

# Must Help Church In Hard Times, Pontiff Declares

Vatican City —(RNS)— In an unusually frank assessment of the Catholic Church and its leadership in the past, Pope Paul recalled that there were cases when bishops, and even pontiffs, were corrupted by low morals.

The Pope made a specific reference to the condition of the Church during the 14th Century when Peter Damian lived.

"Those were difficult, bad, corrupt times," he said. "Mor-

## 'Noteworthy' Says Pope of Yugo Talks

Vatican City — (RNS) — Pope Paul said here that there have been "noteworthy" developments recently in relations between the Holy See and Yugoslavia.

The pontiff made the remark in receiving the credentials of Yugoslavia's new ambassador to Vatican City, Stane Kolman.

Pope Paul also took the meeting as an opportunity to remind the diplomat that religious freedom is a boost to any nation's entire society, not just its religious population.

"It is our conviction and experience," he said, "that religious peace . . . constitutes a sign, an inspiration and an important factor in the progress of the whole community."

Pope Paul pledged himself and his Church to defend, promote and cherish human development throughout the world and said this included a contribution to the economic, social, cultural, artistic, moral and spiritual advancement of the nations.

To these ends, he stressed, the Catholic Church sends missionaries to all parts of the world to help promote peace and justice.

## Filipino to Be Speaker at McQuaid Fete

The Seventh Annual Mission-McQuaid Dinner which will raise funds for education at McQuaid and Jesuit mission work overseas, will be held Thursday, March 9, at the Flagship Rochester. The dinner benefits world-wide mission activities as well as local good works.

A native Filipino Jesuit, Bishop Francesco F. Claver, will be the main speaker. He was installed as bishop in the district of Bukednon in the center of Mindanao in the Philippines. He is a member of the mountain tribe of Bontok Igorots of northern Luzon, famed in history as head-hunters.

Further information about the dinner and/or reservations may be had by calling McQuaid at 473-1130.

Courier-Journal

als were decadent, even inside the Church. Even among the bishops and some popes. It was hard to tell who was the real pope. Laymen bought church offices. Those were terrible times."

Pope Paul said that when the Church is sick and its leadership is weak, the people must love and help it all the more to continue.

"We must love the Church more, the less it meets our expectations," the Pope told a small congregation in a church in the working class town of Acilia about 20 miles from Rome.

"Criticism is an easy thing," he said. "We do not want to apologize for the faults of the Church. The sicker it is, the more it needs our love, sacrifice and virtue."

After his direct reference to Church corruption in past centuries, the Pope assured his audience that things are much better today "because ours is a better society" than in the time of St. Peter Damian.

The Pope made the Sunday morning trip to Acilia to visit a new church erected in the name of the 14th century saint.

During his visit, the pontiff toured the parish school, joked with youngsters there and later visited a sick man.

His journey focused attention on the need for church buildings in Rome's suburban areas. Although there are about 500 churches in the Rome area, most of them are within the city itself, leaving the fast growing suburbs without sufficient facilities.

