



## President-Elect and Mrs. Richard M. Nixon

A nation divided during the many months of choosing party candidates and debating the nominees' fitness for the Presidency, must now pledge to Mr. Nixon the creative unity and harmony needed to solve its people's problems. The new President will need the prayers, cooperation and loyalty of every citizen.

### PRAYER FOR CIVIL AUTHORITIES

O Almighty and Eternal God, all power of governing and the rights of peoples are in Your hand. Look kindly upon those who rule us so that the integrity of religion and the security of our country may always endure under Your protection. Through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You, world without end. Amen. (Roman Missal)

## Saigon Archbishop Says:

# Catholics Support Thieu View

By FATHER PATRICK J. BURKE, S.S.C.

Saigon — Archbishop Paul Nguyen van Binh said in an interview here that he and other Catholics "are not opposed" to the halt in the bombing of North Vietnam. But the archbishop added:

"We wish only that the act of stopping the bombing will not endanger the lives of Allied soldiers. That is all we ask. We hope and pray that Hanoi will respond to the good will shown and stop their acts of aggression."

Archbishop Binh, chairman of South Vietnam's Bishops' Committee, said that the Catholic view is the same as the government position, that is, they do oppose recognition of the National Liberation Front and a coalition government. The archbishop said that all Catholic organizations hold this view at this time and are supporting the government position.

In a show of solidarity seldom seen in Vietnamese politics, senators and representatives in the lower house marched six abreast carrying national flags through Saigon's main streets to the presidential palace to congratulate President Nguyen van Thieu on his speech to the joint session of South Vietnam's National Assembly.

President Thieu's speech, interrupted several times by applause, set out South Vietnam's conditions for peace

talks. He received a standing ovation at the end.

President Thieu restated South Vietnam's position as given to a joint session of the National Assembly early in October.

He said that the "basic issue is the end of the war, not the end of the bombing. South Vietnam is ready to act to end the war, not to prolong it by helping the aggressor."

Setting out conditions for talks, Thieu said that Hanoi must guarantee to hold direct and serious talks, and this means a new phase, not a continuation of the present talks; South Vietnam will not recognize the National Liberation Front and will not sit at a conference table with them unless they come as part of the Hanoi delegation, not as a separate delegation; South Vietnam will not agree to a coalition government in any shape or form.

## Pope Paul Asks Prayers For Peace in Vietnam

Vatican City — (RNS) — Pope Paul VI, in his first public statement on the Vietnam war since the suspension of bombing to the North, asked for prayers for peace but said that more "spiritual evaluation" may be needed before peace becomes a permanent reality.

"Let us pray for peace," he said. "Peace in Vietnam is the anxious desire of the world, today and it should be the symbol of new times when force no longer decides the relations between nations, when the ideology of power, revolution and totalitarian exclusion no longer dominates national philosophy and policy, since the nations by them will be members of a united humanity."

Peace demands more than a truce and a laying down of arms, he said; it also calls for "a change of spirit among men according to the higher principles of reason, justice and liberty. Even these will not be enough to guarantee true harmony among

nations unless they are backed by the principles of brotherhood, of mutual forgiveness, of loyal collaboration, of love, in fact."

"Unfortunately," he said, "peace is slow, and perhaps it is slow just because of the need for spiritual evolution, for superior education and a new vision of human history."

Vatican City — (RNS)—Pope Paul VI has sent messages to President Lyndon Johnson of the United States and President Nguyen Van Thieu of South Vietnam on the suspension of bombing in North Vietnam, according to unofficial reports here.

In a comment on the suspension, the Vatican City daily newspaper, L'Osservatore Romano, said that President Johnson's decision arouses a "profound, universal relief." At the same time, the newspaper cautioned against premature optimism.

## Family Life the Subject?

# Bishops Ready to Meet; New Pastoral on Agenda

Washington — (NC) — A pastoral letter from the Bishops of the United States is on the agenda of the annual fall meeting beginning here on Nov. 11. It is expected that the pastoral will deal with Catholic doctrine on family life as conveyed in the Vatican Council's Constitution on the Church in the Modern World and the encyclical "Humanae Vitae".

A committee headed by Bishop John J. Wright of Pittsburgh has consulted all the U.S. Bishops on the contents of the proposed letter. The consultation is said to have resulted in "widespread and strong desires" that material on marriage and family be developed in the bishops' letter.

There was also a majority endorsement from the bishops on development in the pastoral of selective conscientious objection and related questions of war and peace.

The U.S. bishops meeting as the

the National Conference of Catholic Bishops and as the United States Catholic Conference, will be in session from Nov. 11 through noon on Nov. 15 at the Washington Hilton Hotel here.

The Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy has prepared an 84-page report on liturgical matters for the bishops' consideration. These include various matters such as a Thanksgiving Day Mass, Communion more than once a day, use of Latin in the Mass, and lay persons distributing Communion under certain circumstances.

Among other committee reports to be considered are:

- Bishops' Committee on Priestly Formation, which deals with academic curricular for the college seminary, and various aspects of the theologate, including spiritual formation, community life and discipline, and pastoral formation.

