



Open Air Liturgy

Father John Handrahan, S.J., celebrates an open-air folk Mass in a public park for members of the Catholic Youth Organization in South Portland, Maine. With the newly-approved liturgies, priests are able to make the Mass more meaningful for Catholics, especially for the young. As the photo shows, however some members of the older generation are also attracted by the updated liturgy. (RNS)

Bernadette Defies Convention

New York — (RNS) — Bernadette Devlin, the young girl who has become the voice of Catholics in Northern Ireland, comes across as a simple country lass, and she has a country girl's apparent indifference to the ways of sophisticated city-folk.

When the 22-year-old member of the British Parliament, who helped man the barricades in the Bogside quarter of Londonderry, wanted to see U.N. Secretary General U Thant she simply called him on the phone and asked for an appointment.

Ordinarily, members of national parliaments or congresses apply for such appointments through the U.N. mission of their government.

But the British mission said it didn't mind and anyway U Thant had invited her to come over as soon as she called him. She did. A little late because of the traffic and in casual attire, an orange and purple minidress, rather than in the conventional formal clothes normally worn on such occasions.

The five-foot-two Miss Devlin interrupted her conventional studies in psychology at the University of Belfast this past year to help lead the

Civil Rights Association in Northern Ireland as it pressed its demands for equal voting, employment and housing rights.

She became a leader in the Irish political life, an unconventional thing for a woman in that male-dominated island, and was elected to represent Mid-Ulster in the British Parliament. That was when she was 21-years-old. Now she is 22 and still the youngest member of that august body where Edmund Burke, Winston Churchill and other notables made their debut.

When she arrived in New York City to raise \$1 million in a week for her people back home, she was still dressed in the jeans and sweater she wore on the barricades and only later found time to buy a dress.

Asked by one newsman, when she got off the plane at Kennedy Inter-

national Airport, whether she viewed herself as a modern Joan of Arc, Miss Devlin answered that when the tear gas came across the barricades she looked up and told it to stop. "It didn't stop," she said, "so I mustn't be Joan of Arc."

The people she does identify with, she said, are the college students throughout the world who feel the world is in bad shape and that something ought to be done about it.

In her appeals to the largely Irish-American audiences that have gathered to see and support her in this country, there has been a strange mixture of student militants and blacks.

Strangely enough, this unconventional Irish girl had been able to bridge the generation and political gap in her audiences.

Religious Revival Seen Necessary in N. Ireland

New York (RNS)—Only religious revival in Northern Ireland will ultimately heal the conflict there, evangelist Billy Graham said on a nationwide television program originated here.

Asserting that the dispute in Northern Ireland has become so "bitter" and "deep" that a religious revival is ultimately the only answer to the problem, Mr. Graham said he would like to see "a great spirit of revival sweep both the Catholic and Protestant communities and bring them back together again in love."

At another point in the ABC-TV program "Issues and Answers," Mr. Graham said he feels much closer to the theology of the Roman Catholic Church than to "the radical Catholicism of some elements in the Protestant

Church" that disclaim the existence of God, virgin birth, or resurrection of Christ.

The evangelist asserted that some of the 100 "extremist groups" who want "to overthrow our entire system" are planning to change from demonstration to "terrorist" tactics, to be started by one group "about Oct. 1."

The country has more to worry about from the "white militants" who want to overthrow "the Establishment" than from the black militants, Mr. Graham suggested.

The tactics of some of the militant extremists, he claimed, include plans to "tear America down" by "filling it with drugs (and) pornography and enter into a period of moral decadence."

Canada Anglicans to Study Ordination of Women

Sudbury, Ont. — (RNS) — A study on the ordination of women to the priesthood was unanimously ordered here by the 24th General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada.

However, the Synod, which acted on a report of its commission on women, tabled for further consideration a resolution that full-time women workers in the Church be licensed by diocesan bishops and paid on the same basis as the clergy.

