

COURIER-JOURNAL

NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

Vol. 80 No. 18

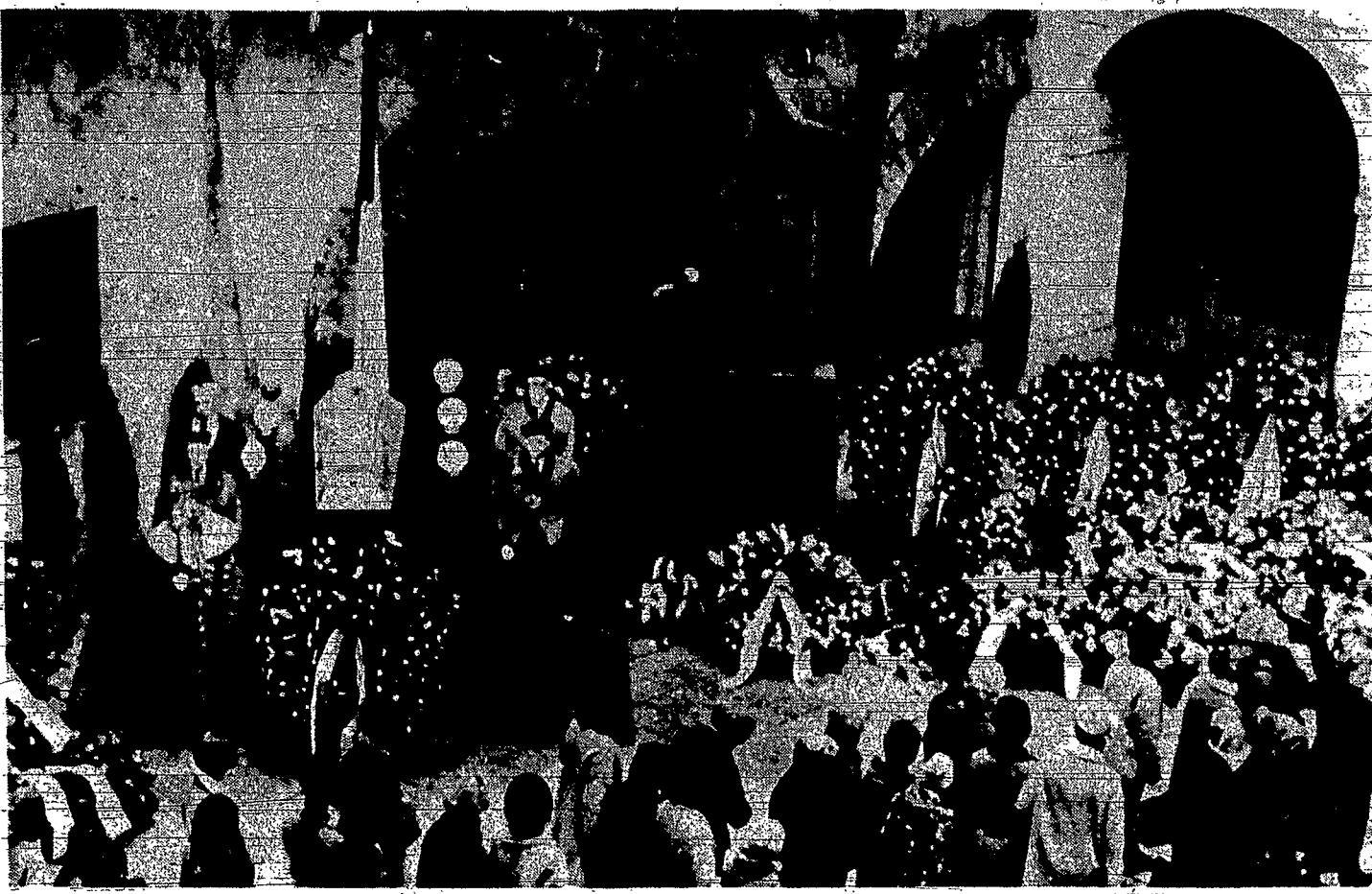
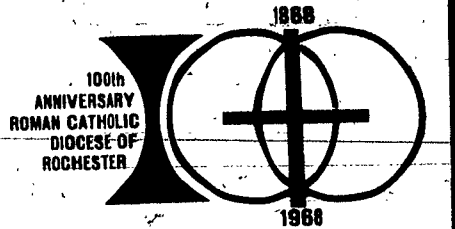
16 Pages

★

Rochester, New York

Price: 15¢

Friday, Jan. 31, 1969



Tribute to Czech Martyr

Czechoslovakians pass the silver-encrusted casket of Jan Palach, leaving behind hundreds of wreaths in tribute to his self-sacrifice (immolation) in protest to the Soviet occupation of his country. The procession is shown outside the 600-year-old Goth Carolinum Hall of Charles University. Story on Page 3.

