# Common Bible': What It Would Mean for Catholics | Wishing Well

(The author of this article is a U.S. priest who is assistant to Augustin Cardinai Bea, S.J., president of the Vatican Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity, for biblical ecumenical matters. He is the Vatican Itaison officer with the United Bible

By FATHER WALTER M. ABBOTT, S.J. (NC News Service)

Shortly after the close of Vatican II, Pope Paul encouraged the predominantly Protestant Bible Societies to take seriously the possibility of collaboration with Catholics when he gave Augustin Cardinal Bea, S.J., and the unity secretariat a mandate to study implementation of the Vatican II decree on the Bible, which recommended cooperation with "the separated brethren" in translation of

Up to now, the only Bible accepted by all churches, and therefore worthy to be called common, has been an ediof the Greek New Testament based on the best manuscripts.—Agreement—on—im-

critically established by modern interdenominational scholarship has been assured by establishment of an editorial committee of Catholic and Protestant scholars.

The term "common Bible" has been used in recent years to describe not a fact but a hope namely, that the various Christian denominations and Jewish scholars would be able to agree on a translation of the Hebrew and Greek texts which would be acceptable to their various consti-

The "common Bible" provided for in the document published by the Vatican and the United Bible Societies will contain agreed translations of all the biblical books including the deuterocanonical texts, which most Protestants call "Apocrypha." The order of the books, however, will not be the same as that found in Catholic Bibles.

The arrangement of the books in a Bible is simply a disciplinary matter which a Pope can alter for good reasons. Pope Paul VI's reasons



Dear Friends,

When the school year is over many POP groups drift into a summer slump. Labels accumulate in kitchen drawers or worse yet, are tossed into the wastebasket by normally watchful housewives. Plan a strategy to offset this possibility in your POP group. As we suggested last week, make sure that school children and club members have an up-to-date list of POP products, and that a convenient drop-off point for labels is provided. This will make label-saving an easier task for all. During the summer an occasional reminder in the church bulletin or group newsletter will jog the memory of those inclined to forget. Also, that POP Sticker placed in the neighborhood food store will serve as a reminder To Shop POP and To Save POP Labels.



Besides being the month of brides and graduates, June is also National Dairy Month. Milk (including butter, cheese, etc.) is at its production peak at this season of the year. Watch for Dairy Month specials at your local store, partisularly that tried and true Land O'Lakes Butter. It's used as a prime ingredient terfaith Commission on Mar. principles, not as sectarian reli-

Real Scotch Shortbread

2 cups flour 6 oz. Land O'Lakes Butter

Lightly butter 11 x 7 baking pan. Knead flour, butter and grams but cautions that introsugar until soft and pliable .Press-into pan Bake at 400 F duction of sex education in the for 30 minutes. Remove from oven and allow to cool. If desired, schools presents a "most dif-"frost" with a melted bar of sweet chocolate spread over cooled ficult problem." shortbread. Cut into finger length pieces.

A second excellent dish with which to celebrate Dairy are representative of Protestant, Month is another with "international" flavor and one which Jewish and Catholic organizagives you a chance to use a Prince product. It's a perfect com tions, issued the statement Carol Frances, B.V.M., of Munplement to meat loaf, fish or broiled lamb chops.

Swiss Noodle Casserole (serves 6 to 8)

2 cups commercial sour cream

8 oz. Prince Noodles 1/2 Ib. Swiss cheese (grated)

Thl. Worchestershire sauce

1 medium onion, grated or blender chopped 1 Tsp. Land O'Lakes Butter

Salt and pepper to taste Corn flake crumbs

Boil and drain noodles. Saute onion in butter until dard, sociology professor, New with the mentally retarded, golden; mix onions, sour cream, Swiss cheese, Worchestershire sauce, salt and pepper with the noddles. Pour into a buttered Ann Lucas, chairman, psychol-small groups. casserole (12 x 8) and cover with corn flake crumbs. Dot with ogy department, Farleigh Dickadditional butter. Bake one hour in a 350 F oven.

Speaking of butter and Prince, did you know that in New York City public relations for the celebration of marriage and the wedding Mass, services addition to its Italian foods—pasta, sauces, grated cheese—executive. Prince also makes superb butter cookies? These come in over 100 varieties, flavorful and attractively shaped. (For weight watchers there are 20 varieties of sugar- and salt-free Diet that responsibility for sex edu-Cookies.) Prince Cookies are packed in deluxe decorator tins cation belongs primarily to par- baptism, especially the liturgiin 1, 2 or 3 pound assortments, and in 2 pound and 5 pound ents or guardians. It states that cal catechumenate, and rites of trays. These varied and gally-decorated taste treats make a delightful gift or a highly tempting addition to your own the young, but entails a life-long tea table or other spread of party foods.

