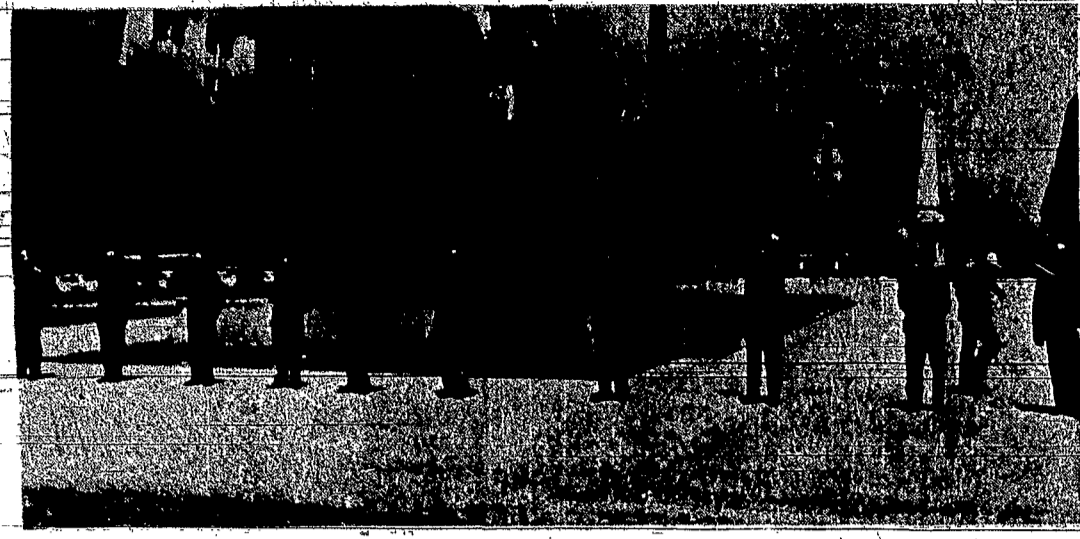


The Church in Latin America



Priests Protest Argentine 'Capitalism'

Catholic priests line up in a public square in Buenos Aires near Government House protesting "the capitalist structure of the country and the oppression of provincial sectors." The group of 20 complained specifically of the fate of thousands of families living in shanty towns around the Argentine capital city. Two priests went into Government House to deliver a written protest. (RNS)

COLOMBIA: New Front Urged

Buenaventura, Colombia — (NC) — The bishop of this Pacific port and 49 priests have called for "a revolutionary front" to break the chains of "domination by a privileged minority" in Colombia.

A few hours later the chancery office of the Bogota archdiocese issued a statement "reproving" the document and saying that "it is inconceivable that ministers of the Church should incite people to revolt, when their mission is to preach peace." The chancery statement was signed by Msgr. Luis Ferreira, chancellor.

Bishop Gerardo Valencia Cano, 38, head of the apostolic vicariate of Buenaventura, administered to some 160,000 Catholics in the coastal lands, many of whom live at subsistence level. The port's population of 30,000 includes stevedores, factory workers and transport workers. Unemployment is high.

He and the priests—some signers belong to other dioceses—said that "one must not fall into merely contemplative attitudes" regarding social justice.

The government, the army, the political parties and U.S. "imperialism" are the topics of the critical document, as well as "outmoded Church structures."

Bishop Valencia and the priests opposed "the huge share of the national budget assigned to the armed forces, which are not oriented toward the defense of our national sovereignty but toward the violent repression of the people's struggle to regain their rights as workers, farmers, students."

Such military action, they added, is carried on "for the defense of interest structures of the minorities who hold economic and political power."

"We cannot agree that foreign entities become distributors of surplus food which, under the pretext of aid, provide only a cover for the exploitation these countries exert through worsening relations. Such aid activities have a self-bestowed aura of generosity, while they create in the recipient the attitude of the beggar," the document stated.

In dealing with broader issues, Bishop Valencia and the priests said that "the primary characteristic of Colombia's underdevelopment, and for that matter of the underdevelopment of Latin America, is the domination of our society by a minority whose privileges date back to colonial times, and who still have absolute ownership of lands that in the past belonged to the Indian tribes."