Mindszenty Status Unchanged

Vatican, Hungary in New Pact

By FR. R. A. GRAHAM, S.J.
Special Correspondent

Vatican City — (RNS) — Church-state relations in Hungary, chaotic since the sensational trial 20 years ago of Joseph Cardinal Mindszenty, may now be entering calmer waters.

After long months of negotiation, the Vatican and the Communist-style regime of Budapest agreed on a list of candidates for vacant episcopal sees.

What gave the tone to the appointments was the elevation of Bishop Pal Breznanecy to become Archbishop of Egger. Archbishop Breznanecy has long been the bete noir of exile circles who point to his record for consistent support of the regime and his role as a leading "peace priest" ready to second any Communist propaganda initiative. No one doubts he was the choice of the government.

In the Vatican no attempt is made to claim that the appointments are anything but a compromise, necessitated by the need to secure a younger leadership and to fill important posts. In its own reply to critics, the Vatican can say that the status of Cardinal Mindszenty remains unchanged.

In the meantime, however, Cardinal Mindszenty is in no position to contribute to the solution of the Church's day-to-day problems or to provide leadership, except in a symbolic form.

Archbishop Breznanecy, for his part, regardless of the opinion held of him by political circles abroad, is obviously judged worthy of his post. His political orientation is the opposite of that of Cardinal Mindszenty. And years of experience with him have convinced the Vatican that he can be trusted.

The news was welcomed in Hungary by governmental sources who emphasized their belief in the "peace

ful co-existence" of Church and state and the desire to live in good terms with the Vatican. It was also stated that "the interests of believers are not in conflict with the objectives of the Socialist system."

This kind of language is quite different from what was heard in 1949 during the trial of Cardinal Mindszenty. From the Communist viewpoint, the cardinal has been outflanked and isolated by the new appointments of bishops who do not share the viewpoints of the Prince Primate of Hungary.

Mindszenty's position, as is known, is that he will not resign his see until he is given a complete vindication by the regime which persecuted him. This desire the Pope has respected and the choice of his resignation remains in his own hands.

To what extent will this precedent influence other "popular democracies" currently at odds with the Holy See? Will the Vatican's concessions to Hungary, such as the naming of a "peace priest," become a precedent also for Czechoslovakia, or Poland — or Lithuania?

Why Catholic High Schools?

"I would rather see us close down all our Catholic colleges before we close a single Catholic high school."

This is one of many provocative thoughts expressed by Father William O'Malley, S.J., of McQuaid High School in a frank treatise on the needs of Catholic schools.

The Courier-Journal feels that teenagers, in particular, will find Father O'Malley in tune with their thinking and that adults, as well, will gain some insights into the viewpoints of the younger generation.

The article is on Page 12.

'Fly Now; Pray Later'

By BISHOP FULTON J. SHEEN

Three events of the past week which made all lovers of Christ and His Church a little heavy hearted were:

1. A pastor discovered, to his amazement, that a religious, teaching one of the grades, did not have her class offer a single prayer since the opening of school in September. Her reason: class prayer is too formal and uniform.
2. A group gathered, in the name of Christ, in the public market under the slogan: "Unite now; pray later."
3. Teachers in some of our schools are saying: "Unless you feel like going to Mass, there is no need of fulfilling the Third Commandment!"

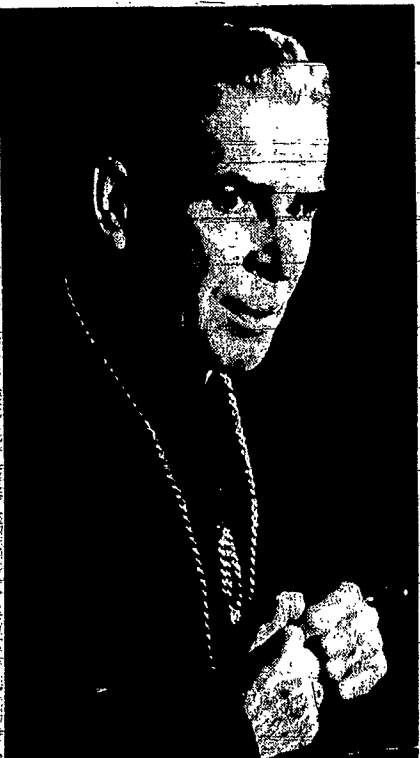
Suppose the logic of the above three examples was carried to the following conclusions — what would we have?

