



Byzantine Art

"The Splendor of Byzantium," an exhibit of Eastern Church art from the collection of the St. Paul Center Byzantine-Melkite Information Bureau in Washington is on display at the Mullen Library of the Catholic University of America. Melkite Rite Archbishop Armand J. Jacopin, left, executive director of the St. Paul Center, explains the craftsmanship of an enameled and gilded 18th Century Russian chalice to Bishop Papken Varjabedian, representative of the Armenian Orthodox Church in Washington, D.C. The exhibit features examples of Eastern Church art, including icons, ceremonial objects and vestments dating from the 6th Century. (RNS)

Most Crucial Ecumenical Area?

By MARJORIE HYER (NC News Service)

New York — A growing number of ecumenical leaders feel that Christian-Jewish relationships constitute a crucial area much in need of further exploration.

One of these leaders is the Rev. Dr. Robert C. Doolie, associate secretary of the division of Christian unity of the National Council of Churches.

"Jewish-Christian relationships are the single most important item on the ecumenical agenda," Dr. Doolie believes.

But while American Protestant and Orthodox churches have extensive ecumenical programs concerned with the various branches of Christendom, Dr. Doolie complained that there is "virtually no interest in the Jews at present."

Dr. Doolie credits the Roman Catholic Church with being "way ahead" of Protestants at present in this field, though this has not always been the case.

"There was a period — before Vatican II — when Jews working on this problem felt that Protestants were more progressive than Catholics," he explained.

"Now through the declaration on the Jews of the Vatican Council and the recent draft of the Vatican Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity, the Catholic Church — in the hierarchy and officialdom — recognizes the Jew as brother. Protestants have yet to take any similar step."

Dr. Doolie noted that "outside of officialdom," both Protestant and Catholic theologians and thinkers are calling for more progress. "They are beginning to say that it is as important to the future of Christianity that we reorder Jewish-Christian relations as it is to the future of America that we reorder black-white relations."

Parents: High Court Rejects Challenge to Law On Birth Control

Minneapolis — (RNS) — Parental control of television viewing by children — turning them off and leaving them off when there is no program which merits viewing — was the key recommendation of a study document issued here entitled, "Violence in Television Programming."

"Children especially need this evidence of a disciplined viewing; television ought not be made into a babysitter," declared the joint statement issued by the Commission on Research and Social Action and the Commission on Public Communications of the American Lutheran Church.

The two units of the Church urged the denomination's 2.5 million members to "express appreciation on behalf of the American Lutheran Church television network officials for their efforts to provide wholesome program materials."

The statement approves, in principal, "current public efforts to establish a strong national commission, council or agency representative of major segments of the general public for the purpose of effectively safeguarding the basic rights, interests and concerns of the American public, such a body to be so constituted as to be capable of exerting influence on the Federal Communications Commission and the television industry."

The study document provided the following, fairly widespread, definition of violence: "amoral aggressive use of physical force, bringing bodily injury to persons or damage to or destruction of their property."

However, the statement maintained there were additional concepts of violence: "psychic injury, systematic degradation or dehumanization of persons or classes of persons, systematic exclusion from or denial of opportunity to persons because of race, religion, national origin or socio-economic status, and severely disproportionate depictions of life which lead to false and misleading concepts of reality."

CDA HEAD DIES

Dubuque, Iowa — (RNS) — Mrs. Ann E. Baxter, national leader of the Catholic Daughters of America, died here Jan. 20.

Parents: High Court Rejects Challenge to Law On Birth Control

Washington — (NC) — Cases involving birth control, the draft, and race were settled by the Supreme Court in recent opinions.

The court rejected a challenge to a Massachusetts law prohibiting the distribution of birth control devices by anyone except a doctor or pharmacist. The law allows only married persons to receive the devices.

The court's brief order left standing as final a decision made last May by the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts that a ban on distribution of contraceptive devices to other than married persons pressed no conflict with the Constitution.

The state court did strike down as a violation of free speech rights the ban on exhibition of such devices.

The Supreme Court also rejected a challenge to the power of draft boards to compel conscientious objectors to work in hospitals.

Timothy J. Boroski of Mount Morris, Mich., had claimed that orders to work in a hospital were outlawed when the 13th Amendment prohibited slavery and involuntary servitude.

