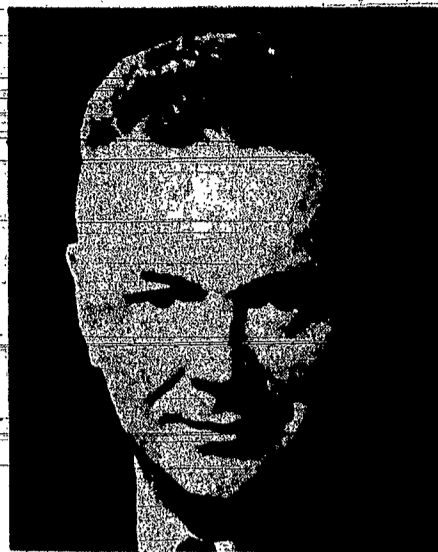


PEOPLE AND EVENTS

Pope Paul VI made a visit to the grotto under St. Peter's basilica and inspected excavations around what Vatican archeologists believe is the site of St. Peter's burial. The Pope was accompanied by archeologist Margherita Guarducci, a professor at Rome University. Her findings had prompted the Pope to announce last June that there was convincing evidence that the bones found in a marble box under the floor of the basilica were those of St. Peter.

President Richard M. Nixon attended two prayer breakfasts (Jan. 30) with government leaders. He said he is confident his administration can meet the challenges of the times "because we are sustained and inspired by the prayers of millions of people." The President and Mrs. Nixon joined some 600 cabinet and defense chiefs and congressional leaders at an 8 a.m. prayer breakfast. An hour later, the President joined some 2,000 others at the Sheraton Park Hotel for a breakfast sponsored by the Senate and House weekly prayer breakfast groups.



Washington, D.C. — (RNS)—For the first time in its 82-year history, the Catholic University of America will have a lay administrative head. Heretofore, a bishop or priest served as rector of the 6,600-student pontifical institution. Dr. Clarence C. Walton, 53, a prominent social scientist, was named the university's first president after a 15-month search. The office of the presidency replaces the former post in which the administrator was identified as rector.

Father (Capt.) Joseph A. Aul, S.V.D., 36, an Army chaplain in Vietnam, has been awarded the Air Medal for "actively participating in more than 50 aerial missions over hostile territory." Father Aul does most of his traveling by helicopter, often the only way to get to the men in combat areas. National Council of Catholic Men directors have pledged "loyalty, encouragement and prayers" to President Nixon.

Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge read the lessons at the service as the American delegates to the Paris peace talks attended services in the American Pro-Cathedral of the Holy Trinity. Quentin L. Quade has been named dean of the graduate school at Marquette University. The last of the Methodist bishops to serve the Chinese mainland, Bishop W. Y. Chen, died recently in Chungking. He had been jailed for 10 years by the Red Chinese but released in 1959 because of ill health.

Father Raymond W. Lessard, a priest of the diocese of Fargo, N.D., presently stationed in Rome, has been named director of Villa Strich, a residence for American prelates and priests in the service of the Church in Rome. As the new director of the residence, Father Lessard will take over duties fulfilled until now by Bishop Paul Marchinkus, formerly a priest of the archdiocese of Chicago, who recently was named secretary of the Holy See's Institute for Works of Religion. A Roman Catholic priest will join the faculty of United Presbyterian-related College of Wooster next semester. Father Edward P. Brennan has been named an instructor in the Department of Religion. His appointment followed a search for a priest to provide the Catholic viewpoint to the department's course offerings. Dr. Arnold E. Carlson has resigned from his post as executive secretary of the Division of Theological Studies of the Lutheran Council in the USA.

Italy Mulls New Pact With Vatican

Rome — (RNS) — A six-man Italian government commission, headed by the minister of justice, has begun to study the possibility of revising the 1929 Concordat between the Vatican and Italy.

Known as the Lateran Pact, the agreement has regulated relations between Italy and the Vatican and has significantly affected Italian life since Mussolini signed it 40 years ago.

