

# Let's Use 'Our Own Sweat,' Bishop Tells Samoans

Courier-Journal - Friday, March 14, 1969 9

**Auckland, New Zealand** — "It's time for us to serve God with our own sweat, instead of asking for help from overseas all the time. Our faith is immature unless we try to develop it in doing something."

The first South Pacific bishop of Polynesian parentage was explaining why he went out each day with his people to a 3,000-acre Church-owned ranch to swing an axe or bush-knife in a land-clearing effort.

Bishop Pio Taofinu of Apia, Samoa, has the energy at 45 and the strong, 6-foot physique to keep up with the best of his volunteers. He believes in direct show-them-yourself methods, so he joins in the crews of four men that are downing the big-girth tamanu, kava and Malava trees.

But the Samoans do need some outside help—priests, Sisters, some development capital—and this brought Bishop Pio

to New Zealand. One of his priests is now in Australia on the same kind of mission.

Bishop Pio began the land-clearing work soon after his consecration last May. He took with him a group of 16 young men, most of them his own relatives. They left each week-day after 7 a.m. Mass and came back after dark.

At night when he returned to his house, Bishop tackled his

correspondence and administrative work.

Since last November he has been able to ease up a little on the plantation. When his diocesan council met in November and discovered how much work he had been doing on the plantation they were staggered. They decided to provide some organized help.

Bishop Pio told them: "I could take my throne every day

and sit there like a king, but I'd hate that. It's time for us to do something. It's time for us to serve God with our own sweat. Instead of asking for help from overseas, all the time, our faith is immature unless we try to develop it in doing something."

His people got the message. They set up a land-development committee of six and put parish on a roster system for a week's voluntary labor.

The committee sends out trucks to collect the people from their parish or village on Sunday afternoon. They stay at the village and catechist school at Moama, where the plantation is, and work through from Monday to Friday.

Depending on the size of the parish, Bishop Pio said he has had between 100 and 300 volunteers most weeks. As a result,

about 2,000 of the 3,000 acres of Moama have now been cleared. There is still a hill area of nearly 2,000 acres owned by the diocese at nearby Lepiu to clear.

Bishop Pio is visiting New Zealand to determine the prospects for obtaining more nuns, Brothers and priests so that he can plan for the future.

Four native Samoan Sisters of the Congregation of Our

Lady of Nazareth returned at the end of last year after teaching training in Fiji and have established a school at Vaisusu. They are being assisted by two lay missionary women teachers from Australia, who have been sponsored financially entirely from Australia.



**Black Madonna**  
DeVon Cunningham puts the finishing touches to his statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary as Father Raymond N. Ellis looks on. (RNS)

## Church's Blessing Asked on Priests Who Marry

**New York** — A specialist in Church law has recommended that priests who resign from their ministry and marry be allowed to do so with the public blessing of the Church.

Father William W. Bassett, assistant professor at the Catholic University of America's School of Canon Law writing in the March 1 issue of the current Catholic weekly published here, explained the current procedures followed in dispensing priests from their vows, including celibacy.

Under the present norms—issued by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith on Feb. 2, 1964—"the marriage of the priest is performed in secret," Father Bassett said.

The ceremony is conducted by a priest appointed by the

bishop and, if civil law requires witnesses then these are also appointed by the bishop.

"The decree also generally includes a condition," Father Bassett said, "that he absent himself altogether from places where his priestly condition is known."

However, Father Bassett maintained, "the marriage of a priest honorably released from his ministry should be a public fact attesting to his good standing in the Church . . . and not considered some secret act of less value than other Christian marriages."

At the present time, he pointed out, the departing priest simply disappears and the laity are not told anything about the priest being granted a dispensation, of his marriage, "or of the good

standing of the priest as a Christian gentleman."

"However regrettable it may be for a man to resign the priestly ministry," Father Bassett said, "it is not a crime. Nor is it a crime for any man to exercise the inalienable and inviolable right to marry."

"To incriminate and drive from the Church any person for such a choice is a sanction too severe to be theologically tenable or any longer acceptable," he said.

Father Bassett suggested in his article that the whole process should be simplified:

- Essentially it should consist in "the tendering and acceptance of resignation" and "result not only in the complete release from the obligation of the priestly life but also in the honorable integration of the person into

the community of the Church in another capacity."

- It should be handled on the local level without recourse to the Vatican.
- "There should be a time limit of 'not more than six months' between the resignation and its acceptance."
- Before this, there should be a time of waiting in which the priest should obtain the counsel of other prudent men on his decision.
- During the time between the tendering of his resignation and its acceptance the priest should have available

the counseling and training services he needs to reenter secular life.

