Bishop Sheen will conduct the rite Saturday noon, June 1, in Sacred Heart Cathedral. First Masses, in home parishes the following day, will be celebrations.

Two men from outside the diocese will be ordained by Bishop Sheen for the Capuchin Order of Friars Minor. Twenty others in the class of '68 will be ordained in their home dioceses. (See story, pictures, on Page 2.)

from God that a human may be elevated to a new understanding of His mystery. Conversion takes each of us

into a partnership with God Himself for a new and more fruitful kind of life."

Recalling the 4th century times of the Arian heresies, the Bishop said that today there is also "a decline of spirituality, a deterioration of traditional faith and an erosion of the integrity of the priesthood and religious life. The laity must work for the spiritual revival of the Church not only in this diocese, but in the whole church."

"The hand of God will move in you to these crucial times because today the Holy Spirit will come into your lives to leave seven great gifts for your intellect and will."

"Respond to the calls from your parishes and the diocese when lay helpers are needed for the work of Christ, especially as teachers.

"St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans pictures the Holy Spirit, which you have received today, as a defense against sin, a teacher of prayer and a transformer into Christ. Beg that Spirit to sanctify, watch over and save us all."

### American Priests Organize New National Association

By WILLIAM RYAN (NC News Service)

Des Plaines, Ill. — Delegates from throughout the United States have put together a historic national organization of Catholic priests which they expect will give them a more effective voice in shaping the affairs of the Church.

The 233 delegates unanimously approved a constitution for a national Federation of Priests Councils, which welds together the senates and associations of priests which have taken root in nearly all U.S. dioceses since the Second Vatican Council.

The senates are groups of priests, partly appointed by the bishop and partly elected by the priests, which consult with the bishop on the broad pastoral concerns of the diocese. An association is an independent organization of priests begun by the priests themselves to represent their views.

Some dioceses have both senates and associations.

Four priests from the Rochester Diocese were delegates to the founding convention. Fathers Thomas Brennan and Paul McCabe represent of the Priests' Council; Msgr. Charles Boyle and Father John Skvorak represented the newly-organized Priests' Association of Rochester.

Delegates here represented 127 such councils — 20 associations and 107 senates — from 104 dioceses throughout the country. 114 of the councils voted to affiliate with the national organization; the others deferred membership for the present time; none rejected it. Those affiliating with the new national organization claimed they were representing also 40,000 priests, about two-thirds of the priests in the nation.

The purposes of the federation, as

stated in the constitution, are:

— Giving the priests' councils a representative voice in matters of concern to the Church in the United States and to problems facing the nation, including racism and poverty;

— Improving communications among priests from all parts of the country;

— Coordinating programs of research and making recommendations for action on these matters;

— Cooperating with the laity, Religious and bishops in meeting the needs of the modern Church.

The delegates voted almost unanimously to give a strong hand to a 27-member executive board with the understanding that the board will be accountable to a "House of Delegates." They also said regional meetings must be held once a year.



THE GRADUATES. Four proud possessors of CCD teachers' certificates pose with their "diplomas" last Sunday evening at Sacred Heart Cathedral. From left are: Mrs. Ronald Zibelli and Mrs. Richard Beatson, both of St. John of Rochester parish; Jo and Dan O'Neill, a husband and wife team from Assumpti on parish.

### 811 Lay Catechists Certified By CCD at 3 Diocesan Meetings

More than 800 lay catechists were certified by the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) in three separate ceremonies in the diocese this week.

The 811 adults who had completed a 30-week teacher training course in 16 centers were honored in ceremonies in Rochester's Sacred Heart Cathedral on Sunday; in Horsehead's St. Mary Our Mother Church on Monday; and in Seneca Falls' St. Patrick's Church on Tuesday.

Bishop Fulton J. Sheen presided at the Horseheads ceremony; Auxiliary Bishops Dennis W. Hickey and John E. McCafferty presided at the Rochester and Seneca Falls rites, respectively.

The newly qualified catechists were commissioned by the bishops, in a specially prepared mandate to "go forth in the name of the Church, to teach the students entrusted to you, to love them in and for Christ, allow-

ing the Spirit of Christ to work through you."

The "commissioning" rites highlighted concelebrated Masses offered with the bishops as principal celebrants. Priests who had taught the courses concelebrated.

Reception of the certificates, Bishop Hickey noted Sunday evening, marked the culmination of many sacrifices by the adults who had taken the course. "The time, the effort, the study you offered," he told the graduates at Sacred Heart Cathedral, "are a tribute to your generosity."

He pointed out that the work of religious formation was an important part of the prophetic role of the "common priestly character, which we all share through Baptism and Confirmation."

Certificates numbering 468 were awarded at the Cathedral ceremony; 173 certificates were given out at Horseheads to adults from the South-

ern Tier vicariate; and 170 people from the Eastern vicariate received certificates in the Seneca Falls ceremony.

