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'I'll Doze at Your Wedding'

For most guests a wedding ceremony is an exciting event, but for 2-year-old Timothy Madigan it is only exhausting. While attending a recent wedding in St. Theresa's Catholic church in Harvard, Mass., Timothy found the pew as good a place as any to fall asleep. (Religious News Service)

Nixon HEW Veto Brings on Criticism

Washington — (NC) — President Nixon's veto of a \$19.7 billion health, and education appropriations bill poses a severe financial threat to schools throughout the U.S., according to supporters of both public and private education.

The import of the veto will remain no matter what action Congress takes when it considers overriding the veto.

The veto "affects not only the schools and the welfare of our youth, but the well-being of all America," commented Father C. Albert Koob, president of the National Catholic Educational Association. "This is not a time when the nation can afford to ignore what is happening in our schools and colleges. Problems of racial strife, addiction to drugs and rebellion to authority all call for better education," he said.

"It is difficult to understand how the President can fail to relate better education with the upgrading of law and order which the present administration has promised to America."

Nixon said the lean education budget was the result of his attempt to curb inflation. But several members of Congress, including Senate Majority leader Mike Mansfield, (Montana), attacked the President for cutting back spending in what they considered vital areas. The result was

the addition of almost \$1.3 billion for health and education programs to the final conference report.

Pres. Nixon Praises Priests For 'Willingness to Serve'

Albany — (RNS) — Some suggestions on how a Roman Catholic priest can best serve America were made by President Nixon to a seminarian here. (See box below.)

His views were sought by William F. Schladebeck, a first-year student at Our Lady of the Angels Seminary in Glenmont, an Albany suburb.

Mr. Schladebeck, in a letter to the President, had posed the question, "What role can a priest play in solving social problems in the United States?"

Mr. Nixon responded that "no single statement" on his part could adequately deal with the complexities of the question. Rather, he offered "not

Coordinated Effort to Fight Poverty, Diocesan Council Revealed by Bishop

By ALEX MacDONALD

Intentions of forming a broad-based Diocesan Council, plans for coordinating all works of charity for the poor across the diocese, and granting permission for the Saturday Mass to fulfill the traditional Sunday obligation, were featured announcements of Bishop Hogan's press conference this week marking his second full month in office.

Speaking to Rochester newsmen in his office on Tuesday, the Bishop also revealed that the Bishop Sheen Housing Fund, originated nearly three years ago, will be stimulated and extended to other large communities of the diocese.

The fund, raised by gifts made privately to Bishop Sheen for Rochester's inner city, has helped more than a dozen needy families make down-payments on their own homes and has aided scores of others with rent payments.

The "Saturday Mass privilege" will be granted, the Bishop announced, to parishes which state a "specific and reasonable need" to have Mass on late Saturday afternoon or evening to replace or supplement some of the Sunday Mass schedule.

"The people's tastes," the Bishop said, "and our personnel needs seem to call for splitting our Masses of obligation into two days." This practice is now in force in about 25 other dioceses of the country.

Corpus Christi Church and St. Mary's of Rochester, St. Margaret Mary's in Apalachin and St. Patrick's in Owego will be the first parishes to use the Saturday night privilege, he said.

Saturday's Masses at Corpus Christi will begin Jan. 31 at 6 p.m. The Saturday Mass at St. Mary's will begin Feb. 7 at an hour to be announced.

Praising the diocesan Advisory Council which gives him legal and financial advice, Bishop Hogan said he is working toward formation of a clergy-religious-lay board to be called his Diocesan Council. Members would be chosen from each corner of



TWO-MONTH REPORT — Facing a battery of news media personnel and paraphernalia in his office Tuesday, Bishop Hogan gave a "State of the Diocese" interview on completion of his first two months as Rochester's seventh Bishop.

the diocese to represent all points of view to the Bishop.

The group would travel to all sections of the diocese to inquire about needs, consult on problems and report their judgments to the Pastoral Office, he said.

Asked what he had "most liked and most disliked" in his eight weeks

as Bishop, he quickly replied: "I have enjoyed the pressure of the work and the cordiality of all the people I have been constantly meeting for the first time. But I have not liked the endless round of meetings it entails. Yet how can I be in touch with diocesan life unless I talk to all?"

Discussing what he called the "big-

No One Formula For Aiding Latin America

Quebec, Que. — (NC) — Archbishop Heider Camara of Ottawa and Recife in Brazil rounded up his week's tour of Canada here by saying that the solution to social and economic problems in Latin America "does not lie with communism or capitalism."

"Actually, as a matter of political realism, it can be said that there is no one single formula for such a solution," he added.

Tour included Ottawa, Toronto, Montreal and Quebec. He then went on to Detroit, New York City, Rome and a conference on Church development aid at Montreux, Switzerland.

In a speech at the Toronto Catholic Information Center, Archbishop Camara said that developing countries do not need aid but fair trade agreements for their products. "Commercial relations between rich and poor countries must be totally revised," he said. In this, he added, Canada could take the lead as a country devoid of ambitions for economic domination.

