



Loneliness of a Leader

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan in the Pastoral Office chapel saying his daily Mass. This week's centerfold features "A Day in the Life of a Bishop."

Bishop Issues New Rules on Marriage

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan has ordered all parish priests to begin using new and extensive interview procedures in all pre-marriage preparations for young men under 21 and young women under 18.

In an effort to deal with the rising "teenage marriage problem", the Bishop has instructed diocesan priests to make deliberate investigations in ascertaining the maturity of the couple to contract marriage, if they are of an age where state law requires parental consent.

The Bishop laid down six steps each priest must now fulfill in dealing with the marriage of minors.

He ruled that no priest is to witness the marriage of girls under 18 or boys under 21 without having presented the full facts on the case to the diocesan Marriage Tribunal and received specific approval of the Bishop to perform the wedding ceremony.

The new regulations are:

1—The priest must interview the young man and woman individually using a lengthy, new questionnaire designed to inquire as to the couple's awareness of the responsibilities of marriage and to let them express their judgment of their fitness for marriage.

2—He then must interview the parents whom civil law requires to give permission for the marriage of their children.

(Before a marriage license can be obtained in this state written consent to the marriage is required from both parents if the man is between 16 and 21 and the girl between 14 and 18. If the parents of both are dead, written consent of the guardians of such minors is required. If the parents' marriage has been dissolved the consent of the one parent who received custody of the minor is sufficient.)

3—The priest must refer either or both parties to the

Catholic Family Center for help from a psychiatrist, psychologist or social worker, if he believes it necessary for "any notable character deficiency".

4—He must then arrange for the couple to have intensive private or semi-private pre-marriage instructions provided by the diocesan Family Life Office.

5—The priest must put into writing his personal observations and judgment regarding the couple's ability to make a lasting marriage.

6—Finally he must file with the Marriage Tribunal the state-

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Pope Tells Bishops: Beware of Pressure

By Father R. A. Graham

Vatican City (RNS) — Pope Paul opened the third World Synod of Catholic Bishops by telling the 214 bishop delegates not to be "over-anxious" to conform to modern trends or be influenced by accusations that the Church is too legalistic and outdated.

The Pope condemned "outside pressure" which, he said, with its "many guises and power" is "penetrating and dangerous."

He warned the bishops not to be daunted by these forces but to follow their consciences as responsible shepherds.

The pontiff launched the World Synod proceedings during a concelebrated Mass in the Sistine Chapel in which he spoke of the aspirations of the Synod and its role in advising the Vatican on crucial world matters.

Among those assisting at the Mass were Cardinal Joseph Mindszenty, recently freed Primate of Hungary and Cardinal John J. Wright, American-born prefect of the Vatican Congregation for the Clergy.

The bishop delegates, gathering from around the world for the month-long synod, will discuss problems besetting the priesthood, including resignations which last year were estimated at about 3,000.

The Synod also will consider the Church's attitude toward injustice in the world and its role in the development and maintenance of peace.

During the opening Mass, Pope Paul was applauded by the bishops when he mentioned Cardinal Mindszenty, declaring: "He is a guest we have longed for and today he is associated with our celebration as a glorious witness to the thousand-

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Dr. Susan Hanson, director of the Monroe County Psychiatric Unit, in a special Courier-Journal series on alcoholism, says that because there are so many different kinds of alcoholics there has to be more than one kind of treatment. Her views as well as a look at the emergency referral and treatment services at the psychiatric unit, the County Continued Care Unit and an Action for a Better Community program are all included in the second part of staff writer Barbara Moynihan's series, Today on Page 1B.

Courier-Journal

Conversation-Starters Abound

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan and two other diocesan leaders offer conversation-starters on three different aspects of modern life in this week's Courier-Journal.

In his PAGE 3A column, Bishop Hogan salutes a "group of constructive militants" — the Legion of Mary — on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

Father Albert J. Shamon, the diocesan vicar for education, calls for renewed attention on the intent and aim of the Catholic School system. On PAGE 5A, he discusses the five distinctive qualities of Catholic schools.

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