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UN May Get Irish Issue This Session

United Nations, N.Y. — (RNS) The General Assembly of the United Nations has been asked by the Republic of Ireland to debate the problems of the Catholic minority in Northern Ireland this Fall.

The 126-nation organization will probably agree to examine the question; but it is not certain that Britain will participate in such a debate.

The 15-nation Security Council heard the case made last month by the Republic of Ireland and then, in deference to Britain's vehement behind-the-scenes protest, adjourned indefinitely, without formally putting the question on its agenda and without in any way commenting.

In a preliminary comment on the Irish Assembly move, a British spokesman reiterated the claim that the recent agitation in the six counties in Northern Ireland, which is under British authority, was an internal affair which was under control and which did not necessitate any U.N. intervention, such as the proposed dispatch of U.N. peace-keeping troops there, as advocated by Ireland.

The debate itself, Ireland argued, should be based principally on the issue of human rights of the Catholic minority, and on the theory that Ulster is a "colonial" possession of Britain which should be de-colonized.

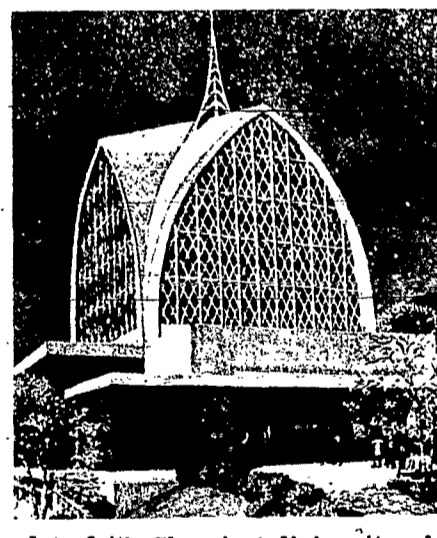
Quoting from the 1980 U.N. Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, Ireland reminded the General Assembly that:

"Any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and the territorial integrity of a country is incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations."

Progress Noted in Campus Work in Diocese

As nearly 16,000 Catholic students arrived this month at the 17 secular colleges of the area, the diocesan effort to continually improve its campus ministry showed the following:

- the opening of Catholic facilities in the new Interfaith Center at State University College in Geneseo;
- near-completion of the Interfaith Chapel at the University of Rochester;
- the beginning of full-time chaplaincy at Monroe Community College.



Interfaith Chapel at University of Rochester expected to be ready in January.

- enlargement of "infiltration programs," stressing ecumenical relations.

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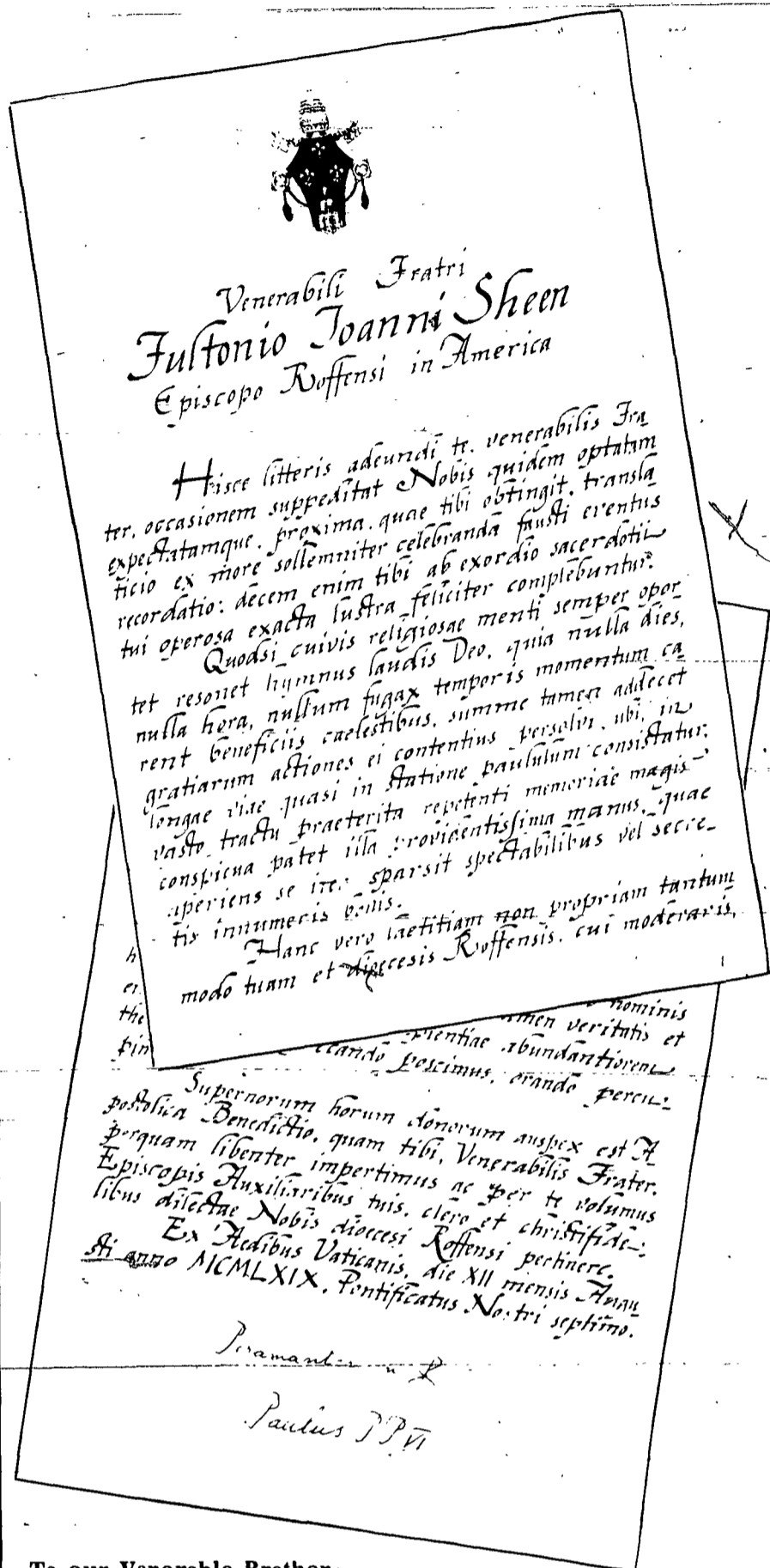
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Anniversary Message



