



## Archbishop Visits Troops

Archbishop Terence J. Cooke of New York greets servicemen and their families after celebrating Mass in the Eighth Infantry barracks at Baumholder, West Germany. The prelate, who is military vicar for the U.S. Armed Forces, shakes hands with Spec. 4 Randall W. Snyder of Rockford, Ill., as the serviceman's wife (back to camera) watches. Archbishop Cooke, on a round-the-world tour, was scheduled to spend Christmas with American troops in Vietnam. (RNS)

## October Synod of Bishops Is Scheduled by Pope Paul

(From Courier Journal sources)

Rome — Pope Paul VI announced (Dec. 23) the summoning of an extraordinary session of the Synod of Bishops for next Oct. 11 to discuss "better cooperation and more fruitful contacts" between the Holy See and national conferences of bishops.

Attendance at such a special synod, "extraordinary," will probably be limited to the presidents of the national groups of bishops, cardinals of the Roman Curia and major prelates of the Eastern Church.

A "general synod," held in Rome in 1967 as an expression of the collegial rule in the Church proclaimed by Vatican II which ended in 1965, was attended by a larger number of bishops chosen by the national episcopal conferences in proportion to their own number.

The announcement of the future synod came in the Pope's traditional year-end address to the College of Cardinals. The Holy Father expressed his confidence in the basic devotion and loyalty of the clergy and laity despite some disquieting signs of "revolt and challenge."

In his wide-ranging review of the last year, the Pope voiced continuing concern over armed conflict in Vietnam, the Middle East and Nigeria, reasserted the divine origins of his papal authority and defended his use of it to reaffirm the prohibition of contraception.

"Placed by Christ, as the successor of Peter, as the visible foundation and universal pastor of the Church," he said, it is his duty to "guard unharmed the sacred deposit of truth."

The Pope asserted it was wrong to seek to "suffocate" the ferment in the church which he admitted "can sometimes assume the tone and aspect of revolt and challenge."

Rather, he asserted, resistance should be considered as evidence of vitality and renewal to be channeled and directed within proper limits.

Referring to his encyclical of last July, "Humanae Vitae," the Holy Father said he had taken note of the flood of dissent his teaching had provoked. He said he would sometime give "the responses that appear necessary."

This seemed to predict a papal exegesis of his encyclical responding to the various national conferences of Bishops who have attempted to clarify its meaning and apply its controls to their own people.

Pope Paul VI applauded America's "daring" Apollo 8 moon shot and prayed for the three astronauts and the "happy success" of their mission.

In his customary Sunday noon address to the crowd in St. Peter's Square, the Pope expressed the hope that man's first interplanetary flight would help him expand his concept of self in "that marvelous universe" where "God's greatness is ever more evident."

"With the whole world that anxiously follows the most audacious and well-studied feat, we, too, raise our applause for the incalculable scientific and organization effort, which has made possible the daring and unbelievable adventure."

"We accompany with our prayers the courageous astronauts flying in space at a dizzying speed, wishing a happy success to a risky interplanetary voyage."

representing about 26 priests apiece, are, in order of seniority:

Msgr. Robert A. Kelleher, retired; Rev. Thomas F. Brennan, St. Mary's, Corning; Rev. Joseph M. McDonnell, St. Michael's, Newark; Rev. Paul Cuddy, Mercy Hospital, Hornell; Rev. Francis Pagnara, St. Thomas More, Rochester; Rev. Joseph F. Hogan, St. Vincent's, Corning; Rev. Paul G. Wohrab, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Rochester; Rev. John T. Walsh, St. Paul's, Webster; Msgr. George A. Cocuzzi, Holy Family, Rochester; Rev. Frederick W. Bush, Old St. Mary's, Rochester; Rev. John J. Hempel, Secular Mission, Penn Yan; Rev. Edward Kowalski, St. Casimir, Elmira; Rev. Paul J. McCabe, Corpus Christi, Rochester; Rev. James Lawlor, Chaplain, University of Rochester; Rev. Charles Mulligan, Sacred Heart, Auburn; Rev. William Swingly, St. Salome's, Rochester.

## New Priests' Council Chosen for Diocese

Priests of the diocese have chosen a new Priests' Council to meet regularly with Bishop Sheen for representation of the clergy's opinions and needs and for consultation on diocesan problems.

The 16-member Council succeeds the first democratically-chosen advisory board whose 2-year term ended in early December.

Five members of the first council have been reelected for a second term, according to Father Joseph F. Hogan, pastor of St. Vincent's, Corning, who was responsible for conducting the mail-balloting among diocesan clergy. The inaugural meeting of the new Council will be Tuesday, Jan. 7, at 2 p.m. at the Pastoral Office, he declared.

