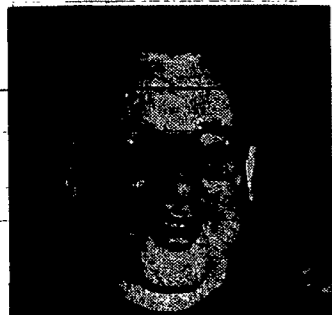




President Nixon, left, presents the Apollo 11 astronauts with the Freedom Award as two of their wives, Mrs. Armstrong and Mrs. Collins, right, applaud. The astronauts, from left, Michael Collins, Edwin Aldrin, and Neil Armstrong, received the highest civilian award bestowed by the nation at a dinner hosted by the President in Los Angeles. (RNS)

Cardinals and Apollo



A New History, Family of Man

Text of John Cardinal Cody's invocation at the Chicago ceremony (Aug. 13), honoring the three astronauts of Apollo 11.

To the age-old question, "What is man that you should be mindful of him, or the son of man that you should care for him?" (Ps. 8), we are gathered today to proclaim an answer. O Lord our God, We celebrate the fact that he is an inquisitive and inventive creature, gifted with insight and courage, capable of working with his brother in unison, undaunted by challenges and grave responsibilities.

Today we proclaim that we are proud to share the family name of "man" with Neil Armstrong, Edwin Aldrin and Michael Collins "who have traveled the paths of the stars and explored the work of your hands." (Ps. 8)

Today we pray that the wonder of a walk on the moon will indeed be more than "one small step for a man." Joined together as we watched a brave step to the moon's surface, fulfilling the labors and dreams and sacrifices of so many, the family of man became increasingly aware of the links binding us on this small spaceship we call earth.

Once before, men built a tower, "reaching to the heavens," but the end result was a babel of confusion, a scattered people, a broken family. Today let us commit ourselves to ensuring a "giant leap for mankind" by guaranteeing that we will use our fullest resources, our noblest qualities, our best men, to enlarge liberty and extend justice. We have begun a new history, the age of the family of man. What then is man? "Little less than the angels," the Psalmist said, "crowned with glory and honor . . . Lord, over the work of your hands. . . Yahweh, Our Lord, how great is Your Name throughout the earth." (Ps. 8)

May All Men Live as Brothers



Text of Terence Cardinal Cooke's invocation in New York City's welcome in honor of the Apollo 11 astronauts.

O Lord of the Universe, we thank You for the safe return of these three courageous men, who under Your inspiration went forth to the moon in peace for all mankind.

We thank You, O Lord, for the hope that the amazing journey of Apollo 11 has given to men everywhere. To reach the moon, countless men of vision and dedication, working together, overcame fear and dissension and advanced the frontiers of knowledge and faith.

O Lord, here in New York, we pray that each day we may see Your earth as the Astronauts have seen it as one planet, one world, with one human family. May we be inspired by our memory of the Moon Day of Apollo 11 to have the intelligence, the faith, the courage and the will to overcome poverty and war. With this giant leap for mankind, may all men live as brothers.

Grant us, O Lord, a renewed spirit of determination and cooperation so that on the good earth the age of space will be an age of peace and progress for all men and their families.

Filetto: The Town That Would Rather Forget

(Continued from Page One)

scar on my arm trying to save some of my things in the house.

"But I found out it was not possible. They had taken everything before they set my house on fire. They took all our food, our pigs and donkeys. They even took the bed covers. They left me and the rest with nothing.

"And I had five little children to feed and my husband was away in a prison camp. It was horrible."

As the years wore on, authorities conducted an investigation to determine who had ordered and who had carried out the execution order and the residents of Filetto went about the task of salvaging the pitifully meager remains of their lives — human and material.

Then, several weeks ago a German magazine broke the startling news that the German Army captain who had passed along the execution order was none other than Bishop Defregger, auxiliary of Munich.

The bishop admitted the role he had played in the tragic drama 25 years earlier and asked the people of Filetto find it in their hearts to forgive him.

Within hours after the news broke, Filetto was besieged by another army. This time there were no jack boots or uniforms.

