



## Rumors Abound

### Is Pope Paul Statement On Birth Control Near?

By PATRICK RILEY  
(NC News Service)

Vatican City — The news vacuum created by Pope Paul VI's withdrawal from the Vatican to his summer house at Castelgandolfo has been filled by a rash of rumors that he will soon issue his long-awaited statement on the morality of artificial birth control.

This time the rumors could well be true.

The Pope's "period of study and reflection" has strengthened his conviction that artificial birth control is immoral, according to some well-informed and usually reliable sources in the Vatican.

An equally reliable source stated without reservation that Pope Paul had already prepared a statement on contraception.

Vatican observers noted that in the four years since Pope Paul publicly promised a pronouncement on birth

control, both he and various publications of the Vatican—publications that are unofficial but closely controlled by Vatican officials—have repeatedly stated that the Church's traditional prohibition of artificial birth control remains in force.

In announcing four years ago that the problem of birth control is under study—a study as wide and deep as possible—the Pope said that standards set in this matter by Pius XII must "be considered valid." Pope Pius XII not only condemned the use of mechanical contraceptives but the use of the pill inhibiting ovulation.

In 1966 Pope Paul, reporting that the conclusions of his birth control study group "cannot be considered definitive," declared: "... the norm until now taught by the Church, integrated by the wise instructions of the (Second Vatican) Council, demands faithful and generous observance." He denied that the magisterium is in a state of doubt on the question.



### GI Prays For Departed Buddy

An American GI creates a poignant silhouette as he offers a prayer for a departed buddy. After a Viet Cong attack which caused a heavy toll, the Americans paused to bury their dead. After the burial detail had accomplished its task, the soldier stopped to say a final prayer for a fellow GI before returning to battle. (RNS)

## LBJ Outlines Duties To Birth Control Unit

Washington, D.C. — (RNS) — An 18-member panel on birth control has been asked by President Johnson to return a report to him by mid-November reviewing government policies and programs in family planning and to make recommendations for improvement so all American families may have access to such aid if they want it.

President Johnson urged the panel to obtain cost figures for a five-year program which would provide not only for adequate services, but for continued research and training. This will be reflected in the budget for fiscal 1970.

There are four principal phases to the job outlined for the panel by the President. They are:

1. Ascertain methods of disseminating information on birth control to the present generation, and at the same time making its significance understandable to the generation now rising.

2. Define the government's role, in direct participation, in training and research regarding population problems. This would include programs involving human reproduction's physiology and controlling fertility. This would also involve development of new contraceptives.

### A Look at Teens NOT in Churches

The Area Youth Ministry is an ecumenical organization in northwest Rochester which attempts through varied programs to reach the teenager who is not a church-goer.

Patricia Roesch of the Courier-Journal staff is describing the activities of the youth ministry in a three-part series. Today's installment is on Page 7.

3. Delineate the government's responsibility, cooperating with state, community and private agencies, in seeing that all Americans who want it have access to information and services.

4. Determine ways in which the U.S. can help foreign countries in their birth control problems.

## Brazilian Bishops In Warning

Rio de Janeiro — (RNS) — The Catholic hierarchy of Brazil issued a statement here endorsing non-violent action for social change and warning that without drastic reforms "violence will be unavoidable sooner or later."

At the end of a week-long meeting, the bishops called for "urgent and courageous reforms of mind and structure" to allow full participation in the nation's development by all citizens and to counter-act the spread of "violent situations."

Their statement was the latest of several issued recently by the bishop's conference of various Latin American countries discussing the social problems of the continent.

The themes of development, democracy and poverty discussed in these documents are expected to occupy a major part of the agenda at the full meeting of all Latin American bishops in Medellin, Colombia in August.

Observers here saw the Brazilian bishops' statement not only as a comment on the present tense political situation in Brazil but also as a preparation for the Medellin meeting at the time of the Eucharistic Congress.

"In the Latin American situation," the Brazilian bishops said, "non-violence should be accompanied by an attitude of disagreement with injustices that have become established under one pretext or another."