Members of the Priests' Council, each chosen by his own age-block and

## 'Holy Hour' To Be Aired Tuesday Eve

A Holy Hour on New Year's Eve, carried throughout the diocese by two radio stations and the audio-channels of four TV-cable systems will offer meditation and prayer for listeners who wish to close the old year quietly.

Rochester's WSAJ and Auburn's WMBO-FM, plus TV-cable setups in Auburn, Corning, Elmira and Hornell will air the radio Holy Hour from 11:15 to 12:15 on Tuesday evening, Dec. 31, from St. Francis of Assisi Church, Rochester.

Msgr. Joseph A. Cirincione, pastor of St. Francis and longtime director of the nightly Radio Rosary for Peace program, and Father Richard Tormey, editor of the Courier Journal, will conduct the Holy Hour exercises in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. The public, as well as St. Francis parishioners, is invited to attend.

Father Tormey will give four short addresses on the themes of Love, Fidelity, Justice and Sacrifice, applying these virtues to both man's relations to God and to his neighbor. Msgr. Cirincione will read the meditations and prayers.

## 'World Day of Peace'

Observance Scheduled Jan. 5

Washington — (NC) — The Bishops of the U.S., according to an appeal from Pope Paul VI, have asked national observance of "World Day for Peace" on Sunday, Jan. 5. Public prayers and homilies on the theme of peace will be officially set in all dioceses of the nation.

A special Votive Mass for Peace will be permitted in parish churches that day in place of the Mass of the Epiphany (transferred recently by the Congregation of Rites from the traditional Jan. 6 to the nearest Sunday to the 6th).

(The Courier-Journal will print major excerpts from Pope Paul's Day of Peace Message in next week's issue, Jan. 3.)

"Peace is a duty," the Pope said, "despite the experience of the last few years and the recent current of evil that seems to suffocate all hopes of a peaceful order. The world cannot give up its hopes of universal peace, which is the light of progress and civilization."

"Our voice is feeble but clear," he said. "It is the voice of a friend who desires that it be heard not so much because of who says it but of what he says."

Pope Paul's message was addressed to all men of goodwill, including political leaders and those who influence public opinion. Vatican Radio said in a commentary, but, "it is even more directed to Catholic bishops and the faithful for whom the request to celebrate a day of peace becomes a duty."

## 65 P.C. of Catholics In U.S. Attend Mass

Washington — Sixty-five percent of the U.S. Catholics attend church in a typical week, according to year-end figures reported by the Gallup Poll, but this is 9 percentage points lower than '58 figures.

The Gallup Poll's study of attendance, based on seven national surveys during the year, shows that 43 percent of all U.S. adults attend church in a typical week, amounting to a projected 50 million persons.

This is less than last year's record, but churchgoing in the U.S. still remains higher than in 10 other nations of the Western world.

Declining attendance among young adults in their 20's is the chief cause for the 10-year lag.

## Catholicism Nearing No. 1 in Australia

Canberra, Australia — (NC) — The Catholic Church seems certain to replace the Anglican Church as Australia's biggest denomination, according to studies made public in The Australian, a national daily.

In The Australian article, Patrick Tennison said census figures in Victoria between 1947 and 1966 showed an increase in the state's population from 2.05 million to 3.21 million, a rise of 1.16 million or 56%.

But in the 19-year period, the Catholic increase was 469,834 or 112%, while the Anglican increase was only 193,175 or 26%.

Reasons given for the trend are the larger number of children in the average Catholic family and the migration to Australia of larger numbers of European Catholics.



## Pope on Christmas

By James C. O'Neill (NC News Service)

Vatican City — Christ is the "true and highest hope of mankind" because only through Him can mankind be saved from itself.

This was the central theme of Pope Paul VI's Christmas message to the world. Speaking from a specially equipped studio in the Vatican, the Pope noted that today "everything moves and changes under the sign and with the strength of hope." The Pope said "we live in the era of hope."

He added: "It is however, a hope in the kingdom of this earth, a hope in human self-sufficiency. And it is precisely in our day that hope is going through a most serious crisis."

In his introductory remarks Pope Paul gently led his hearers into the vortex of the modern paradox of hope and hopelessness in a world beset by change and upheaval. But man's hope today, he went on, is leading man not to be "any longer satisfied with what exists at the present time."

"At one time the experience of the actual or desirable order. But now it is just that order which is attacked, and precisely because it is inherited from the past. It is overturned rather than preserved and renewed in the blind hope that what is new will of itself be fruitful for human progress. No further credence is now given to the stable values of faith, culture and institutions."

Speaking of the perils created by some forms of progress for peace, Pope Paul added: "The destructive power of modern man is incalculable. And the fatal probable use of such power to devastate the city of man depends upon causes which are tragically free, which neither science nor technique can of themselves dominate. Thus it happens that instead of hope there comes forth anguish."