To our Venerable Brother, Fulvianus, Bishop of Rochester

We greet you with this letter, Venerable Brother, availing ourselves of the forthcoming welcome and awaited occasion when you will be happily celebrating with solemn observance a very joyful event, for you will be successfully completing fifty busy years since your ordination to the priesthood.

While a hymn of praise to God must always echo in anyone of devout mind, since no day, no hour, no fleeting moment of time is without its heavenly blessings, more earnestly must thanks be given by one when he pauses for a moment in the course of a long journey, and going back in memory over the lengthy past, he beholds more clearly that most provident hand which opened and sowed the path of life with innumerable marvelous, sometimes hidden graces.

We feel that this joy is not reserved for yourself alone and the Diocese of Rochester which you govern and which properly shares with you the celebration of your anniversary, but we regard it also as Our own joy. Because of the union of faith and charity in which we are bound together. We deem it a most pleasing and gratifying duty to express by prayers and good wishes Our affection for you.

For your many labors, especially in promoting so successfully the increase of missionary endeavors in the United States of America in service to the church our Mother and to the Army of Christ, it surely seems proper that We should congratulate you. At the same time We urge you with loving words looking forward to a bright future, to design and effectively accomplish with unceasing energy ever greater and more fruitful works in accordance with the divine will, the source of all sanctity and justice.

Outstanding in your wide range of knowledge, zealous in the spread of Christian doctrine, extraordinarily endowed with powerful and abundant eloquence, press on as an undaunted servant of Christ with ever greater diligence and sincerity to serve that most holy cause to which you have devoted your life, the cause of defending the true and unalloyed Catholic Faith, contending as you do with the most accomplished in the forum of righteousness.

We exhort you always and everywhere to spread that wisdom, lacking which the rich are poor, and having which even the poor need nothing, that wisdom, namely, by which one rightly possesses an awareness of God, the supreme Good and the summation of all goods, that wisdom which under the governance of charity weighs, arranges and effects all things according to measure and number, since for those who seek it, the happy life flows from no other source than from the channels of wisdom's living waters.

That this be your good fortune and happily redound to your genuine credit, We ask in prayer and beg for you ever greater light of truth and an ever more abundant treasure of that wisdom which is from above.

In witness of these heavenly gifts, We gladly impart our Apostolic Blessing to you, Venerable Brother, and through you to your Auxiliary Bishops, the clergy and the faithful in the Diocese of Rochester which is dear to us.

Given at the Vatican on the 12th of August 1969, the seventh year of Our Pontificate

Lovingly in Christ

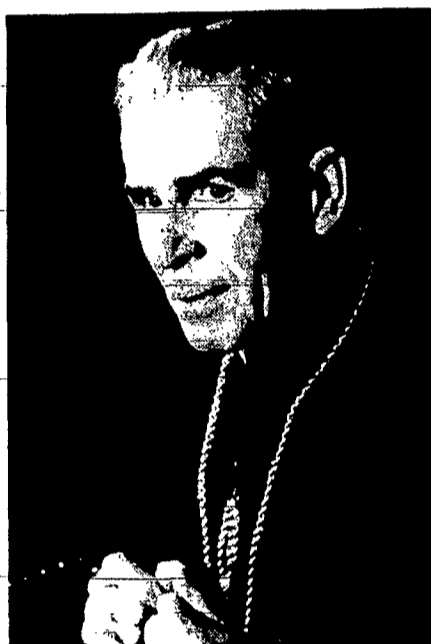
Paulus PP. VI

Bishop Sheen Has Jubilee in Priesthood

Fifty years ago tomorrow, Fulvianus Sheen, a student for the Diocese of Peoria from St. Paul's Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., was ordained a priest by Bishop Edward M. Dunne in St. Mary's Cathedral, Peoria, Ill.