Monsignor Albert H. Schnacky, diocesan director of the CCD program, stated that 34 priests and 34 sisters provided the teaching faculty for the 16 centers at which the bumper crop of new catechists were trained this year.

#### N. Vietnam Restricts Catholic Priests

Rome — (RNS) — Catholic priests in North Vietnam are free to offer Mass in churches, but are not allowed to move from one city to another without police permission, according to an Italian Radio report.

It broadcast the comments of Father Than Van Laung of the University of Hue in South Vietnam, who came here for meetings with Vatican officials.

#### LCA College to House Catholic Students

Statens Island — (RNS) — Wagner College, a co-educational school affiliated with the Lutheran Church in America, has agreed to "house and board" 44 students of Notre Dame College, a Catholic school for women.

Announcement of the plan was made following a meeting of trustees from both institutions. The new arrangement, it was explained, will allow the 400-student Catholic institution to inaugurate a residence program. Notre Dame will enroll its first residence students in September, and plans completion of a dormitory the following school year.

Wagner College has about 1,100 residents among its total enrollment of 2,700. The colleges are about a half-mile apart.

### The Pope's Trip to Colombia

#### A Fistful of Implications in Decision

By FATHER R. A. GRAHAM, S.J.

Vatican City—(RNS)—There is a fistful of long-range and short-range implications in Pope Paul's decision to go to Latin America in August for the International Eucharistic Congress in Bogota.

He was quite candid in admitting that he gets many invitations which he cannot possibly accept, but the future may provide otherwise. He saw in these foreseeable papal journeys the sign of greater unity and catholicity.

It remains to be seen whether governments will always like to see a world personality of the stature of the Pope of Rome moving freely from one part of the world to another, disturbing, as may well be the case from their point of view, the delicate equilibrium of national or regional social and political life.

The immediate objective of the Pope at Bogota must be linked with his concern for the crisis of faith that is now passing through the Church—in the Eucharist for one. "It is the affirmation of the Eucharistic mystery," he said, "that takes us there."

He wanted, he said, to express in an unambiguous way the faith of the whole Church, in the three-fold sanctifying power of the sacrament, that is, the memory of the passion of Christ, the real presence and its pledge of future life.

Pope Paul referred to various currents in present-day Catholic opinion which minimize the role of the Eucharist. He spoke of "the ineptitudes, the ambiguities, the errors from which suffer certain sectors of our generation in respect to the central mystery of our altars."

The Second Conference of the Latin American bishops will meet immediately after the Congress. The Pope will arrive in time to preside over the closing ceremony of the Eucharistic Congress and will stay long enough

to be present at the opening of the bishops' meeting.

You will have to go a long way back into history to find a precedent. It is a startlingly impressive sign of the Pope's personal interest in the crisis through which the Church in Latin America is now passing.

Conspicuously missing from the Pope's announcement was any allusion to the political or, better, socio-religious, aspects of his visit. He mentioned only his regret that he could not accept all the kind invitations sent to him from various other countries of the Latin American hemisphere.

#### The Progress of Peoples

### Education: The Key to Wealth

By BARBARA WARD

It was during the Second Vatican Council that Church leaders began to come to grips with a completely new fact about the Christian community. This fact is, quite simply, that little by little over the last century and at accelerating speed since 1945, the bulk of Christians have come to live in societies which are very rich, are growing richer and promise to continue the process on into any foreseeable future. The only exception to this rule is found in parts of Latin America.

Otherwise most Christians live in the wealthy, largely white, mainly North Atlantic areas of the globe and share in wealth which, in 1967, had passed the \$1,500,000 million mark and was growing by some \$60,000 millions more each year. Wealth

on this scale is about equivalent to 80% of our planet's income — for less than 20% of its people. Indeed, their annual rate of increase alone is larger than the entire income of India or Africa.

This has never happened before. Throughout recorded history, the wealth of nations has fluctuated with good and bad harvests, with changes in population pressure and the vicissitudes of conquest.

There were no very sharp differences in riches between continents, provided they had left primitive agriculture behind and started to enter into world trade. North Africa and the ancient Kingdoms of Guinea were not light years away from the wealth of Southern Europe. Asia even outstripped medieval Europe in sophisticated riches and products — spices,

silks, precious stones and metals — and this was the magnet that pulled western merchants eastwards. But the mass of rural people did not live at very different levels of well-being and renaissance Courts had their matching splendors in the East.

It is science and technology, applied through savings or capital to the production of goods, that have revolutionized the world scene over the last two centuries. They increase wealth persistently because they allow men to produce what Professor Buckminster Fuller has defined as "the more for less" — more wheat, by way of machines and fertilizers, for less input of labor and investment, more power by way of steam and elec-

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