In its report, the commission of 16 women and four men deplored the fact that few women had a voice in the decision of policy-making bodies of the Church.

Spanish-Speaking CFM Unit Formed

Notre Dame, Ind. (RNS)—A Spanish-speaking unit of the Christian Family Movement was formally established at the CFM's annual convention here.

Called Movimiento Familiar Cristiano (MFC), the new organization was handed the following challenge by its first national president couple, Gustavo and Isabel Ercit: "Our goal is to challenge to unite the 11-million Spanish-speaking persons in the U.S., many of them in low income groups."

The CFM is "an international Catholic lay organization of married couples who seek to improve the quality of their family life and who involve themselves in social action projects."

"Now we are ready to move ahead. Spanish-speaking couples across the U.S. will gather in small neighborhood groups to deepen their understanding of themselves and to work towards the development of an Apostolic attitude in the family in order to live a Christian way of life in the community."

During the CFM annual convention here, Spanish-speaking couples, priests and nuns from 23 American dioceses participated in leadership training courses that will aid them in conducting the bi-weekly meetings that will be a part of the MFC program.

"We believe that the Church requires a ministry of both men and women, and that the potential of women has never been recognized or realized. . . . We've reached a period . . . when the Anglican Church of Canada must make up its mind whether its going to treat these persons as human beings equal in the sight of God and of their fellow man, or continue the present policy of indifference, prejudice and discrimination, with the resultant loss to the Church of much valuable service."

The commission said its members were convinced that women should be eligible for ordination to the priesthood.

The commission said it realized that to effect changes there would have to be a genuine change in attitudes of the clergy.

Colleges to Seek State Aid

Albany — (RNS) — Officials from 24 religious-affiliated colleges will troop to the State Education Department in coming weeks.

They are seeking no-strings-attached state grants under the new "Bundy Law," which denied aid to sectarian colleges and universities.

The purpose of their visits will be to convince officials from the department's higher education and legal bureaus that their schools' religious ties are so tenuous that they should legally become recipients of the Bundy money. Officials of Nazareth College and St. John Fisher College from the Diocese of Rochester will be present to plead their case.

A decision on their eligibility is likely to be made in early September.

Acting State Education Commissioner Ewald B. Nyquist, the man charged with deciding which schools are eligible for the aid, has already announced the 52 clearly nonsectarian colleges slated to receive a total of \$24,000,000 over the 1969-70 school year.

The 33 other colleges that had applied for the aid still were being considered.

Catholic Papers Urge Equality in N. Ireland

By JOHN GREAVES
(NC News Service)

London — Britain's Catholic newspapers have urged the British government in no uncertain terms to enforce the same equality and justice for Catholics in Northern Ireland as exists everywhere else in the United Kingdom.

The Tablet, a national weekly review, said the government, as the price for its rescue act in sending troops to restore order in riot-torn Northern Ireland, "certainly must demand" of the local Protestant government in Belfast a much fairer distribution of those posts of responsibility throughout Northern Ireland that previously have not been open to the Catholic minority.

It must demand the abolition of the "B Specials" — the militant Protestant police reserve held in terror by many Catholics there — and the repeal of the existing Special Powers Act allowing local police there to detain and hold suspects without trial, the Tablet said.

Finally, the government must demand "a much more rapid implementation of the social programs, especially distribution of housing and the fair redrawing of electoral boundaries," the weekly said.

The Universe, mass-circulation national Catholic newspaper, takes much the same line. It goes on, however, to mention the improving relations between Catholics and Protestants in Northern Ireland generally over the past 10 years.

"This new spirit . . . must be fostered because it provides the only kind of acceptable future," the Universe adds. "The past must be left behind and the Rev. Ian Paisley seen as a survival from a less tolerant age."

The Catholic Herald says in part: "Until extremists set out to spoil it, the gradual rapprochement of Catholic and Protestant there (in Northern Ireland) was promising to be the first example of really effective ecumenism in these islands, one that would have united a people divided by more than religion."