To mark his golden anniversary Bishop Sheen will make a retreat this weekend in the seclusion and silence of the Trappist Abbey of Our Lady of the Genesee at Piffard.

On Sunday morning he will celebrate the anniversary of his first



Mass by offering 8 o'clock Mass in 126 year-old St. Raphael's Church, Piffard.

Returning to the Abbey around noon Bishop Sheen will offer the community Mass with the monks and remain at the Abbey until Monday.

The Bishop's firm decision to avoid a large celebration of his anniversary and instead to seek the prayerful quiet of a retreat was breached by only two recognitions of the jubilee: the composition of "Sit Down Quickly and Write Fifty..." (printed at the right), especially for the people of the diocese, and attendance at a small reception arranged by the staffs of diocesan offices this week.

The fifty years of Bishop Sheen's illustrious career in the Catholic priesthood developed episodically:

- less than two years as an assistant in parish work in Peoria and London;
- six years of graduate studies at Catholic University in Washington, the University of Louvain, Belgium, the Sorbonne in Paris and Collegio Angelico in Rome;
- twenty-five years as a teacher, at London's seminary, St. Edmund's College, and Washington's Catholic University;
- sixteen years as national director of the U.S. mission work of the Propagation of the Faith;
- nearly three years as Bishop of Rochester.

As the Shepherd of nearly 500,000 Catholics in the Diocese of Rochester, he has brought zeal, energy, imagination and holy purpose to the problems and aspirations of the Family of God for nearly three years.

Now at 74, he bravely writes: "My work, please the Lord is not finished.

Much is still to be done, while there is light.

So I await His promise to those planted in the House of God:

They will bear fruit in old age. Still remaining fresh and green."

Ad multos annos, Bishop Sheen.

—Father Richard Tormey

Pope Paul Lauds Modest Clothing

Castel Gandolfo, Italy — (NC) — On the day he paid homage to the martyred virgin St. Maria Goretti, Pope Paul VI said that "innocence and purity are virtues which one is almost afraid to mention these days."

He had travelled about 20 miles by automobile to the town of Nettuno, on the sea near Anzio, where St. Maria died in 1902.

In his homily the Pope described the saint as a "consoling example of virtue at a time when it is painful to observe man degrade himself.

"We know for example how immodesty in dress is required by the dictates of fashion, how the provocative and even pornographic illustrations of certain periodicals, spectacles and advertisements are deliberately intended to arouse base passions and profane living," he said.

The Pope said that it is necessary to mention the virtues of innocence and purity "for the honor of the title 'Christian' for the preservation of human dignity, for the sake of social customs, for honesty and happiness of the family, and for the moral strength of the young."

'Sit Down Quickly And Write Fifty'

BY BISHOP FULTON J. SHEEN

The twentieth day of September, nineteen sixty-nine, Thanks to the mercies of the Good Lord,

I am a priest for fifty years.

No celebration marks the anniversary except your prayers

And my own silent thanksgiving in a Trappist Monastery.

You know why: Any good done in these five decades

Was because God held my hand.

"What do you have that was not given to you?"

And if it was given, how can you boast as if it were your own?"

(1 Cor. 5/7)

Only the worthless things are mine, when my ego walked alone.

If it be a terrible thing to fall into the hands of the Living God,

It is a more terrible thing to fall out of them.

IN RETROSPECT

In that scroll and sequence of years, for what am I most thankful?

First, when born, my mother, like Hannah,

Laid me on the altar of the Blessed Mother

And dedicated me to the service of her Son.

This is my blessed assurance that the Lord will one day say:

"I heard My Mother speak of you."

+

Second, that each morn at Holy Mass;

I could hear drifting from a Cross:

"Can you drink My Cup?"

"Can you watch an hour?"

+

Third, thanks, dear Lord, for suffering to see that

Not all the crosses are on hills.

"Dragged like a plowshare through the heart,

Only new furrows cause the grain to start."

+

Fourth, as bishop, I might, as head

Feel the pain of every member of the Body.

And as a weak cell of that Body,

Sense unity with brother priests

Who love that head whose name is Peter.

+

Fifth, my thanks for our *Presbyterium*,

For my brothers of Bread and Cup

Who have met with me in shared griefs and joys

And daily restored the spiritual fortune of the diocese,

As "God restored Job's fortune because he prayed for his friends."

(Job. 42/10)

IN PROSPECT

What do I see and hope?

I see the Lord cleaning house,

Testing the Church as He did the Germans with Nazism,

The Russians with Communism,

And us with worldliness and half drawn blades.

+

I see the few who lose their way,

But thank God, because they never throw away the map,

One day will come home again.

+

I see that though the doubters have choked the spiritual life,

As the Philistines choked the wells of Abraham,

Yet, if we but dig, as Isaac did,

We will find the underground waters of Life

Still there buried and undestroyed.

+

I see the role of the priest has not changed.

Astronauts are not different persons on the moon—

Only their milieu changes;

If they carried not their atmosphere with them,

They would perish, as would we priests.

Without the "sweet odor of Christ."

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