Italian legal experts here say that the agreement should be modified or totally annulled on quite a few points:

1. The concordat makes Roman Catholicism the sole state religion of Italy. This, according to the Italians, is opposed to the country's post-war constitution.
2. The state, according to the Lateran Pact, may not employ apostate or censured priests. This, in the past, led to the expulsion from university posts of several scientists who had formerly been members of the priesthood; this it is said, can no longer be accepted by the government.
3. The clause under which the teaching of Christian doctrine is fundamental will be changed, as it is considered contrary to the liberties guaranteed by the Constitution.
4. All marriages in Italy are governed by Canon Law under the Concordat. But, according to the Italian state, this is not in accordance with civil law currently valid.
5. The Catholic Church can claim complete tax exemption under an other clause for which modification is demanded.
6. The Italian clergy may not participate in political activities or claim membership in a political party. This clause of the Lateran Pact is considered invalid by the state today, which claims priests are citizens with equal rights and that they cannot be forbidden political activities.

JOINT CHURCH PLANNED

London — (NC) — Anglicans and Catholics in the Hippenham area of Buckinghamshire are planning with their bishops' approval Britain's first multi-purpose shared church for parish use.

The church will be owned by a limited company — with six Catholic and six Anglican directors — which will lease it to the two communities for services.

SWISS PLEDGE AID

Geneva — (NC) — The Swiss government has pledged emergency donations of medicines and food for shipment into Biafra from Sao Tome to assist the Red Cross airlift from Equatorial Guinea.

Curb Anti-Semitism, Educators Tell Russia

New York — (RNS) — Some 2,000 professors at American universities and colleges have called upon leaders of the Soviet Union to end the campaign of anti-Semitism there.

The appeal, made in a full-page advertisement in The New York Times, was "for the Jews of Silence" in the Soviet Union who have been deprived of the right "to perpetuate their cultural, religious and communal life."

Sponsored by the Academic Committee on Soviet Jewry, it presented an eight-point program aimed at fostering Jewish institutions and life in the USSR.

Heading the list of petitions was a request for "a systematic educational campaign to combat anti-Semitism," particularly as this has manifested itself under the guise of anti-Zionism since the Six-Day War of 1967.

The appeal noted that "fifty years

after the October Revolution Soviet Jews alone among the multitude of Soviet nationalities groups remain deprived of virtually every institutional opportunity for preserving and fostering their culture.

To offset this deprivation the petition urged the government to restore the "necessary educational and publication facilities" in Yiddish, Hebrew and Russian to the Soviet Jews.

The Soviet government was asked: — To facilitate the formation of Jewish youth clubs and centers.

— To provide channels of communication whereby Soviet Jews may maintain ties with Jews of other countries.

— To allow Jews in the Soviet Union who are separated from their families to be reunited with them by emigration to the U.S. or Israel and to allow those who wish to do so to emigrate to Israel.

Christians Hostile Toward Israel, Priest Asserts

New York — (NC) — A Catholic priest asserted that in the U.S. Christian community "there is a general indifference to the welfare of Israel that shades off into hostility," during a discussion here of the effect of the Middle East crisis on interreligious relations.

Father Edward H. Flannery, executive secretary of the U.S. Catholic bishops' secretariat for Christian-Jewish relations, claimed that there are many complicated issues involved in the Arab-Israeli confrontation, but that "the central issue is whether the state of Israel has a right to exist and grow, and I don't mean to grow territorially."

He cited both Christian and Jewish responsibility for what he called the "fragility of Jewish-Christian relations." In the Jewish community, he said there is "an over-expectation" in what dialogue has thus far accomplished, "yet that dialogue has hardly begun," since 90% of both the Christian and Jewish community has not been reached.

Father Flannery said the Christian community has to contend with "the fruit of estrangement and alienation that has been going on for 2,000 years." While it is not acceptable to be anti-Semitic, he said, "anti-Semitism comes out in veiled ways."

The long history of Christian charges of deicide has to give way to "the Pauline tradition" which is "a special bond and tie and special predilection of the Church for the Jews," Father Flannery said.

