

AROUND THE COUNTRY



Orthodox Priest Honored

Father John Meyendorff (right), Russian Orthodox author, scholar, and professor at St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary in Yonkers, N.Y., receives the 1968 Chrysostom Award from Auxiliary Bishop John S. Spence of Washington, a member of the Catholic Bishops' Committee on Ecumenism and Interreligious Affairs. Looking on (left) is Father Armand J. Jacopin, executive director of the St. Paul Center Byzantine Information Bureau in Washington, D.C., which annually presents the award for significant scholarly contribution to the cause of East-West ecumenism.

Nuns Investigate Fracas

St. Louis — (NC) — Thirty-eight Sisters from various religious communities here descended on St. Louis police headquarters, asking for the department's side of stories alleging harassment of militant Negro leaders.

They were accompanied by a leader of the Black Liberators, a local militant group.

Two members of the Black Liberators were seriously injured recently, as were several policemen, in a furniture-breaking scuffle in a neighborhood police station. The incident has provoked community discussion and arguments about relations between the department and black militants.

Sister Joanne Malone, a Sister of Loretto, said the nuns had questioned the injured blacks and wanted the police version. They failed to get it because the incident is pending in the courts.

Aid Pledged to Urban Areas

Detroit — (RNS) — The Michigan Conference of the United Church of Christ has pledged more than \$1 million of its annual Archdiocesan Development Fund drive to inner city work.

According to the Rev. William H. Daniels, minister of the denomination's Detroit Metropolitan Association, approximately \$72,000 of the pledged funds is marked for programs in the Detroit area.

Unfairness Charged In School Funding

Miami — (RNS) — An editorial in the Catholic newspaper of the Archdiocese of Miami charged that state and county officials here are "discriminating against Catholic school children in the administration of federal funds for education."

The Voice said that "non-profit private schools have received the run-around for three years now. Children are suffering and justice is ignored."

Controversy centers on federal funds administered through local school officials under the Elementary and Secondary School Act. The newspaper said that Catholic schools had "received only a pittance of the services" to needy and culturally deprived children, while more than \$14.5 million went to the public schools.

It warned that all federal funds were being jeopardized since "the law states that when needy children in non-profit private schools are not served all funds will be terminated."

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Father Berrigan Leaves Prison Pending Appeal

Baltimore — (RNS) — Father Phillip F. Berrigan, S.S.J., and Thomas P. Lewis, twice convicted and sentenced to prison terms for destroying draft board records, have been released from a federal penitentiary pending appeal of their convictions.

The Roman Catholic priest and the artist, released by state and federal courts, had been confined to the penitentiary at Lewisburg, Pa., for seven months.

Following a hearing before two federal judges, the two men were released on \$5,000 bail each. Half of this amount covered their April conviction of pouring blood on draft records at the Customs House Tower and the other half on their conviction in October of burning records at the suburban Catonsville Selective Service center.

They were sentenced to six years each in federal custody on the blood-pouring charges, and three years each, to run concurrently with the first sentence, for their activities with the so-called Catonsville Nine.

Attorneys for Father Berrigan and Mr. Lewis estimated that it will be at least three months before the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals will hear their appeals and hand down a decision.

On his release, the 45-year-old priest said that he would not be returning to his former post as assistant pastor of St. Peter Claver Catholic church in West Baltimore but would stay temporarily at the Baltimore headquarters of his religious order, St. Joseph's Society of the Sacred Heart.

Church Consecrated Near Nazareth

Jerusalem — (NC) — A new church, built with U.S. Catholic funds in the heart of the Holy Land, two miles from Christ's hometown, was consecrated Dec. 1 by the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem.

Archbishop Alberto Gori, O.F.M., officiated at the ceremony, marking the completion of St. Joseph's church at Rench in Galilee, two miles north of Nazareth on the road to Tiberias. Among those at the consecration were Auxiliary Bishop Hanna Kaldany of the Jerusalem patriarchate and Father Patrick Coyte, O.F.M., representing Bishop John G. Notin, national secretary of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, which supplied the funds for the \$47,000 church.

The present population of Rench is about 4,000. The vast majority are Moslems, but there are also 400 Greek Orthodox, 250 Melkite-rite Catholics, 250 Roman Catholics and 70 Protestants.

CATECHISM CORRECTIONS

Amsterdam, The Netherlands — (NC) — The Dutch hierarchy has announced that it will publish in the near future corrections and additions to the controversial New Dutch Catechism as formulated by a special committee and approved by a commission of cardinals appointed by the Holy See.



Battles Malnutrition

An unidentified nun distributes vitamin pills to an eager group of youngsters in an effort to fight malnutrition. The pills, provided by the United Nation's Children's Fund (UNICEF), were dispensed at the Holy Cross mission somewhere in Biafra. (RNS)

Venezuela Reflects Democracy in Action

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

Caracas, Venezuela — Venezuela has emerged the leading exponent of democracy in Latin America as Rafael Caldera squeaked out a victory, winning less than 30 per cent of the total votes.

