

View of Synod

Beginning of Decentralization?

By ROBERT R. HOLTON — Courier-Journal Special Correspondent

Vatican City — The first chapter in what could become the textbook on "decentralization of authority" in the Church was written during the World Synod of Bishops.

If, as most observers believe, Pope Paul accepts the synod's suggestions for practical ways in which to share responsibility and still maintain his supreme power, it will fall to the bishops, priests, religious and laity to write still another chapter.

"And that will be the most decisive and important chapter of them all," commented a Vatican clergyman. "In this chapter will be told whether the principle of co-responsibility in Church government can be practiced without weakening unity and authority in the Church."

It was agreed by the 148 prelates and other delegates to the second synod since Vatican Council II that if the principle of collegiality is to be meaningfully applied it must touch all levels in the Church.

"This means not just bishops and cardinals," commented one theologian. "This means parish priests, the religious in the schools and missions and, perhaps as important as anything else — the men and women in the Church pews."

If the Pontiff approves in the months ahead the experimental structures through which the bishops of the synod felt collegiality could be practiced, the burden of proving their worth will rest heavily on the shoulders of the laity as well as on the hierarchy, clergy and religious.

"By sheer weight of numbers alone," said one Vatican source, "The laymen will be the ones who will most noticeably demonstrate the practicality of such plans for top to bottom freedom as were proposed in the synod."

So too will the priests and bishops be called upon to demonstrate how willing and able they are to accept any new responsibility thrust upon them by the pope.

Several times when addressing general audiences while the synod was in session Pope Paul made it clear that he intended to organically share the responsibility of the Church with those in it.

But he cautioned against moving ahead too fast and too far in reforms.

"It is inconceivable to me that the Holy Father would have called these bishops here in synod, asked for their advice, spoken on how much he wants to share responsibility and then just reject their proposals," said the Rev. Bernard Haering, a Redemptorist theologian. "He is bound by conscience to do something about these recommendations."

Cardinal John Heenan, although privately expressing faith in the belief that the pontiff will implement the synod proposals, displayed some concern openly about how soon the action would be taken.

With the Pope sitting less than 10 feet from him, the Cardinal told the synod: "There was too long an interlude between the last synod and the time any action was taken (by the pope) on its proposals."

He pointed out that it was more than a year after the first synod closed that the Pope finally named an international theological commission as suggested by that synod.

He also noted that up to the time of his speech the Vatican had not yet issued any document on mixed marriages as suggested by the synod. Two days before the synod closed, however, such a document was turned over to the bishops for study.

Several of the prelates went so far as to offer suggestions for the agenda of the next synod, probably in two years' time. Among the agenda suggestions was a study of the place and position of the priest in the world today; the sacraments and their relation to faith and international social justice. The study of the position of the priest, several prelates said, should include the matter of celibacy.

Cardinal Leo Josef Suenens, probably the most articulate of the synod fathers, made a last ditch effort during the closing days of the synod to have it take up the matter of expanding the electoral college that names popes to include some bishops.

There were reports that this and other proposals by himself and progressive colleagues had been passed over by the synod delegates with the hope of bringing them up before a subsequent meeting.

Cardinal John Wright, the ranking American prelate in the Roman Curia which acts as the cabinet of the papacy, warned against calling synods too frequently lest the Church become bogged down in an endless series of summit conferences.

But person after person interviewed stressed the importance of all the faithful taking an interest and active part in the exercise of any new rights passed down from the top to the grass roots levels in Church government as a result of the synod.

"We must make certain that our bishops, our priests, our religious and our laity study what the Holy Father issues on the synod in the months ahead and find out exactly where they fit into it and then act," explained one theologian.

"It is hard at this precise time to say exactly how everybody will fit into the picture," he said. "We will have to wait and size up the experimental structures that we hope will be approved and set up. Then we can determine who plays what role and where."

New Mass Rite Deadline Delayed

(Continued from Page 1)

Byrne, chairman of the U.S. Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy, stated that it would be unrealistic to set an effective date earlier than next Lent or even Easter. The actual decision on this will be made by the entire conference of bishops meeting next week in Washington.

Two Italian cardinals recently published an appeal to Pope Paul VI not to suppress entirely the old Latin missal.

The appeal was signed by Alfredo Cardinal Ottaviani, former prefect of the Doctrinal Congregation (the former Holy Office), and Antonio Cardinal Dacci.

The cardinals asked that the older Latin form of the Mass, dating from the time of Pope Pius V in 1570, "not be taken from us in (this) moment of painful distress and of ever greater dangers for the purity of the faith."

The two cardinals, in a letter sent to bishops around the world, insisted that "the recent reforms have sufficiently demonstrated that the new changes in liturgy can only lead to the total disorientation of the faithful, who are already giving signs of restlessness and an unmistakable lessening of faith."

The cardinals did not spell out all their complaints with the new Ordo but they did say: "As a whole and in its details, the revised Ordo represents a shocking departure from the Catholic theology of the holy Mass."



Of Pumpkins and Peace

"... every man shall eat in safety Under his own vine what he plants; and sing The merry songs of peace to all his neighbors."

—William Shakespeare, King Henry VIII.

Plans Being Readied For Bishop's Installation

(Continued from Page 1)

Conception parish; Dr. and Mrs. Clare J. Smith of Honeoye Falls; Sister Hoyt of the Conace Retreat House; Sister M. James, SSI, of Proct. Unique; Brother Edward Tracey, principal of Bishop Kearney High School; Father Joseph Trovato, C.S.B., St. John Fisher College; Father Raymond Moore, chaplain of St. Ann's Home; William Leone, St. Bernard's Seminary; and representing diocesan youth, Beth O'Neill, Margaret Johnson, Julia Diaz and Robbie Fagan.