Because man has built up an economic and social system with "superb practical results," he runs the danger

of it "becoming his mechanical instrument of the great machine of production."

There is the danger that this machinery will subject man "to a colossal apparatus of domination." This, said the Pope, gives rise to a "society redundant with material wealth, satisfied, satiated, but lacking in superior ideals which give meaning and value to life, and, as it were, deaf to the groans of the poor, near or far, who yell call themselves men and are in fact brothers."

Among young people deprived of absolute principles and assailed by doubt and agnosticism, "contestation became the fashion with the temptation of degenerating into rebellion, violence and anarchy."

The Pope lamented that in all the present confusion "historical, cultural and moral values which are still valid and worthy are being lost" to the damage of the entire civilized community.

Summing up the dark picture he had drawn of modern man, Pope Paul said: "Perhaps never before as much as in our day have literature, the theater, art and philosophical thought cruelly borne witness to the deficiency of man, his mental weakness, his domination by sensuality, his moral hypocrisy, his facile delinquency, his increasing cruelty, his possible abjection, his inconsistent personality."

Yet all this brings back more forcefully than ever, Pope Paul declared, the unavoidable need of humanity to be saved. The name of Jesus Christ "is the proclamation of our salvation. This is why our proclamation of Christmas after nearly 20 centuries remains fresh and new and, by reason of our faith in Christmas, we may add, remains valid."

By becoming man, Christ restored to man "freedom, dignity and the expectation of the ideal man, making us capable of goodness, justice and peace... This is the incarnation which spreads from Christ to embrace all mankind, to shake and arouse it, to torment it, to regenerate it now in time so as to guide it beyond time toward eternity."

## In the Footsteps of St. Peter

By LOUIS PANARALE (NC News Service)

Taranto, Italy — Not since St. Peter passed this way nearly 2,000 years ago had there ever been a pope to visit this ancient seaport. On Christmas Eve Pope Paul VI came to Taranto.

Historians have written that St. Peter came to Rome by traveling on the ancient Roman Appian Way and, therefore, had to pass through Taranto, which was then called Tarantum. Apparently he passed unnoticed and it is not known if he stopped to rest here.

When Pope Paul came here this Christmas Eve to say Mass for workers at the giant steel-producing complex of Ilalider, he was greeted by thousands of faithful.

After his motorcade left the airport, where he was met by 28 bishops from this Apulia district, he was greeted by the cheering throngs who held vigil lights as they stood along the road to Taranto.

The torchlight vigil continued all along the route. After the Pope entered the Piazza Maria Immacolata, where the civil officials had gathered with Taranto's Mayor Angelo Curci, he paused to hear the mayor's welcoming address.

Then the Papal entourage continued its journey to a small canal bridge that connects modern Taranto

to the ancient quarter, a rectangular shaped island, where the poorer classes live. At the bridge there were hundreds of Boy Scouts, who stood by as the Papal motorcade crossed into the ancient quarter, which is said to have been in existence 1,200 years before the founding of Rome. Winding, narrow streets mark the old quarter.

The small Cathedral of San Cataldo was filled to capacity with priests, nuns and Brothers of various religious orders, who were waiting to be addressed by the Pope. This old Romanesque cathedral had undergone a thorough house cleaning. Young boys worked with dust mops attached to a series of poles so that they could reach up to the corners and crevices of its elaborate stonework.

After briefly addressing the priests and Religious at the cathedral, and after visiting the residence of the Archbishop Guglielmo Motolese, the Pope continued on his journey to Ilalider in the giant industrial area of modern-day Taranto. In the distance could be seen the giant smoke stacks puffing out yellowish smoke, making the night atmosphere slightly hazy.

The Holy Father stopped briefly to greet about 50 men working at blast furnaces. Then he moved on towards the iron smelting plant where he paused at one of the huge smelting chimneys to greet another group of workers.

The motorcade headed for its final destination — a sprawling building which normally serves as a steel rolling mill. But on this night it would serve as a "cathedral of steel" in the words of Archbishop Motolese.

More than 15,000 persons cheered the Pope as he entered the area of the plant chosen for the worship and walked toward an altar which had been fashioned out of steel by workers of the plant. On this altar of steel the Pope said his Mass.

Television cameras focused on the altar set in the long nave of the structure called the "sheet-steel train" carried the services to an estimated 250 million viewers in Europe. Twenty large television screens set in the public squares and streets of Taranto brought the Mass to the townspeople.

One hundred workers received Holy Communion from the Pope. Another group of workers presented the Pope with symbolic gifts of bread and wine. One worker, on behalf of all workers in the plant, presented the Pope with a small steel plate. Etched on it was an olive branch, a cherished symbol of love and esteem in this part of the world. In explaining earlier what was the significance of this Mass, Archbishop Motolese perhaps summed it all up when he said that this Mass was not only for workers here, "but for the workers of the world."

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