1. The school would have no cheering section, nor a football team wearing the same uniforms, nor would they ever huddle; seniors would have no class rings, students would never join choirs or listen to bands — because these are too formal.

Should not the teacher have adverted to the fact that there was considerable "prayer of adoration-to-the-god of fashion" with all the girls saying: "Since, O sovereign deity of style, you decree mini-skirts for girls, grant us that our hem lines never fall; and since you guarantee strangling tight pants for us boys, never let us be loose, or pressed, or different from one another in our service to thee, O lord 'master of mode' Evidently, those who do not pray together, style together.

2. The new logicians, gathering in the name of Christ, find a way to de-Christify ecumenism. The night before He died, the Lord looked up to heaven and said: "I pray, Heavenly Father, that they may be one as we are one."

"Nonsense!" they say, "We will unite, then we will pray. What do you know about unity, O Christ? Unity is not a gift from above; it is a push from below. We beg no Potter to fix our smashed vase; we call no Doctor to mend our broken bones; we summon no Model to unify our varied pigments on the canvas. The world has taught us: 'Fly now; Pay later', and we respond: 'Unite now; Pray later!'"



Bishop Sheen

Lawyer, Doctor to Head Up Diocese 'Right to Life' Panel

Eugene R. Cusker, a Rochester attorney, and Dr. Thomas R. Sweeney, an obstetrician-gynecologist, will be co-chairmen of the diocesan Right to Life Committee, formed to alert diocesan laity about attempts to liberalize New York State's abortion laws. It was announced this week.

The announcement came from Father John Norris, pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church in Rochester, and coordinator of the committee for the Diocese of Rochester.

"I am gratified that these two prominent laymen have undertaken this effort at a time when our state faces the prospect of a dangerous weakening of the present abortion laws," Father Norris stated.

Three other men, all lawyers, and two women form the nucleus of the committee, which will be augmented in the next two weeks, he noted. The other five named were:

Attorney Gerald R. Barrett, 225 South Ave., Webster; attorney Robert J. Edelman, 10 Evandale Rd., Brighton; attorney James White, 163 Mulberry St., Rochester; Mrs. Rita Shea, 215 Flower City Park, Rochester; and Mrs. John Tracey, 2850 Ridgeway Ave., Greece.

In accepting their roles as co-chairmen of the Right to Life Committee, Dr. Sweeney and Mr. Cusker cited medical and legal principles as the basis for their decision to head the committee.

"The proposed liberalization of long standing abortion laws would give to doctors and others the power of life and death over a human being," Dr. Sweeney noted. Adding that "an unborn baby is nevertheless a baby," the Rochester physician continued, "this is why society has made laws against abortion, and why abortion should never be left to the judgment of doctors or other mere mortals."

Stressing that the medical profession exists to preserve human health and life, he commented further, "one doesn't have to be a Catholic to oppose abortion."

"As a physician, I would feel obliged to fight against an easy abortion law, no matter what religious beliefs I happened to subscribe to," Dr. Sweeney concluded. Married and the father of three children himself, Dr. Sweeney has his office at 3900 Dewey Ave. in Greece.

A 34-year veteran of law practice, Mr. Cusker commented that his stand is based on the fact that liberalized abortion laws would violate "the most primary right that a human being has — the right to live."

This right, he noted, is guaranteed

(Continued on Page 2)

WRITE YOUR LOCAL LAWMAKER.

Do you have an opinion on liberalization of the abortion bill in New York State?

SENATORS

Thomas Laverne, 50th District, 4199 St. Paul Blvd., Rochester, N.Y. 14617.

James E. Powers, 51st District, 17 Evergreen Drive, Chili, N.Y. 14624.

William T. Smith, 48th District, Smithome Farms, RD 1, Elmira, N.Y. 14903.

Theodore D. Day, 49th District, RD 2, Interlaken, N.Y. 14847.

Thomas E. McGowan, 54th District, 704 Brisbane Bldg., Buffalo, N.Y.

ASSEMBLYMEN

Donald C. Shoemaker, 130th District, 833 Lake Road, Webster, N.Y. 14680.

Raymond J. Lill, 131st District, 31 Wolfert Ter., Rochester, N.Y. 14621.

S. William Rosenberg, 132nd District, 1866 Clover Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14618.

Frank Carroll, 133rd District, 613 Elm Grove Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14608.

Charles F. Stankiewicz, 134th District, 74 Second Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14613.