"This disagreement should be expressed by courageous and constant action to obtain deep, urgent and daring structural reforms as soon as possible."

## 'Men of God' to Be Theme Of Lay Retreat Conference

Washington — (NC) — "Men of God" was the theme adopted by the 40th annual convention of the National Catholic Laymen's Retreat Conference here — and it was evident that those present were endeavoring to make the words a living reality rather than merely a slogan.

Some 600 delegates, representing 210 retreat houses in the United States — at which several million Catholic laymen make annual spiritual retreats — attended the sessions (July 17 to 20) at the Mayflower Hotel here.

Bishop John J. Wright of Pittsburgh, NCLRC episcopal advisor, in his keynote address, told delegates the retreat movement has an "indispensable function in the Church during this era of reform and renewal."

One of its basic aims and purposes, he said, is to foster and develop meditation—"thinking in the heart."

The retreat movement, "far from contradicting the action imperatives of the moment," Bishop Wright declared, "makes them possible by bringing to the Christians involved in them the elements of sanity, serenity, balance and spiritual refreshment without which activists become fanatics, their works become confusion and their programs, public nuisances."

The retreat movement avoids the two extremes of "mere intellectuality" and "mere sentimentality," the bishop said. It combines what is valid in both by bringing together mind and will, thought and feeling; it involves the total person, he added.

## The Laymen and His Parish

### Teen: 'I'm Gung Ho for New Liturgy'

By CARMEN VIGLUCCI

Give a teen-ager a small opening, such as asking him what he thinks of his parish church, and he'll burst open tunnels of thought running off to such topics as Nehru collars and how to glamorize the vocation of Sis-hoo.

But stay with them long enough

and you'll learn that usually what teen-agers say makes sense.

And if you think you can stereotype their opinions you'd be wrong because they run the gamut from what the expectable (plugging folk music) to the surprising ("America, the Beautiful" really doesn't go with the Mass.)

If any definite trends can be established from the Courier-Journal's random survey of teen-agers one would be that the new liturgy is "in" and youth clubs are "out."

Or to put in the vernacular of the young:

"I'm gung-ho for the new liturgy."

In fact, teens expressed themselves in almost the same phraseology on the liturgy subject — "Now, we know what's going on."

Youth clubs came off with a general black eye and it's difficult to learn why.

One youth said youth clubs at his parish couldn't get any membership because "kids are afraid they'll be 'holy Joe' meetings."

A girl teen-ager at a parish where a youth club has been established complains that at meetings "all you hear is talk about drugs, smoking and stuff."

"We get that in school. What we'd like is to do something instead of just talk. Like projects to help the poor."

## 4th WCC Meeting Closes; Spotlight On Rich-Poor Gap

(From COURIER-JOURNAL News Services)

Uppsala, Sweden — (RNS) — The World Council of Churches, in a message closing its 16-day Fourth Assembly here, asserted that "the ever widening gap between the rich and the poor, fostered by armament expenditure, is the crucial point of decision today."

"But God makes new," the delegates said, taking up a theme that recurred again and again through the message. It warned that "Christians who in their acts deny dignity to their fellowmen deny Jesus Christ, in spite of all that they profess to believe."

The Assembly closed, as it had begun 18 days before, with a service in the 700-year-old Gothic Uppsala Cathedral.

In contrast to the colorful opening service attended by the King of Sweden, this was a quiet occasion for prayer and thoughtful reflection on what had been accomplished.

In the wake of the assembly, which brought more than 2,000 elected delegates and participants from more than 200 Christian churches there was left behind a wide swath of documents, statements and projects, all calling for a renewal of Christian life and an active involvement with the whole world.

The thrust of the meetings was expressed in a document drafted by the theological section of the assembly: "Renewal must begin in the local community, by detecting and detroning all exclusiveness of race and class and by fighting all economic, political and social degradation and exploitation of men."

The assembly of Protestants, Anglicans and Orthodox Christians came to a consensus on the subjects of: the Holy Spirit and the catholicity of the church, renewal in mission, world development, international justice and

peace, worship, and new styles of living.