Although Prince Butter Cookies are not usually available in ordinary retail stores, they can be ordered directly from the more communication of information company. For price and other information, just call 454-7040 mere communication of infor-(Mr. Meisenzahl, manager) or write The Prince Macaroni Commation," the statement continpany, 429 State St., Rochester 14608. Be sure to identify your ues. "Rather, this significant self as a POP enquirer. Our advertisers appreciate your interest area of exeprience should be in all their products.



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Labels from All the Products listed above will be accepted for the Entire Fourth Game — that is, from April I thru September 30, 5 768. However, WATCH THE COURIER FOR FUTURE

### Guidelines Established

Vatican City-(RNS)-Agreed norms for joint Catho+ lic-Protestant Bible translations have been issued by the United Bible Societies in conjunction with the Vatican's Secretariat for Christian Unity.

The document, released simultaneously in London and in Rome, is entitled "Guiding Principles for Interconfessional Cooperation in Translating the Bible." It was worked out by an inter-conffessional group under the sponsorship of the two agencies and suggests procedures and principles to facilitate the production of "common" or joint Bibles, acceptable to both Catholics

The United Bible\_Societies links 35 national Bible societies currently working in 150 countries. The Secretariat for Christian Unity, headed by Augustin Cardinal Bea, undertook cooperation with the Societies under the direct authority of Pope Paul VI in the light of recom-

In the official release it is stated that "Although that "Although the agreement does not specify the types of translations to be produced, there is a common concern both among the Bible Societies and in Roman Catholic circles, that versions of the Scriptures should be as far as possible in the living current language of the people. and based on the best scholarship available in all Christian

of books to be found in the "common Bible" reflect the new spirit of respect and esteem for other Christians."

In the same spirit the Protestants in the Bible Societies were willing to include the deuterocanonical texts in a common Bible wherever Catholics request them provided the order already mentioned

Some people thought it would be hard for the different denominations to decide what explanatory notes

for approving the new order | should be introduced in the "common Bible." but this problem was solved rather

> Catholic Church law requires such notes in all Catholic editions of the Bible. Vatican II added that these notes should be "necessary" and "adequate" to convey the meaning of the Scriptures and to express their "true

The Bible Societies, following a general trend among Protestants, have usually produced Bibles with no notes at

### Commission's Findings:

# Sex Education Mainly Home Responsibility

Washington -(NC)- The In-recognize certain basic mora riage and Family Life has gious doctrine but as the moral heritage of Western civilizaissued a statement on sex edu-tion. cation, which advocates more effective sex education pro-

Commission members, who (June 6) after a series of bi-delein College, Chicago, was monthly discussions in New elected chairman of the Sub-

the commission include Father
James T. McHugh, director,
U.S. Bishops' Committee on the Family Life Bureau, United Liturgy. States Catholic Conference; Msgr. William McManus of the New York archdiocese's family clude: Forms for the celebration life bureau; Dr. Margaret Be- of Mass in groups of children, inson University, Rutherford, N.J., and William Maughan,

"It is important that sex eduplaced in a setting where rich human, personal and spiritual values can illuminate it and give it meaning In such a set-

# Liturgy Panel

Washington — (NC) — Sister committee on Liturgical Adapta-Catholic representatives on tion, a consultative body to the

Matters under discussion in-

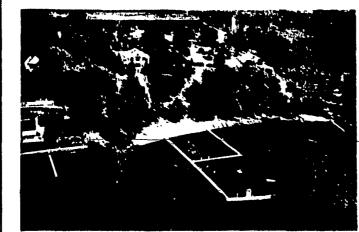
Also, liturgy for parish missions and related services, rites of reconciliation, anointing o The statement underscores the sick, catechetical prepara-

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JOYS NO. AGES Certain Weeks May Be Combined To Form A 2 WK. Encampment

oldest societies called for Bibles "without note or com-

In conferences between the Bible Societies, - Cardinal Bea's secretariat and the Pontifical Biblical Commission, it was seen that requirements of the Catholic Church and of the Bible Societies could be met in common Bible publications by having aids for readers that avoid controversy. This solution now has the approval of the highest Catholic authority and all 35 national Bible So-

The common Bible envisage ed in this document will be the work of Catholics and Protestants combined in the following committees: 1) Working Committee, which does the basic translation work; 2) Review Committee, made up of experts in exegesis and style who will check the translators' works; 3) Consultative Group, consisting of 25 to 50 persons (Catholic bishops and other Christian leaders) who will review the work for approval of their Churches.

Will it work? Can these groups always agree as they translate the various books of the Bible? Only one project has published its work in part, but it is a stunning proof that the job can be done. The French common Bible project, which involves practically all leading Catho lic and Protestant biblical scholars who speak French, produced agreement not only on the translation and notes but also on a great amount of interpretation.

