

# Guidelines Listed for Ecumenism in Education

**From Our European Bureau**  
**Vatican City** — The Holy See has placed heavy emphasis on the need for collegiality and cooperation at all levels in putting into practice the "general principles" it outlined last week for ecumenism in higher education.

In the preamble of the 23-page document issued through the Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity, it was stressed that "bishops have a special responsibility for promoting the ecumenical movement and it is for them to lay down the guiding principles."

However, the document noted the wide disparity of preparedness for ecumenism throughout the world and added:

"It belongs therefore to bishops and episcopal conferences

both to translate general principles into practice and to adjust undertakings already on foot to existing conditions as these affect men and matters — and even, as occasion offers, to start new undertakings."

The "directory" then strongly suggested that episcopal authorities should associate with themselves in this task an appropriate number of religious superiors, men and women, as well as rectors and administrators, specialists in religious education and practicing teachers — should bring representatives of the students into consultation when necessary."

The document is divided into four sections dealing with:

1. General principles and aids to ecumenical education.

2. The Ecumenical dimension of religious and theological education.

3. Particular guidelines for ecumenical education.

4. Institutional and personal cooperation between Catholics and other Christians.

The guidelines open many avenues for ecumenism in the field of higher education both of laity and clergy.

The directory, however, places high importance on the need for Catholics to be well grounded and knowledgeable in their own faith before setting out on any ecumenical venture.

The document warned against ecumenical projects becoming "mere intellectual exercises."

"The aim is that those taking

part in them should better realize the obligation of fostering unity between Christians and so be led to apply themselves more effectively to achieving it," the directory explains.

It clearly sanctioned Catholic students and teachers "supporting undertakings in the field of religious studies by non-confessional universities" and participating in conferences and study days dealing with ecumenical themes or attending meetings for various planning that "may provide occasion for ecumenical discussion, or for examining Christian principles of this social action and aids to putting those principles into practice."

On the administrative level, the document noted:

"To fulfill her ecumenical re-

sponsibility, the Church must have at her disposal an adequate number of experts in ecumenical matters — clergy and religious, laymen and women. They are needed everywhere — even in regions where Catholics form the greater part of the population."

Many of the practices listed in the guidelines have been put into practice throughout the world. "Experts in ecumenism from other communities may be invited to hold conferences in Catholic institutions and even to conduct some courses, so long as the proper character of the institution concerned is respected," the document says.

This breakthrough came more than a year ago in Rome when a Protestant minister spent a semester as a lecturer at the Gregorian University.

## Children of Vietnam



For all their young lives, the children of Vietnam have known war. Its effects are everywhere in their country and its sorrow is reflected in their eyes. A few of Vietnam's children are shown in these photographs:

**Upper left**—A shoeshine boy works his trade on the streets of Saigon. A boy can earn between \$60 and \$80 a month shining shoes—but when U.S. servicemen leave Vietnam this money will also leave.

**Upper right**—A boy holds his baby brother in an old Saigon cemetery where more than 2,000 refugees live among the tombstones.

**Lower left**—A young girl is fitted with an artificial leg. There are thousands of crippled children in Vietnam.

**Lower right**—A boy holds a toy gun. War, perhaps, has made a lasting impression on him. Photos by Religious News Service.

## Archbishop Sheen Gives Ringing Defense of Pope

**St. Paul, Minn.** — (RNS) — Pope Paul was pictured as a suffering pontiff "almost drowned with sorrows" because of the rebellion of some of his flock in a tribute paid him here by Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen.

Although he finds a thorn in almost every letter he opens, the Pope has found "great joy" in suffering for the Church, Archbishop Sheen told some 3,000 persons attending a Mass in St. Paul Cathedral commemorating the 50th anniversary of Pope Paul's ordination as a priest.

Archbishop Sheen said Pope Paul wept when he told him of three trials which the Catholic Church had experienced recently in the United States.

He did not identify the "trials," but observed it is "a tragic experience to see the faithful fall away, to see false doctrine taught and to see little minds that cannot be deep."