It was an army of news media people and Communist fable-pousers.

The old wounds, scarred over after a quarter of a century, were brutally ripped open. Left-leaning and out-right Communist underlings in Italy as well as Germany demanded that the bishop be tried for murder.

knew. They urged the villagers to demand that the bishop return and publicly apologize. They urged that the villagers vote to publicly renounce him and demand that he be stripped of his lofty ecclesiastical rank.

But the people of Filetto would rather forget that night and all the heartache and loss it brought them.

"That was 25 years ago," said one of the survivors. "It is not important now. You show me the picture of this bishop, I do not even recognize the man."

Another looked at the picture and said: "I never saw the man who gave any order. If this was an older picture I might recognize him as just another of the Germans. But this old man, no."

But one woman was not so quick to dismiss the latest episode in the tragedy of Filetto.

"I know him," she snarled. "I'd remember those eyes anywhere. He is not fit to be a priest. I hate him." She spat on the ground.

As the woman walked away, her companion whispered to this reporter:

"She does not recognize him. She never saw the captain. She was doing well living with the memory of a good husband. Now this has come and she is all upset. It is like living through that night all over again. Please forgive her."

Leaving the town by the dirt road leading to a winding, steep single traffic lane down the mountain, this reporter paused by the simple, stone monument to the victims of the Filetto massacre.

Topped by a rusted iron cross, the monument's sides are decorated with pictures of the 17 men who died during the nightmare of Filetto 25 years ago.

The Pope

Are People Praying Less?

Castel Gandolfo, Italy — (NC) — Are people praying less today than before the Second Vatican Council?

Pope Paul VI raised this question at his weekly general audience here as he centered his thoughts on the need for personal prayer, above and beyond the community prayer which has been stressed by changes in the Church's liturgy.

The Pope noted that many of the more traditional forms of personal, non-liturgical prayers, such as the Rosary, the Stations of the Cross and others seem to be less in use than in the past.

"We have come to the opinion that today even the good people, even the faithful and even those who have consecrated themselves to the Lord pray less than they did in the past," he said.

In analyzing reasons for the decline in prayer, the Pope said it may be explained by the fact that men of today "are educated to the exterior life, which has acquired a wonderful development and attraction."

But the Pope insisted on the need for personal prayer, saying: "It is the indispensable condition for authentic and conscious participation. It is indeed the fruit, the consequence of this participation which is intended precisely to sanctify souls and to anchor within them the sense of union with God, with Christ, with the Church and with all mankind's brothers."

Obscenity Panel Going Awry, Priest Charges

New York — (RNS) — Unless the Presidential Commission on Obscenity and Pornography changes its direction, a Jesuit priest-member said here, "it will wind up merely by applying a band-aid to the festering, cancerous sore of obscenity in this country."

Father Morton A. Hill, S.J., one of the three clergymen appointed to the commission by former President Lyndon Johnson in January 1968, criticized the group's chairman, Dean William B. Lockhart of the University of Minnesota Law School.

The commission is devoting most of its efforts to studying the effects of pornography on the public, particularly the young, Father Hill said.

He suggested that it should give more attention to investigating the volume of traffic in obscenity and pornography, the means used in its distribution and the formulation of laws which can effectively regulate such material without interfering with constitutional rights.

Lockhart, a prominent Disciple of Christ layman, has long been an advocate of research into pornography's effects. When he accepted the appointment as head of the commission, he said that its staff of psychiatrists, psychologists and sociologists will try to identify the role of pornography in criminal acts.

While research on the effects of pornography is going forward, Father Hill charged, the commission is devoting 10 per cent of its \$750,000 research budget to legal studies and part of that is going to social scientists and other sources of data rather than constitutional lawyers.

To his knowledge, he said, no investigators have been hired to study the methods of distribution and the volume of traffic in pornography. He said that this subject calls for intensive investigation and research.

PEACE DAY THEME

Vatican City — (RNS) — The third annual World Day of Peace, to be observed on Jan. 1, 1970, will have for its theme: Educate Oneself to Peace through Reconciliation, the Pontifical Commission for Justice and Peace reported here.

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