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Friday, April 4, 1969

## The Bishop's Easter Message

Friday, April 4, 1969

### My Dearly Beloved in Christ:

This Easter may I wish you hope and beg you never to be discouraged. Remember that Our Lord, on Easter Sunday, carried scars with Him to remind us that evil will never have an ultimate victory. The worst thing that evil can do is not to bomb cities, but to kill Goodness itself. Evil being defeated in its mightiest moment by His Resurrection from the dead can never be victorious again. Well, indeed, may the nail-torn Christ say: "I have overcome the world."

Jesus of the Scars knows what death is, for He is the only one Who ever came to this world to die. Everyone else comes to live; death was a stumbling block to Socrates; it interrupted the teaching of Buddha. But to Christ, it was the goal of His Life, the gold that He was seeking. Breaking those bonds of the grave, by His Resurrection, He has taught us to say: "O death, where is thy victory? O grave, where is thy sting?" No longer can men say there are no tears in the eyes of the Eternal, no pain in the heart of God. Take then your Christ with lily-white Hands, with uncrimsoned robes and unpierced brows, and Eyes undimmed by sorrow! Take Him from our midst! He is too soft for these hard days!

Scarred men come for healing only to scarred hands! Only a Risen Jesus with scars can understand our hearts. This is not an age of wars, but an age of scars! We all have scars! Everybody! Scars on bodies — the wounds of war; scars on souls — the wounds of godlessness. Scars of hate, fear, anxiety, melancholy, bitterness! Either scars fighting against Thee or scars fighting with Thee! Scars born of the offensive against Love; Scars born of the defense of Love!

It was a Christ with Scars Who spread the Gospel in the early Church. Maybe that is the way we will win back the world.

Wishing you peace of soul, the blessings of a risen spiritual life, and begging your prayers, I am, as ever,

Your servant in the Lord,

*Justin Sheen*

## Pontiff Names 35 Cardinals

Vatican City — (RNS) — Pope Paul VI announced he would hold a secret consistory on April 28 to elevate 35 new cardinals — four of them Americans — to the Sacred College. The names of 33 of the cardinals-designate were made public, but the Pope said he would defer naming the two others.

Seventeen nationalities were represented in the new group, which brought the College of Cardinals to a record 134 members and gave the United States the largest representation it has ever had — ten in all among the bishops of the Church.

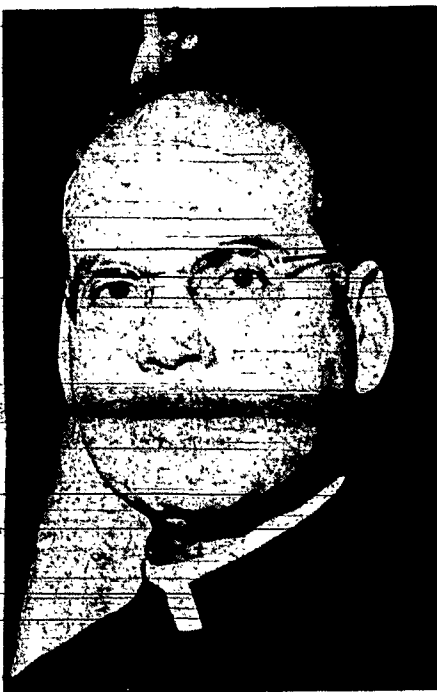
The American cardinals-designate were Archbishop John Francis Dearden of Detroit, president of the U.S. Catholic Conference, Archbishop Terence James Cooke of New York, Archbishop John J. Carberry of St. Louis, Mo., and Bishop John J. Wright of Pittsburgh, who was chosen for a post in the Roman Curia not immediately specified.

The College of Cardinals, which traditionally had been limited to 70 members, was raised to a then record membership of 87 by the late Pope John XXIII in March 1962. In February, 1969, Pope Paul elevated 27 prelates to the rank of cardinal and thus increased membership in the college to 103. He further raised the number of cardinals in June, 1967, to a new total of 118.