It is no secret that some of the fundamentalist groups look at all this collaboration and agreement with some apprehension. They fear there may be a Roman plot afoot to tamper with the Scriptures, to infiltrate Roman Catholic doctrine into text or notes, and gradually to take over the Bible Societies.

This, however, overlooks fact that the guiding principles copublisheda -ptherthe ples co-published by the Vatican and the UBS apply only to editions of the Bible where cooperation of Catholics and Protestants is desired and agreed upon. The blueprint in no way affects existing

all. The constitutions of the editions of the Scriptures, such as the King James Version which some fundamentalist groups regard as the only acceptable English trans-

> The Bible Societies can, and no doubt will, continue to provide Bibles with neither deuterocanonical texts nor notes for all groups that request them, just as Catholic publishing houses can, and no doubt will, continue to produce editions of the Bible with the books in the Tridentine order and with notes that give copious catechetical or homiletical material.

It is likely, of course, that a good common Bible translation in any given language will prove to be immensely popular and will achieve wider circulation than any previous edition of the Scriptures. All who are dedicated to the word of God should rejoice that the message will thus reach more people than ever before.

If the common Bible translation also brings the Churches closer together and makes the Christian message more credible to the non-Christian world, we must surely conclude that it is the work of the Holy Spirit in our time,











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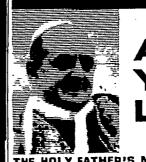
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Dear Friends:

The crisis in the Holy Land is worse. I was there just weeks ago. I thought of you, and I prayed

Easter Monday morning, not far from Amman, I visited a refugee camp where 50,000 new refugees are living in the desert, which is hot. The camp is actually a city of tents, some of them backyard tents like the one we had when we were young. In the kitchen-tent I saw mothers jostling other mothers for food for their children.

Who are these refugees? They are but some of the 1.4 million farmers, teachers, housewives, children who lost their farms, their homes, everything they owned, as a result of the Arab-Israeli wars. Since June 1967 their lives hang in the

IMPORTANCE

I used immediately the check the Holy Father had given me. With his help and yours, we distributed tons of food, clothing, medical supplies. We have given the refugees tents and primitive cooking-stoves. We are teaching youngsters reading, writing, arithmetic, and Religion. So much more has to be done.

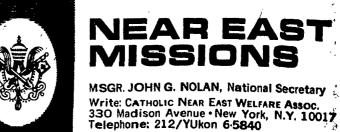
May I ask you again to take part in what we're trying to do? We'll make your gift stretch very,

In Rome the Holy Father asked me to thank you for what you have done already, and he extends to you his "special, fatherly" Apostolic Blessing. I thank you now for your continuing generosity in the Holy Father's name.

In the hands of our priests, Sisters and lay missioners, your gift (large or small) will brighten lives. It will brighten yours as well! Please send something today. Gratefully, Sincerely in Christ,

Monsignor Notan

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Mai

By FATHER VINCENT MALLON, M.M. ( NC News Service)

Caracas, Venezuela \_\_\_ Sadie Hawkins Day all year Venezuela, The country's F Lady continuously campaign legitimize the unions of the sands of Venezuelans who together without the benefit holy wedlock.

Opinion of all shades been expressed privately cerning Mrs. Carmen Ame Leoni's efforts to get Vene lans married.

The matrimony problem

Venezuela is this. A very la

percentage of the poor cla

set up housekeeping with

getting married, for a var Some do not have the documents demanded by complicated government-



# 'War and

New York — (CPF) — Russian-made film version Tolstoy's "War and Peace the longest and most expen movie ever made — has greeted by the National Ca lic Office for Motion Pict as not only "an absorbing matic experience" but alse

"War and Peace," which more than six hours long cost more than \$100 millio being distributed in the Ur States and Canada by the ter Reade Organization.

NCOMP described the f central theme as one shows "that life emerges, and re-emerges in unexpe and mysterious patterns' that "in the grip of nati cataclysm, man still want heal the personal injuries has inflicted on others."

The Tolstoy classic cov the period from 1805 to and centered on four at cratic families and their cer figures: Natasha Rostov, An Bolkonsky, Helene Kura her brother Anatole, and Pi

"Throughout the six h that it takes to trace their through eight years of cri history," said the film of "we are concerned with way in which the human

### LBJ Names Pries To Advisory Pan

Austin, Tex. —(NC)— Fa John E. Walsh, C.S.C., Unive of Notre Dame vice presiden academic aairs, was named 14-member advisory comm on the Teacher Corps by P dent Lyndon B. Johnson.

Purpose of the commi which includes representa of business, labor, associat and foundations, is to help tain the best teachers avail to serve poor children in city rural slum area schools.



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