"It is for the decent majority on both sides that the situation must be saved and if to this end a coalition government is necessary then the Catholics must face the facts of life and not refuse to join in it."

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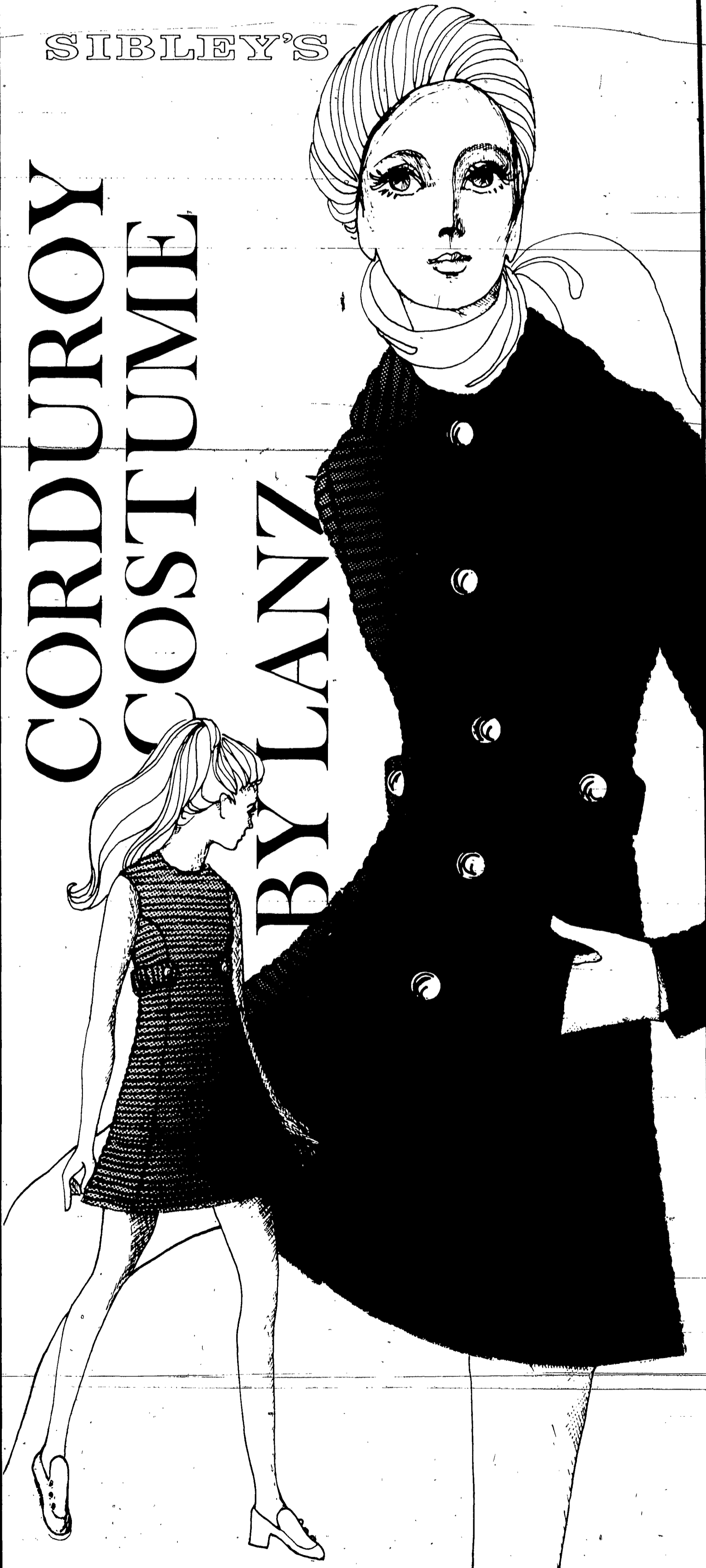
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