During a press conference in Quebec the Brazilian archbishop returned to his often-repeated assertion that the misery burdening large sections of the population in Latin America can be an extreme form of violence "because such misery has the same exterminating effects as the bloodiest war."

The Brazilian archbishop known to millions of the oppressed as "Dom Helder," added that "in Latin America there is a kind of institutionalized violence under conditions of domestic colonialism, to which we may have grown accustomed in the past, but which we are now rejecting. We believe that something must be done to correct that situation."

Four Thugs Get Tough, Church Gets Tougher

By FATHER JUAN R. VEGA (NC News Service)

San Salvador, El Salvador — Kidnapers of a priest-advocate of land reform have been excommunicated and Church authorities have asked the government to find the assailants and punish them.

Father Jose I. Alas was kidnaped by four unidentified men as he entered the National Palace, where he was attending the National Congress of Land Reform as a delegate for social organizations.

The priest was abandoned 18 hours later at the remote town of Tamanique, after the kidnapers had drugged him, shaved his hair and taken his clothes and belongings.

Immediately, San Salvador church authorities published a statement saying that "the attack on Father Alas, in an attempt to silence the Church, has been one more incentive for us to denounce with greater determination the many injustices which plague our society."

"We know very well the many privations that burden our farmers and will therefore press for their overall progress and liberation from poverty," the statement said.

Archbishop Luis Chavez y Gonzalez of San Salvador, who signed the statement, later published a decree saying that "we declare the intellectual and physical authors of the kidnaping of Father Jose I. Alas to have incurred excommunication from

the Church; they cannot be absolved unless they offer proper reparation."

The same day, Archbishop Chavez and Auxiliary Bishop Arturo Rivera Damas of San Salvador brought their official protest to the interior ministry and asked authorities to exhaust all possible means to find the kidnapers and to punish them.

Their protest was supported in a joint statement (Jan. 15) by the El-Salvador Bishops' Conference, stating:

"In the name of the Church we raise our voice in defense of human freedom and dignity, unmindful of whatever the source and the motivation of such violence might be," the statement said.

In addition to Father Alas, three other priests represented Church programs at the land reform congress: Fathers Ricardo Urioste, Juan Ramon Vega and Jose Romeo Maeda. Cooperatives, farmers' unions, social research and leadership training are among these programs sponsored by the Church.

The priests concentrated their efforts on two topics — land tenure and land reform.

The land tenure system in El Salvador, they said in a paper, shows an unfair concentration of agricultural areas in the hands of a few, who, in turn, fail to open new jobs and increase production.

The priests recalled recent Church documents asking the state and private owners for a rational program of land redistribution, as well as efforts to increase production.

President's Letter To Seminarian

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

December 24, 1969

Dear Mr. Schladebeck:

What role can a priest play in solving social problems in the United States? Your question is a profound one and a difficult one, and no single statement of mine could adequately deal with its complexities. Yet I think the question is of such importance that I offer the following, not as an "answer" but as suggestions toward an answer, suggestions that only a priest can develop into an answer.

In over twenty-three years of political life, it has been my good fortune to have known many priests—young and old, curate and cardinal, liberal and conservative, from all parts of the country and the world. I have talked with them, listened to them, and learned from them.

Yet, what I remember about them is not their political views or social views or cultural views—although many of them had exciting and often memorable views in these areas.

What I remember are little anecdotes they told in passing, stories of men and women they had known and helped, stories of despair turned to hope by patience, of cruelty turned to gentleness by forgiveness, of the multitude of sorrows and joys that a priest shares with his parishioners.

These were stories that any priest could tell, and I am certain that those priests saw nothing special about them. Yet to me these stories all had one thing in common: they were told from the point of view of love, the love of a priest for men and women in distress and despair, the love of a priest for the downtrodden, the forgotten, the abused, the lonely—and, always, the love of a priest for God.

This, I am convinced, is as close as I can get to answering your question. It is not a definitive answer—not even a very clear one. I am certain, however, that you and all those who are studying for the priesthood know what I mean when I say that a priest can best help America by being a priest. Bring to the problems of our times the love and mercy and willingness to serve others that is the unique gift of those who have dedicated their lives to the service of God and the help of fellow men. Do this and you help your country in a unique and irreplaceable way.

You have my very best wishes for a fulfilling life in your esteemed vocation.

Sincerely,
Richard Nixon

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Covenant Signed at Cathedral Unity Service

Lay representatives of 15 churches and a youth agency in Rochester's northwest signed a unity and neighborhood concern "covenant" last Sunday afternoon at a Christian Unity service in Sacred Heart Cathedral. Pictured from left are: Bishop Hogan; Father John S. Hayes, Cathedral rector; Rev. Charles Taylor of Dewey Avenue Presbyterian Church; John J. Fitzpatrick, who signed for Cathedral parish; Father Philip Billotte, Cathedral assistant. (Story on Page 7.)