Adult Theology

Current Topics on Agenda

Current religious topics will be featured in eight once-weekly Adult Theology classes beginning next Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights — Feb. 10, 11, 12 and 13 — in Rochester, Penfield, Seneca Falls, Auburn and Corning.

The Wednesday night classes will be held in Holy Spirit School of Religion, Plank Road, Penfield. (These classes were erroneously listed in last week's edition to take place in Fairport.)

Eight consecutive Monday classes will be held at St. Agnes High School, Rochester. They include:

7:30-8:20 p.m. — "The Gospel and Contemporary Social Issues," Father Sebastian Falcone, OFM, Cap.; "Basic Concepts in Christian Morality," Father Cyriac Rosen, OFM, Cap. 8:40-9:30 — "Secularization and Christianity," Magr. William H. Shannon.

Scheduled from 8 to 8:50 p.m. on Mondays at St. Patrick's School, Seneca Falls, are classes on "The Dilemma of the Church," by Father Leopold Protomastro, OFM, Cap.

Tuesday classes will be held at Nazareth Academy, Rochester, and at Mt. Carmel High School, Auburn.

Nazareth Academy, 7:30-8:20 — "St. John of the Cross," Very Rev.

Albert J. Shamon; "The Church Today," Christine Bochen, M.A.; "Jesus Christ," Father Leopold Protomastro, OFM, Cap. 8:30-9:40 — "Secular Christianity," Father J. Patrick Logan; "The Dynamics of the Liturgy," Father Benedict A. Ehmann.

Mt. Carmel, 7:30-8:20 — "The Inner Life of the Christian," Father Brian Murphy, O. Carm. 8:40-9:30 — "Situation Ethics," Father Cyriac Rosen, OFM, Cap.

Wednesday classes will be held at Holy Spirit School of Religion, Penfield. They include:

7:30-8:20 — "The Christian as Person," Sister Joseph Michelle, S.S.J. 8:40-9:30 — "The Dilemma of the Church," Father Leopold Protomastro, OFM, Cap.

Thursday classes will be held in St. Patrick's Hall, Corning. They include:

7:30-9:40 — "Understanding Film Language," a two-hour course, Father Kunz. 7:30-8:20 — "Adolescent Psychology," John F. Brugel, B.S., M.S.; "Marriage: It's Happening — Right Now," Father Leopold Protomastro, OFM, Cap. 8:50-9:40 — "The American: A Product of His Religious Heritage," John H. Martin, B.A., M.A., Ph.D.; "Penance: How? Why? Where? When? How Often?" Father Cyriac Rosen, OFM, Cap.

Divorce Bill Rouses Bishops

Baltimore — (NC) — The Maryland Catholic Conference will oppose a bill now before the state's General Assembly, which would give a man who had deserted his wife the right to sue for divorce after three years.