Behind the facade of progress, the document stated, "such as monumental buildings, luxury airports and modern highways, a suffering people lies in humiliation and misery, silenced by its own awareness of its condition, and inhibited by a complex imposed by repressive forces of violence installed in the power structure."

After promising "a greater involvement in the several forms of revolutionary action against imperialism and the new bourgeoisie colonialism," the signers said they will push decisively for the modernization of present Church structures, both in internal administration and in a post-conciliar clean up of old remnants.

CHILE: 'Crusade of Faith'

Santiago, Chile — (NC) — Raul Cardinal Silva Henriquez of Santiago, in a Christmas message called all Chileans to "a crusade of faith and generosity" and urged them to put aside petty jealousies and wars for the common good of the poor.

In the nationally televised message, the cardinal told his countrymen that the birth of Christ is an invitation to humility, love and justice.

"Today we hear the call of Christ, who perhaps as never before in history is calling and urging us to become united with Him in the wonderful task of saving man," Cardinal Silva said.

"of fulfilling the anguished needs of the humble and answering the cry of the impatient multitude, the protests of the rebels, the sorrowful claims of our peoples who thirst for justice, for truth, for charity, for freedom and peace."

The cardinal's message was voiced amid political turmoil after a controversial land reform program and inflation have disrupted the social plans of the incumbent Christian Democratic government.

"Our Lord calls us to a crusade of faith and generosity," the cardinal said, "of optimism and trust in Him, His power, grace and doctrine. A crusade that obliges us to end our disputes, our verbal contentions, our ruinous conflicts which are a scandal to the poor and which hamper the work of Christ."

"This must be a crusade of effort which calls for hands on the plough to plant the seeds of a world more human, more generous, truly concerned with the common good, deeply aware of a sense of solidarity and collective responsibility in history."

This new and better world must be built without violence, Cardinal Silva warned.

"We all must help to free man of the pestilence of ignorance, distrust and homicidal hatred, and cooperate with men of good will to build a human world for tomorrow," Cardinal Silva concluded.

Missioners Sent Home 'For Telling Truth'

St. Louis — (NC) — Two U.S. missionaries who spent 10 days in a Brazilian jail were forced to leave the country "because we told the truth."

The words are those of Father Darrell Ruppier, O.M.I., 31, of Carroll, Iowa, who has returned here with Father Peter Grams, 28, of St. Louis.

In a military take-over, the Brazilian constitution was suspended and the congress dismissed. The weekly bulletin and Dec. 15 sermons at their suburban Recife church, the two priests said, deplored the suspension of constitutional freedoms of speech, assembly, habeas corpus and representation.

"At 10 o'clock that night, about 30 men in six cars surrounded the church," Father Grams related. "One of our parishioners who was just leaving the church returned and told us six armed men were at the door, waiting for us. We turned off the lights, we lit a candle through the church, and they stopped us."

Father Grams, whose father is a vice president of the Pulitzer Publishing Company, publishers of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, said their cell was a windowless room in the downtown police station. For three days, the priests were not allowed to speak to each other. The American consul arranged for them to have beds.

After 10 days the two were given a choice, they said — "To leave the country voluntarily or face a military court on charges of 'subversive agitation.'"

"We were told that if we decided to face trial, the questioning would continue

INDUSTRIALIST 'ORDAINED'

Florence, Italy — (RNS) — A wealthy industrialist was ordained to the Catholic priesthood here two years after joining the Salesian Order.

Father Paolo Lurchesi, 31, formerly was a textile engineer. His family made a fortune in the post-war Italian textile industry.

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Eat to Your Heart's Content and Live

"The way to a man's heart is through his stomach." This cliché, generally associated with romance is literally true, says the Genesee Valley Heart Association.

Food can endanger the heart or protect it, the association pointed out at the start of a year-long education campaign on diet and the risk of heart attack.

The association recommended eating habits along these lines:

Meet daily needs for protein, vitamins, minerals and other nutrients; control calories and keep a desirable weight.