In a dramatic homily the retired Bishop of Rochester said:

• Pope Paul deserves honor "for bringing us to the end of history" by proclaiming the Gospel to all the nations.

• The Pope deserves thanks for affirming the sacredness of life in his strong stand against contraception and abortion.

• And he deserves reverence, the archbishop continued, for his relationship to Christ that has upheld the ideal of celibacy.

Archbishop Sheen said the sacredness of life—which Pope Paul has defended is an unpopular theme "because we live in an era of carnality."

"Whenever you have an era of orgy, you have an era of revolution," the prelate observed. "Violence is like rape..."

He said the era of carnality has become "so gross" that peo-

ple now place the fig leaf over their faces instead of their sexual organs.

In giving his encyclical on birth control to the world, Pope Paul has defended the value of the human person, the archbishop declared.

He warned that if taking the lives of human embryos is permitted by liberalizing abortion laws, children will soon justify taking the lives of their mothers.

The archbishop said that God "may be cleaning house" in the Church today and said that loyal lay people and the religious may be the ones who will save it.

He urged that lay people "demand" that the Church teach the truth which has been handed down through the centuries. "That's the way you can show your loyalty," he said.

## Pontiff Marks Anniversary

**Vatican City**—(NC) — Pope Paul VI celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination as a priest by celebrating Mass May 29 in the tiny church of St. Ann's, the parish church of Vatican City, for a small congregation of 500 persons who had been invited by the Pope himself.

Press, radio and television were conspicuously absent because instructions had been given that no publicity was to be devoted to the ceremony because the church is quite small.

Although the morning Mass was a private affair, a number of high officials and prelates were present, including Cardinal Terence Cooke of New York. Also present were all the personnel of the papal secretariat of state led by the secretary, Cardinal Jean Villot.

The 72-year-old Pope did not deliver a sermon but after the Mass, stopped to shake hands and exchange greetings with many of those present.

## U.S. Bishops Congratulate Pope

**Washington** — (NC) — The 285 Catholic bishops of the United States, in a letter given to Pope Paul VI at the Vatican by Cardinal John Dearden of Detroit, expressed "deep joy" over the Pope's 50th anniversary in the priesthood.

The National Conference of Catholic Bishops (NCCB) told the Pontiff, in the letter, that a bronze plaque marking the May 29 golden jubilee would be

## Guamanian Becomes Bishop

**Agana, Guam**—(RNS) — The first Guamanian American elevated to the episcopacy in the 300-year history of Roman Catholicism in the Marian Islands was consecrated titular bishop of Stoj (Stagnum) at the cathedral here.

Bishop Felixberto C. Flores, 48, apostolic administrator of the Agana diocese, was conse-

crated at the Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral.

According to reports, no event in recent history had so stirred the people of Guam as the consecration of "one of their own" as a Catholic bishop—not even the visits of two Presidents of the U.S.

Church records show that some 60,000 Guamanians are Catholic.

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## Pope Will Visit Manila, Sydney

**Vatican City**—(NC) — Pope Paul VI will travel to the Philippines and Australia in November to attend bishops' meetings for the Far East and South Pacific nations so that he can talk directly with the bishops and learn their problems.

Neither the date of his departure nor the length of his stay has been disclosed.

The first leg of the Pope's trip would take him to Manila, where he was invited by the bishops of the Far East and the president of the Philippines, Ferdinand Marcos.

The second leg would take him to Sydney, Australia, to coincide with the meeting of the bishops of Oceania and also the

bicentennial celebration of the discovery of Oceania by Capt. James Cook, the explorer.

The nations to be represented at the Manila conference are India, Ceylon, Taiwan, mainland China, Indonesia, North and South Korea, Pakistan, North and South Vietnam, Burma, Japan, Laos, Cambodia, Singapore and the Philippines.

The Manila meeting will review "specific problems" of collegiality in each nation.

Australia is the only continent which the Pope has not visited during his reign. He has traveled to the Holy Land, India, the United States, Portugal, Turkey, Colombia, Switzerland and Uganda.