## U.S. Hurting Latin America, Labor Leaders Say

**By JAIME FONSECA**  
(NC News Service)

**Washington** — A team of Latin American labor leaders visiting in the United States contend that U.S.-sponsored labor activities in their lands very often run counter to the true interest of the workers.

The team, all members of the Latin American Confederation of Christian Trade Unionists (CLASC), is visiting students, labor and religious groups in New York, Washington, Detroit, Chicago and Los Angeles.

During a lecture at the Washington Cathedral (Epis-

copal) here, and at an interview with the NC News Service, the visiting labor leaders raised these issues:

- Government and labor representatives from Washington have combined with U.S. corporations doing business in Latin America to promote national security goals and American vested interests, rather than humane promotion of the workers there.
- Aid from international agencies here and in Europe should be channeled directly into grass-roots movements, bypassing the bureaucrat and the new paternalistic technocrat.
- The best and most effective ally of legitimate labor-movements struggling for opportunity and equality is the "progressive" clergy in Latin America.

Miguel Cardozo, (Uruguay) explained that before labor groups in Latin America can make any headway in bettering wages, contracts, working conditions and benefits, a battle must be won in more basic fields, such as the right of association.

"Two out of three Latin Americans are undernourished, and if they cannot satisfy hunger, think of other vital cravings which go unattended. In the cities, some 10 million able men are affected by

chronic or constant unemployment, and in rural areas 30 million landless farmhands depend on erratic work.

"Their pay, when they are lucky to hold a job, averages from 11 to 13 cents a day, or \$40 a year," he said.

UNESCO figures show, Cardozo continued, that 50 per cent of those 14 year-old and up are illiterate. Other data reveal a housing deficit of 40 million units, which leaves underhoused some 70 per cent of the families.

"Such conditions will generate more unrest eventually. At present, two thirds of

the 258 million Latin Americans are under strong military governments. The rich have temporarily taken recourse to the armed forces in order to maintain their hold, as it has happened in Brazil, Argentina, Peru, Panama and other nations," he said.



**Statue Returned After The Battle**  
A parishioner at a Catholic church in Bien Hoa, South Vietnam, returns the broken statue of a saint to the altar as fellow Catholics look on in the war-damaged building. The church had been the focal point of a battle between South Vietnamese Rangers, United States planes and helicopters and a North Vietnamese battalion. At one point during the fighting, the enemy used, for several hours, "an underground shelter under the altar as a hideout and command post. (RNS)

### Cardinal to Vacate Luxurious Palace

**Lima** — (RNS) — Juan Cardinal Landazuri Ricketts, Archbishop of Lima, announced here that he will give up the luxurious archepiscopal palace and move into poorer quarters.

The cardinal's new residence, in the middle of a working-class district of Lima, will be one-twelfth the size of the palace.

The cardinal has long been one of the Latin American hierarchy's leading advocates of Church aid to the poor. Besides calling for increased social involvement by the Church, he has criticized government military expenditures and has given Church land to poor families.

### VATICAN—UNESCO TALKS

**Paris** — (RNS) — Representatives of UNESCO and of the Pontifical Commission for Justice and Peace have been meeting here to discuss various ways in which the Church can participate in UNESCO-sponsored literacy programs throughout the world. According to unofficial reports, a new committee devoted to literacy and basic education programs is being formed within the Justice and Peace Commission.

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- German river
- Hawaiian food
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- Deposited
- Japanese apricot
- Clothe
- Having a hay fever attack
- Constellation
- Lubricates
- Neon sym.
- To move furtively
- Amount of assessment rating
- Football
- Tennis official
- Hostelry
- King Alfred's city: abbr.
- Parts of flowers
- Misrepresentants
- Music: it proceeds
- Apportion
- Ment
- Eye
- Play-thing
- Gun
- Can

**DOWN**

- Part of the farm scene
- More recent
- Intimidate
- Writing fluid
- Born
- Scoff
- Tartini's B-flat
- Support for a broken arm
- Belonging to a famous surrealist
- Prong
- Harmonize
- Coin of India
- Forelocks
- Tellurium: sym.
- Cleat
- Doctrine
- Good friend
- Speck
- Greek letter
- Adult insect
- Congenital
- Bélines
- Setines
- "Auld lang"

ANSWER

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50

**Portland Drive At \$1 Million**

Portland, Me. — (RNS) — Cash contributions of \$1,050,141 have been received by the Bishop's Campaign of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland toward a three-year program to raise \$4,250,000.

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