## Maudling Rejects Kennedy Idea

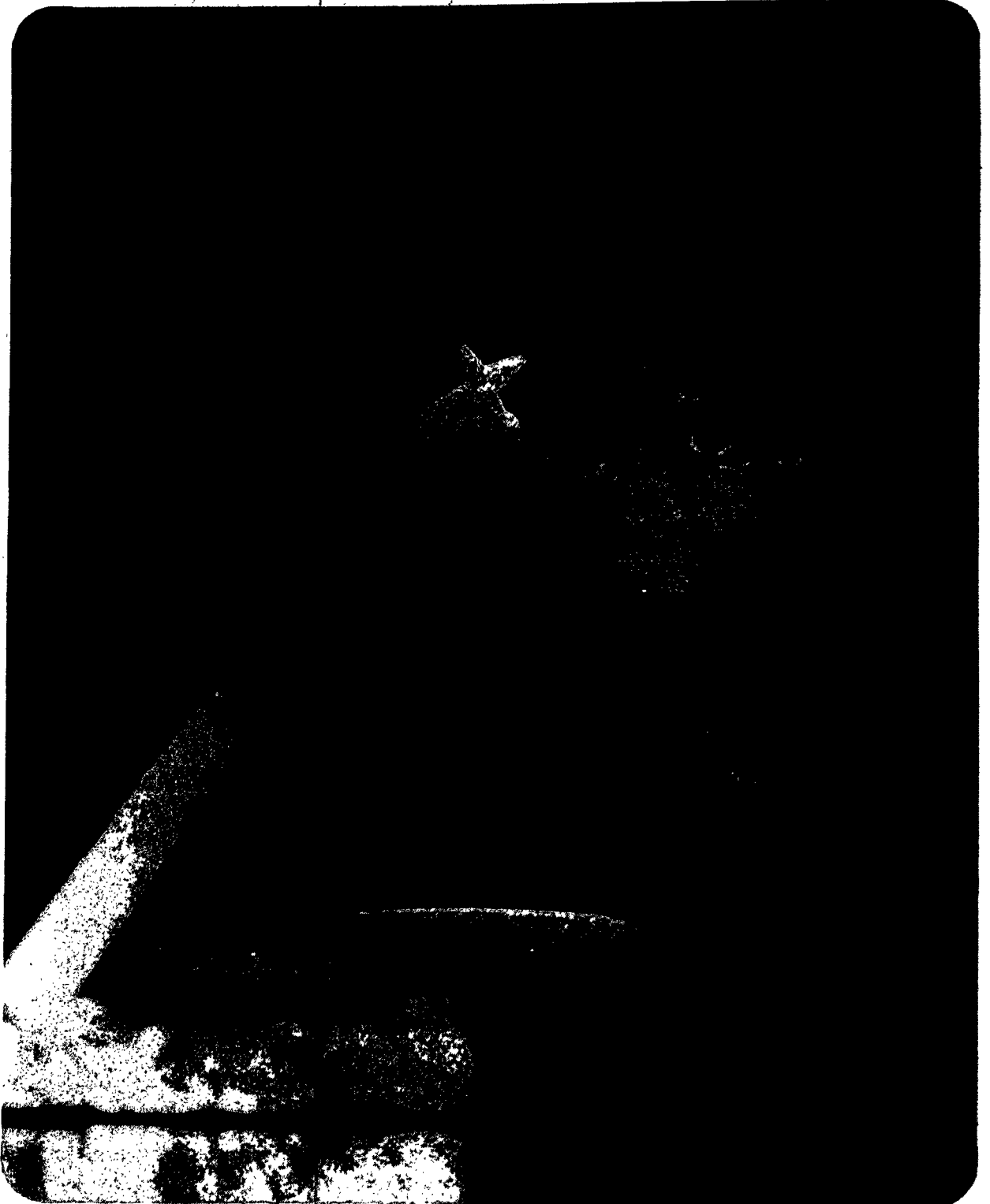
London — (RNS) — British Home Secretary Reginald Maudling has rejected Sen. Edward Kennedy's call for the withdrawal of British troops from Northern Ireland.

In an obvious reference to the Massachusetts senator's attack on British policies in strife-torn Ulster at a hearing of the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee in Washington (Feb. 28), Maudling said he had heard views of "a distinguished, perhaps notorious, American politician."

The home secretary said: "The fact is that Northern Ireland is part of the United Kingdom, and the Army will always be available to maintain law and order in any part of the United Kingdom."

Sen. Kennedy also called on President Nixon to demand an end to internment-without-trial of Ulster Catholics suspected of Irish Republican Army (IRA) affiliation, the dissolution of the Protestant-dominated Ulster government, and the eventual reunification of Ireland.

A spokesman for the Nixon Administration argued that any unsolicited intervention in Northern Ireland would worsen the crisis rather than ease it.



### Lighting a Lenten Candle

Seven-year-old Erin Lorsung lights her family's Lenten candle, a new Lenten custom at the parish of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's Newman Center. On the first Sunday of Lent, each adult or family of the parish is given candles to be lighted during the season. Each time a person performs a good work or penance during Lent the candle is to be lighted. The candle is burned at an angle so that the drippings accumulate. Wax drippings from the entire parish will then be collected on Palm Sunday and the parish's Paschal Candle made from them. (RNS)

## BRAMMOOR HOME FOR ADULTS

8678 LAKE ST. ROAD  
LeROY, N.Y. 14482

- Beautiful residential setting
- Supervision and personal care
- Accommodations for singles and couples
- 25 min. drive from any downtown location in Rochester via Expressway on 490 West

(Mrs.) Kathryn S. Brady, R.N., Director  
Telephone (716) 967-6291