No agreement of such a large group containing a wide variety of theological views — fundamentalism and traditionalism, conservatism and liberalism, Protestantism and Orthodoxy — could please everyone. Nor has it.

Among the final acts of the assembly was the approval of a policy statement on relations with the Roman Catholic Church. The assembly approved the establishment of a joint Catholic-WCC committee on society, development and peace.

Another development in Catholic-WCC relations was the inclusion of nine Catholic theologians on the WCC's Faith and Order Commission, which deals with ecumenical theological problems. It was the first time Catholic theologians were approved for membership on the commission.

Throughout the assembly's main speeches and the deliberations in the study sections, the question of the membership of the Catholic Church in the WCC was a recurring theme. The first Catholic ever invited to address a WCC assembly, Italian Jesuit Father Roberto Tucci, editor of *Civiltà Cattolica*, dealt at length with the subject.

The question of the Catholic Church joining the WCC is a complex one and involves many problems, not the least of which is the fact that the Catholic Church has about 600 million members, whereas the WCC's total member church enrollment is approximately 300 million.

## Diocesan Appointments



- Rev. Douglas C. Hoffman, to be assistant at St. Margaret Mary, Apalachin, from studies in Rome.
- Rev. James Lawlor, to be University Catholic Chaplain at University of Rochester, from Guardian Angels, Henrietta.
- Rev. Thomas G. Lenhard, S.T.L., to be assistant at St. Andrew's, Rochester, from studies in Rome.
- Rev. Charles Mulligan, to be assistant at Sacred Heart, Auburn, from studies in Rome.
- Rev. Thomas D. Sykes, S.A., to be assistant at Sacred Heart Cathedral, on loan from the Franciscan Fathers of the Atonement.
- Rev. Edward B. Zenkel, to be Chaplain of State School at Industry, from St. James, Waverly.

## Pope Cites Problems Of Biafra

Castel Gandolfo — (RNS) — The Roman Catholic Church, with other organizations, is sending as much aid as it can to Biafra, but the total is still "very little" compared to the need, Pope Paul VI said here.

(An editorial on Biafra's plight is on Page 6.)

Speaking to a crowd gathered at his summer residence here to join him in the recitation of the Angelus, the Pope recalled that he had visited the area before his election to the papacy.

He cited Biafra, along with Vietnam and the Middle East, as a place "where the sufferings of whole populations have become... so frightening that world public opinion, full of deploration and horror, has been aroused."

"We cannot think without sorrow of those good and hard-working people, now completely upset by civil war and dying of hunger and illness."

"We have also sent, through our charitable organizations, together with the Red Cross and other charitable organizations, as much medicine and food as we can—with great difficulty and risk and at little expense."

"But it is always very little in comparison to the needs."

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## Museum Display Notes Diocesan Centennial

An exhibit of china at the Rochester Museum and Science Center, 657 East Ave., marks the centennial celebration of the diocese of Rochester and the coming of its first bishop, Bishop Bernard McQuaid.

The china has a special significance since the original set of 125 pieces had been painted by Mother M. Agnes Hines, superior general of the Sisters of St. Joseph, and Sister M. Geraldine Cavanaugh. It was presented to Bishop McQuaid on his 30th anniversary with the Rochester diocese.

Each piece reflects an institution or a scene familiar to the Bishop. Scenes of the china on exhibit include St. Mary's Hospital which

served as a U.S. Army Hospital during the Civil War; St. Joseph's, St. Patrick's and St. Mary's orphanages; Sacred Heart Convent Chapel; Immaculate Conception Church; St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries, and scenes along the Genesee River, Hemlock Lake, and Watkins Glen.

The collection is on display on the Museum's third floor, in two large glass cases. Along with the china are tributes to the diocese on its 100th anniversary.

The exhibit was arranged through the cooperation of Father Robert McNamara, diocesan historian, and will remain on view at Rochester Museum through the summer months.

(Continued on Page 2)