- Bishops' Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs.

- Bishops' Committee on the Permanent Diaconate, which outlines the action taken toward restoration of the permanent diaconate in the United States, following the necessary approval received some weeks ago from the Vatican.

Bishop Ernest L. Unterkoefler of Charleston, acting chairman of the committee, reported that more than 20 men, married and unmarried, from various backgrounds and localities had written to him indicating their interest in the permanent diaconate.

- Ad Hoc Committee on Vocations, which offered various proposals for continuing liaison between bishops, vocation directors and the laity, and for more effective ways of coordinating the promotion of vocations.

## 'Dangerous Doctrine' Criticized

London — (RNS) — John Cardinal Heenan of Westminster warned against the "very dangerous doctrine" of accepting only infallible teaching in an address before 400 Catholic teachers.

Referring to the subject of authority in the light of what he termed "recent controversies," he said, "There has been some confusion in recent months because, it is said, Catholics are expected to accept only infallible teaching."

"This is very dangerous doctrine indeed. The supreme authority in the Church rarely gives infallible teaching, rarely speaks, we say, ex cathedra. This has happened only once in our lifetime, only once in this century. Even then it was really quite unnecessary."

"The doctrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary was defined but it had never been in doubt. No Catholic disbelieved it so this definition of the dogma must be regarded more as a pious gesture in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary."

"Apart from that, the authority of the Church has not been infallibly exercised. It is strange to pretend that this alone of all the teaching of the Holy See in this century is binding upon us as Catholics."

## Bishop Sheen Assists at Christ Church

Bishop Fulton J. Sheen gave the benediction Sunday in Christ Church Episcopal Cathedral, Rochester, at an ecumenical service in recognition of the recent formation of the Rochester Center for Theological Studies.

Representatives of Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox churches attended the afternoon ceremonies, arranged by the joint standing committee of the Rochester Catholic Diocese and Rochester Area Council of Churches on Ecumenical Relations.

Participating in establishment of the Center are representatives of three seminaries—St. Bernard's, Colgate Rochester Divinity School and Bexley Hall Episcopal Seminary (later moved to Rochester from Ohio).

In a statement of purpose during the service, Monsignor Charles V. Boyle, pastor of St. John the Evangelist's Church and chairman of the diocesan commission on ecumenism, declared:

"It is significant and gratifying that, although of diverse traditions, we can all gather together as one in Christ in this service of thanksgiving on an auspicious occasion."

In the sermon the Rt. Rev. John E. Hines of Greenvich, Conn., Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, U.S.A., said such centers were one of the innovations to attract high-caliber men and to put clergy "in the forefront of decision-makers and the healers of wounds."

The Rev. Gene E. Bartlett, president of Colgate Divinity School, said creation of the Center meant that the three seminaries, "rather than losing their identity, are finding their identity."

"Each school is enriched by the others, and is understanding itself better," he said.

## Financial Evaluation Committee

Because of the multiplication of problems which come to the Pastoral Office, such as requests for funding, new construction, land for new parishes, authentication of loans, etc., a Financial Evaluation Committee has been formed to:

1. Study various activities supported by the diocese.
2. Determine priorities of service and the equitable funding in relationship to the established priorities.
3. Give recommendations to the Advisory Board (consisting of Bishop Dennis W. Hickey, Bishop John E. McCafferty, Rev. Joseph W. Dailey, Rev. James M. Moynihan, Mr. Thomas E. Aspenleiter, Mr. J. David Baker, Mr. John H. Dessauer and Mr. John G. Errattinger).

The members of the Financial Evaluation Committee are: Chairman, Rev. Joseph W. Dailey; Rev. Joseph M. Egan; Rev. William J. Schifferli; Mr. Harold S. Hacker; Mr. Elliott Horton; Mr. Louis A. Langie, Jr. and Dr. Paul L. Reason.

Respectfully submitted,

+ FULTON J. SHEEN  
Bishop of Rochester

## Concert Notes 2 Occasions

Music lovers will be treated to expert versions of the "old" and the "new" in church music next month at a concert commemorating the centennial of the Rochester Diocese and the diamond jubilee of St. Bernard's Seminary.

Scheduled Tuesday evening, Dec. 10, at the Nazareth College Arts Center, the program is designed to picture the sweep of Catholic music

— liturgical and concert — through the centuries.

Featuring the performance will be renditions of Gregorian chant, a cantata, and a Folk Mass.

Planning the program are Father Benedict Ehrmann, pastor of St. Michael's Church and chairman of the diocesan music commission, and Father John Frega, OFM, Cap., St. Bernard's Seminary faculty, a former jazz musician.



## Set Up Memorial

Bishop Fulton J. Sheen walks with Sen. Edward M. Kennedy on the lawn of Hickory Hill, the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy's home in McLean, Va. The Bishop, as a member of its board of trustees, attended the announcement of the formation of a \$10-million foundation as a memorial to the assassinated senator.

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