Lower intake of food containing saturated fat and cholesterol, and see that more of the fat is polyunsaturated.

Egg yolks and organ meats such as liver, kidney and sweetbreads are very high in cholesterol, and shellfish have moderate amounts of it. But there is no cholesterol in foods of plant origin such as fruit, vegetables, grains, cereals and nuts.

Saturated fats tend to raise the level of cholesterol in the blood. Foods containing a high proportion of saturated fats include beef, lamb, pork and ham, butter, whole milk, cream and cheeses made from whole milk and cream. Saturated vegetable fats are found in coconut oil, chocolate, and many solid shortenings.

Polyunsaturated fats tend to lower the cholesterol level. These usually are liquid oils of vegetable origin, such as corn, cottonseed, safflower.

A risk-reducing diet can be adopted without drastic changes. This is what the Genesee Valley Heart Association recommends:

1. Eat no more than three egg yolks a week.
2. Eat more meals of fish, veal, chicken and turkey, which contain small amounts of saturated fats, and fewer English muffins, meals of fatty beef, lamb, pork and ham.
3. Use skim milk fortified with vitamins A and D, and cheese made from skim milk instead of whole milk and cream.
4. Use margarine rich in polyunsaturated fats. Substitute polyunsaturated vegetable oils for solid cooking fats.
5. For a nutritionally sound diet, the daily meal plan should include vegetables, fruit and cereals, and breads made with a minimum of saturated fat, such as white enriched bread, whole wheat, French, Italian, pumpernickel and rye bread, and English muffins.

Even the 'Haves' Are Found Ill Fed

By J. J. GILBERT (NC News Service)

Washington — The people of the United States are about to be told that there is a great deal of undernourishment in this country.

Malnutrition exists not only among the poor, but also among the fairly well-to-do, and especially among youngsters. It would seem that, in the midst of plenty, a great many people don't know how to use food.

It isn't always that people don't eat enough. They don't eat the right things, like fruit and fruit juices, leafy vegetables and milk. This seems to be particularly the case with teenagers, where it is said that a collateral problem is obesity. Many youngsters, presumably, eat things that put on weight rather than nourish properly.

The U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare has been going into all this. Its report is said to be a year off, with a preliminary report promised for next month. The outline apparently has become so clear, however, that persons engaged in the study can already make the above observations.

Independently of the HEW study, government workers engaged in programs like the Job Corps and other projects that brought young people together in some numbers found out some time ago that many young people in this country have poor eating habits.

Hey, Mrs. McGee

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'Truth'

New York — If you've ever been both too many salesmen and callers in the matter of many days, consider the case of Rev. Marion I. of the oldest, and most fashionable parish in the country.

In one brief five-day the Rev. Dix reluctant "no" to various salesmen, various shoes, underwear, fire extinguishers, office safes, a course, a three-horse, two-horse, a 300-horse steam engine, bandments, plumbing equipment, and course.

Wait! There's more.

The Rev. Dix also turned down a tattoo who had come prepared with an eagle in colors on the minister's 28 second-hand clothing who were prepared to give for his clothing, 14 pawnbro each under the impression that the pastor needed financial help—30 physical.

Parish to the

All in

Brooklyn Center, (RNS) — Members of phonus Catholic Church are building a new home for eight children, mother has terminal.

The Richard J. Hill has been told by the that their presence unsafe.

Mr. Hill, a letter of been struggling with medical bills for including the costs of operations and hosp since last January.

"I wanted to build house," he said, "but the bank, and with I already owed couldn't swing it."

"Then I got a call told me I had a surprise. I asked what but said, 'You'll see.' An home one day and the Caterpillar, digger."

Idea for the project from Eugene Sullivan, dent of the parish's St. de Paul Society, and Scherer, state legisl partner in a lumber.

A great deal of the the house has been cut by various construction workers.

Seven carpenters blockers, all members parish, have worked house. Electricians a ers will join the project. And an unskilled "thumb-bashers" has loyally. And Mr. Hill ed along with them.

He estimated that cost him about \$15,000.