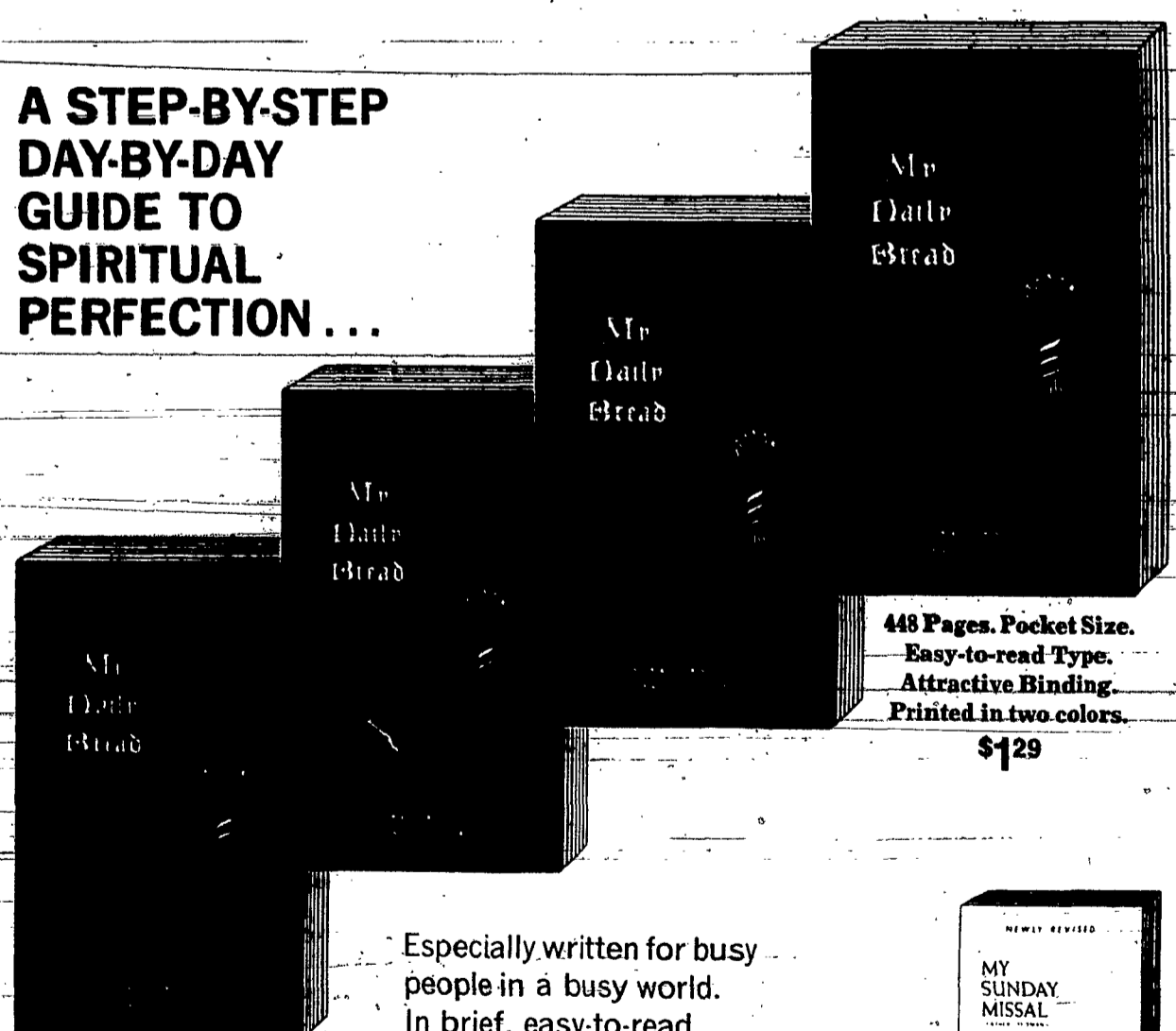
The bill, according to MCC director Joseph G. Finnerty, "for the first time under Maryland law would permit the marital wrongdoer to obtain a divorce as a result of his wrong."

Finnerty said Lawrence Cardinal Shehan of Baltimore, Patrick Cardinal O'Boyle of Washington and Bishop Thomas J. Maruga of Wilmington, disapprove of the bill (House Bill 7) "because it tends to encourage abandonment."

If the proposed bill is enacted, Finnerty said, a person who wants to be free to remarry would have only to abandon his spouse, wait three years, and then petition for divorce. The abandoned spouse could not prevent the action.

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Courier-Journal
Jews in Rome
Pope War
Vatican City — declared that the 14 persons — in on explosion charges last "gives picture that race pr its role."
At his weekly Jan. 28, the Pope asked mercy for Iraq. (This coming previous day's EO Vatican City daily, sent his envoy-in-erment authorize lives of the men.)
He warned of a of the executions, dangerous situa perious.
After speaking in Vietnam and 1 tente in Greece said:
"Then you kno pened recently in erous executions h
London — (NC) Heenan of Westm oiks to be very c ing The Times, a cause, he said, so news is slanted.
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Cardinal Heenan the Times follow: to the paper in w that it was "ove Catholic affairs t publicity given r unrest, even the 1
2-Year Sen Demanded.
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POPE RECEIVE
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