Caldera, the candidate of the Electoral Committee for Independent Voters (COPEI), pulled a "Nixon" coming back to win after three previous presidential defeats.

He immediately called for national unity and promised that seniority in government jobs will be respected.

Raul Leon's Accion Democratica (Democratic Action) government became the first in the country's history to turn the rule over peacefully to another party.

The government's candidate, Gonzalo Barrios, finished less than one percentage point behind Caldera, who beat him by only 30,000 votes.

All candidates and the country at large are singing the praises of the National Board of Elections for running a scrupulously honest election, marred only by a seemingly endless delay in reporting the returns because of primitive communications and interparty wrangling.

The darkest cloud on the horizon is the return of dictator Marcos Perez Jimenez, who astounded local politicians by winning a Senate seat for himself and 20 seats in Congress for his party, despite the fact that he was in Spain for the whole campaign and said not one word in his own behalf.

Caldera enjoys the reputation of being a brilliant Christian gentleman. He is the father of six and has been active in Catholic Action, the Serra Club and other religious movements.

From a Catholic viewpoint the election was stained by

the inexcusable intervention of Brazilian Archbishop Geraldo de Praença Sigaud, S.V.D. of Diamantina, Brazil, who arrived in Caracas 10 days before the elections to denounce Christian socialism as heretical, clearly referring to Caldera's party, equating it with the troubled Christian Democratic party of Chilean President Eduardo Frei Montalva.

Auxiliary Bishop Luis Henriquez Jimenez of Caracas, however, issued a masterful clarification criticizing the Brazilian prelate's interference in Venezuelan politics and restating the Church's impartiality, while exonerating Caldera's party of anti-Christian charges. The Brazilian archbishop made a muddled, confused retraction on leaving the country.

Urges Better Sex Education

WASHINGTON (NC) — Father James T. McHugh, director of the division of family life of the United States Catholic Conference, has issued a statement calling for the cooperative efforts of homes, schools and parishes in the teaching of human sexuality.

Father McHugh said: "In their pastoral, Human Life in Our Day, the American bishops affirmed 'the value and necessity of wisely-planned education of children in human sexuality...' Recognizing that the primary responsibility for education in sexuality belongs to parents, the bishops went on to state that 'we are under a grave obligation to assist the family in its efforts to provide such education.'

"Everyone agrees that the basic ingredient for success is a loving relationship between the parents, which in time, pours over and embraces the child. When parents make a reasonably good attempt, the efforts of teachers and others can be supportive.

"If parents avoid this responsibility, the situation is very similar to that of religious education, that is, there is little chance that anyone can be an effective substitute. If parents are opposed, then virtually all efforts are doomed to failure, if not to tragedy.

"The home, however, is not likely to accomplish this task alone. The child's socialization as well as his formal education are aided by the

school, and human sexuality cannot be overlooked by the school.

"Let it be painfully clear, though, that education in sexuality should not be an appendage to the religion course. It is not a topic for which the religious educator is merely expected to supply moral guidelines."

The family life division director continued: "This urgent plea of the bishops must now be translated into action. In addition to utilizing the resources of home, school, and parish, we must also involve representatives from the various professions and academic disciplines that help direct the growth and development of the individual person."

Rome Looks Better To Red Poland

Warsaw — (RNS) — The Vatican painted no "martyr's halo" over Cardinal Wyszyński's head, Warsaw Radio noted, in reporting the prelate's return home, with the five bishops who had accompanied him to Rome.

This and the absence of any statement "about the so-called Church of Silence" was interpreted by the communist network as a sign that the church's attitude towards Socialist governments is changing.

The Vatican, it said, has been trying to normalize relations with all Communist countries, and for this reason the visit of the Polish bishops was not used to spread "untrue reports about the lack of religious freedom in Poland."

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AROUND THE WORLD

India Bishop's

Trivandrum, India — Three bombs were exploded in the city of Bishop Peter Pereira seated.

The discovery caused Maoist terrorism.

The bomb packet Bishop Pereira had left a football field at Kar parents took the parcel.

The Maoists have police stations, stabbed death, looted houses and businesses been arrested. They r Communist-led government enough.

Czech Bi

Bonn, Germany — tations between the l on church affairs in present, the apostolic in that city.

Bishop Frantisek from a visit to Rom that, although the climatic nothing could b place.

Meanwhile, the Slovakia, Gustav Husa party meeting in Slo gious revival would ance must be mutual.

"There must be or the other to bully Husak, who is chief party. "The people m He added that "after too far from the 17th wars."

Repression o

Rio De Janeiro — priests and a Brazil military on charges defended by their Federal Supreme Cou

Archbishop Joao Horizonte signed the attorneys. It argued being outside the co that their alleged cor

Greek Prel

Kavala, Greece — Metropolitan Ambros will no longer grant tion of a marriage b court.

He told a group voices create psychi and such wounds rous results."

Under Greek l exists, so a legal dec proved by the Ch Church allows up to

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