Another new element of the Bishop's induction will be that 10 priest-friends of Msgr. Hogan will be celebrants of the Mass.

The concelebrants will be: Msgr. John Ball and George Cocuzzi; Fathers Albert Bartlett, SJ, Joseph Brennan, Joseph Egan, Paul Gibbons, Clarence Gardner, Joseph F. Hogan, Louis J. Hohman and James Marvin.

Ecumenical tone in the ceremonies will be set by the presence of two vested Episcopal Bishops in the sanctuary, Bishop George W. Barrett of the Rochester Episcopal Diocese and Bishop Daniel Corrigan, acting dean of Bexley Hall.

Representing the Jewish temples of the area will be Rabbi Philip Bernstein and Mr. Elmer Louis, director of the Jewish Community Council.

Rev. Mr. Richard Hughes, executive director of the Rochester Area Council of Churches will represent the Protestant Churches of the area and the Rev. George Nicozin, the Orthodox churches.

Former students of Msgr. Hogan, now in St. Bernard's Seminary and Becket Hall, will form the choir to sing the ordination Mass with the Boys' Choir of the Cathedral. They will be directed by William Ferris of the Cathedral staff and Stephen Krause.

More than a dozen immediate relatives in the Bishop's family, headed by his 84-year-old mother, Mrs. Michael Hogan of Lima, will have front

seats of honor on the right side of the center aisle.

Bishop Hogan will be the preacher at the installation, speaking from the cathedral pulpit just before the recessional.

On-Campus Services Approved

Albany — (RNS) — Facilities on the campus of the State University of New York may be used for religious services, Attorney General Louis Lefkowitz has ruled.

The state's chief legal officer said that the college could turn over campus buildings for services without violating either the state or the federal constitutions. He said that failure to provide the facilities might be a violation of the law.

His ruling was made in a case involving the State University campus at Farmingdale.

In February, the president at the Long Island school threatened to suspend a Roman Catholic organization for holding Mass in a dormitory parlor.

The Newman Club, in order to avoid the confrontation and possible suspension, was forced to hold its religious services at another location, one of them being a nearby gas station. The Catholic group then petitioned the attorney general for a ruling.

"While the state may not support or establish religion," Lefkowitz said in his ruling, "neither may it deny to persons within its jurisdiction the right to practice their own religious beliefs."

He noted that many colleges and universities are in small communities where the students may not find available churches and synagogues of their particular faith.

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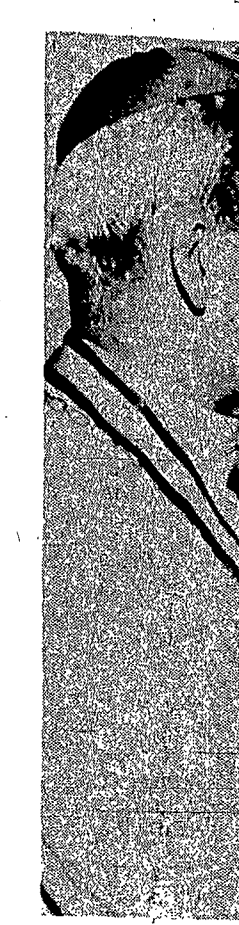
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McCurdy's! Fashionable clothing advertisement featuring models in various styles. Text includes: 'When it comes to turned on juniors, McCurdy's goes willy-nilly finding the most wildly new, with-it fashions. Like those "Funky" prints. Faint shades of the past, in the most socko looks of the future. Limp, lean and layered. To shuffle as you please, even to skull caps and swinging scarves. All by Carol Horn for Bryant 9, sizes 3 to 13, \$7 to \$27. Featured in October Mademoiselle, first at McCurdy's—better buzz in, baby, see the "newest" show stoppers! SURPRISE GIFT, fill in the ballot, you could be the winner of a funky fashion. McCURDY'S JUNIOR SHOP, SECOND FLOOR, MIDTOWN; also at LONG RIDGE, NORTHGATE and GENEVA'



Governor-General Canada chat with TV actor... medals are awarded

Supreme Court

Washington, D.C. U.S. Supreme Court on the constitutionality of which allows individual flow of erotically tismements to their asking the Post Office. Under this law, ing that the mail is ing or sexually pr may inform the Pos instructs the adver complainant's name list. Failure to do this action to enforce eventual punishment. Fourteen Califor cluding some that order sales of er tacked the law in s eral court in Los . The companies c law was vague ar that it violated a distribute ideas t

Sweden Display

Stockholm, Swed window display of tures and books w Sweden, according a state Commissio Limits of Freedom has been presenti of justice. According to th Svenska Dagblade principle was to g those "who want tact with advancec lications," while p do not want suc should not have especially to pri

LATIN BOLIVIA

By CARLO (NC Ne) La Paz, Bolivia than a month : Ovando took ove country in a b Catholic observer to discern some- new regime. For one thing, struggled in the 'tice for miners fe ing some gains. The governmen to guarantee full bor unions in th to rehite those had been ouster makers. Missionary pr and a dozen oth been exposing tions in the tin n as the priests' pr tum, Clemente Suere obtained r rientos, then p ment that the a mines and socia improved for the. The second p is that, although from a civilian p Siles, on Sept. killed in a he April), the regi civilian leaders. The "revolutio sisting Gen. Ova net has nine m civilians, among Catholics. Amos Bailey Gutierrez affairs and until the Catholic dai Under such i ment has thus i