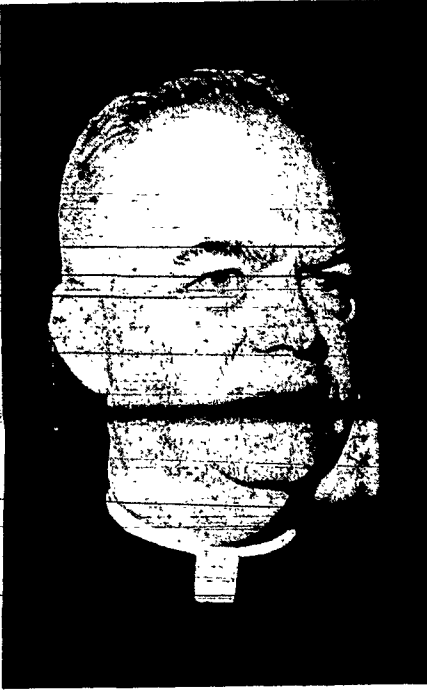
The new cardinals include the third and fourth black African prelates to be elevated to cardinalial rank. They are Archbishop Joseph Malula of Kinshasa in the Congo, and Archbishop Jerome Rakotomalala of Tananarive in Madagascar. They will take their places alongside Archbishop Paul Zoligrana of Ouagadougou, Upper Volta, and Laurian Cardinal Rugambwa, Bishop of Bukoba, Tanganyika.

The list of new cardinals included eight Italians, three Frenchmen, two Brazilians, three Spaniards, and one each from Canada, Holland, Germany, Mexico, the Philippines, Korea, India and Scotland.

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ARCHBISHOP COOKE



ARCHBISHOP DEARDEN



ARCHBISHOP CARBERRY



BISHOP WRIGHT

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## All-Night Vigils Reflect Young Hope of Church

By PINCER LEAVEN

Tomorrow night is for the children, because the festivities planned for the Easter Vigil Service will celebrate the young hope of our century-old Christian family: the rising of Christ in whom all things are made new.

In some churches the Vigil Service will be held between 7 and 8 p.m. — on Saturday. In others, close toward midnight, and, in a few, in the hours near dawn.

Every year at this time, the Jews call their children together to fulfill an edict of Moses. He commanded they call to mind and teach the children of the wonderful acts of the Lord in liberating his people.

Following on this ancient tradition, we Christians, too, group together to tell our children the history of our gathering, our origins, our salvation and our vision of the future. As we do this, we also formally welcome the children into our circle.

The pageant of our history opens at a late hour near the entrance to a darkened Church. The priest strikes a flint and ignites a pile of tinder. The smoldering fire is then blessed with prayer, incense and holy water. After three days, light has returned to our community.

The priest then blesses the Pas-

chal Candle. Using a stylus, he inscribes in its wax a cross, the Greek letters alpha and omega and the numbers of the current year. The symbolism comes from the Apocalypse, the last book of the Bible and signifies that Christ holds absolute power over the universe and the course of history.

He inserts into the candle five grains of incense covered with red wax, representing the glorious, redeeming wounds in Christ's flesh. Finally the candle is lighted from the new fire and the priest sings, "May the light of Christ, in glory rising again dispel the darkness of mind and heart."

Then begins the Easter Parade. The deacon carries the lighted candle through the Church, stopping three times to announce the presence of the Light of the risen Christ and to share its blaze and joy with the family. All the congregation, carrying candles, progressively lighted, walk behind the priest. The ceremony is taken from the early liturgy of the Church of Jerusalem and conveys the meaning that Christ illumines the spirits of all men by the gift of faith.

Next the deacon proclaims the Easter Mystery in an ancient, magnificent hymn: the Exultet. He invites all of creation — angels, earth,

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CHRIST  
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CHRIST  
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CHRIST  
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Easter Design by John C. Menihan