He was convicted in 1967 and sentenced to five years in prison for refusing to report for work at Harper Hospital, Detroit. He had been classified a conscientious objector by a draft board in Flint, Mich.

In another action, the court let stand a state court ruling in a Cleveland case upholding non-discrimination requirements in a construction contract.

This ruling will be cited in support of the Nixon administration's "Philadelphia Plan" for hiring more Negroes on construction jobs.

A test of the Philadelphia plan was begun earlier this month by the Contractors Association of Eastern Pennsylvania, which contended that the goal was a racial quota system unfair to the prospective employee.

The Ohio Supreme Court held that "the capacity to assure a performance which complies with anti-discrimination laws is reasonably a part of the standard of a best or responsible bidder on a contract involving the expenditure of public funds."

Bishops Name News Chief

Washington, D.C. — (RNS) — Robert B. Beusse, director of administration and public affairs for RKO General Radio and Television, has been named communications director of the U.S. Catholic Conference.

He will succeed Warren V. Schwed on Feb. 2, Bishop Joseph L. Bernardin, USCC general secretary, announced here. His headquarters will be in New York.

Mr. Beusse, a veteran in broadcasting, advertising, public relations, and magazine, newspaper and book publishing, has been with RKO General for 10 years. Earlier, he was assistant advertising director of Schering Corporation, assistant public relations director of McCall's, and a staff assistant at the now-defunct New York Daily Mirror.

The USCC Communications Department includes the National Catholic Office for Radio and Television (NCORT) and the National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures (NCOMP), both with headquarters in New York City; and the National

Catholic News Service and the Information Division, both located here.

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CORNER MEIGS

St. Bernard Spring Curri For Priests-

A number of priest-alumni will be taking courses beginning Feb. 2 at St. Bernard's Seminary along with the regular students in a program of continuing education leading to the degree of Bachelor of Divinity (B.D.). The schedule for the spring semester includes courses by four professors who are new to the seminary faculty.

Dr. Henry Mitchell, Martin Luther King Jr. memorial professor in Black Church Studies at Colgate Rochester Divinity School/Bexley Hall, will offer a course entitled "The Black Bible and the Black Imagination." This course will analyze the characteristic elements of the use of biblical stories in black preaching, with special application to life-situations. (Friday, 1:30-3 p.m.)

Canon John Townroe, warden of King's College, London, England, and noted Anglican scholar, will offer the course "Christian Mysticism and the World Today," an attempt to relate the common theme that seems to exist in LSD, interest in astrology, "dropping out," pop culture, and interest in Eastern religions with the main current of the Christian mystical tradition. (Tuesday, 1:10-3 p.m.)

Msgr. Richard Quinn, formerly rector of St. Andrew's Seminary, will teach a course on "The Theology of Enthusiasm." Fringe movements in Church history of the "enthusiastic" type will be investigated, as well as certain individuals, such as Abbot Joachim, Mme. Guyon, and Dorothy Day, in an attempt to see what they have contributed to the main tradition of Christianity. (Wednesday, 1:10-3 p.m.)

Basilian I

In the nearly 150 years since the Basilian Fathers were founded, the men who joined the congregation developed a trait—a pioneer spirit founded in humility and holiness.

Some have been scholars, others administrators; some theologians, others men of practical affairs—but always the Church has been enriched by these outstanding men.

Father Robert J. Scollard, C.S.B., former secretary general of the Basilian Fathers and librarian at the University of St.

Jr. Achievement Exhibit Planned

Hundreds of Monroe County high school students will be operating their own businesses on the Midtown Mall during the last week in January.

The students, from 24 schools, participating in 34 Junior Achievement companies, will join together at Midtown Plaza to present their first J.A. Trade Fair. The fair will be the highlight of J.A. Week which begins Sunday, Jan. 25 and runs through Saturday, Jan. 31.

GREEK PRELATE DIES

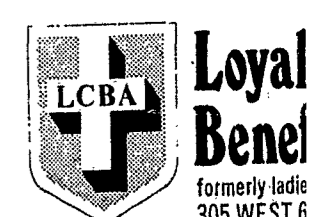
Athens — (RNS) — Metropolitan Dionysios Charalambous of Trikkas and Stagon, who during World War II was arrested and imprisoned by the Nazis, died here at the age of 64 after an illness of 10 months.

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