Don W. Cook, 135th District, P.O. Box 181, Henrietta, N.Y. 14457.

George Michaels, 122nd District, 10 Norman Ave., Auburn, N.Y.

Constance E. Cook, 125th District, Coy Glen Road, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850.

L. Richard Marshall, 126th District, 7 Strathurst Park, Elmira, N.Y. 14905.

Charles D. Henderson, 127th District, 89 Church St., Hornell, N.Y. 14843.

Frederick L. Warden, 128th District, 100 Lewis St., Geneva, N.Y. 14456.

Joseph Finley, 129th District, RD 1, Walworth, N.Y. 14668.

James L. Emery, 136th District, 6477 Lakeville Road, Geneseo, N.Y. 14454.

All may be addressed at the State Capitol, Albany, N.Y. 12201.

Abortion on Demand Real Anti-Life Aim

By RUSSELL SHAW
(NC News Service)

Two significant trends marked the pro-abortion movement in 1968. Both will continue in 1969.

The first was in the legislative arena. Enactment of new laws on abortion brought to six the number of states which have adopted liberalized abortion statutes in the last two years. The states are California, Colorado, North Carolina, Maryland, Georgia and Mississippi.

Pressure for passage of such laws will continue in the months ahead. In 1969 it will be possible for new abortion legislation to be introduced in 47 states.

The second major trend in the abortion controversy during 1968 is the emerging evidence — indeed, the outright acknowledgement — that abortion on demand is the ultimate objective of the pro-abortion forces.

The American Civil Liberties Union spelled this out last March in an exceptionally frank policy statement.

"The American Civil Liberties Union," the statement declared, "asserts that a woman has a right to have an abortion — that is, a termi-

nation of pregnancy prior to the visibility of the fetus — and that a licensed physician has a right to perform an abortion without the threat of criminal sanctions.

"In pursuit of this right the union asks that state legislatures abolish all laws imposing criminal penalties for abortions performed, for whatever reason, by a licensed physician."

And a typical endorsement of abortion on demand was given recently by Virginia State Del. Wallace G. Dickson, sponsor of a liberalized abortion bill defeated in the General Assembly in 1968. He said, "Increasing numbers of Americans are coming to the considered conclusion that there should be no laws at all regarding contraception or abortion beyond those governing any medical and surgical procedure.

"They feel that contraception and abortion as a form of surgical contraception are part of the civil rights of every woman."

For years the abortion reformers have crusaded on a platform built on enactment of laws to make it easier to get an abortion — but not on the abolition of all laws on the subject. Why the sudden switch now in tactics to open advocacy of abortion on demand?

One answer lies in the fact that the "reform" laws enacted up to now have made no dent in the problem they were supposed to solve — illegal

(Continued on Page 2)

Greater Role For Women In Liturgy

Washington—(NC) — Women may read the Epistle at Mass at certain times and the Lord's Prayer may be sung by priests and people together, the Vatican has declared to the U.S. Bishops in response to requests sent to the Holy See by the bishops' National Conference last November.

The Vatican Consilium on the Liturgy conceded that qualified women, especially religious, may proclaim the lessons and the Epistle at Mass or be commentators while standing outside the sanctuary, and may direct the singing. The ruling applies to "convents, in schools, at retreats and in gatherings of women where a suitable male lector would not be present."

The Consilium also stated that "since the Lord's Prayer has become communitarian prayer, musical compositions of this do not have to be approved." However, the Vatican office added that the laity should be taught to sing the Our Father in Latin in the Gregorian melody as "a liaison with the Roman tradition and its rite."

The Holy See also confirmed the U.S. Bishops' approval of translations of the Jerusalem Bible, the Catholic edition of the Revised Standard Version and the Confraternity version of the Bible for use with the projected lectionary which will offer a 3-year cycle of readings for Sunday Masses. Date of publication is not yet known.

Several other requests by the American Bishops were not granted: a proposal that individual bishops should be able to permit priests to concelebrate Mass even though they had already celebrated Mass once or more on that particular day; the establishment of centers for liturgical research and experimentation; a special Thanksgiving Day Mass; a liturgy for sacred missions.

ON THE INSIDE

Bishop Sheen	6
Around the World	5
Around the Country	5
Commentary	15
Diocesan	7
Editorial	6
Entertainment	10
Sports	13

IF YOU MOVE

let us know about it so we can keep your Courier coming to you on time. Phone or mail us notice of your change of address. Include your old address and new address and the name of your parish.

Courier-Journal, 35 Scio St., Rochester, N.Y. 14604. Phone 716-454-7050.