



OUR PARISH COUNCIL Bernard Lyons

Vatican Council II's hopes for liturgical renewal and increased participation from the laity are being realized.

There is steady progress being made. Though we haven't reached any Utopian ideal, the progress made is probably more than most of us thought possible before AIM (Aids In Ministry), a quarterly magazine, surveyed nearly 1,200 American parishes.

The summer issue of AIM gives the first report on the statistics. It shows that by November of last year, half of our parishes had liturgy teams, most with five or more active members.

Most of these worship teams were formed when the new Order of Mass was introduced. There has been a continuous growth since. If it continues in the same manner, AIM suggests, nearly all parishes will have functioning liturgy teams by 1976.

There aren't too many different growth patterns in the various regions of the United States. The real difference in liturgy team

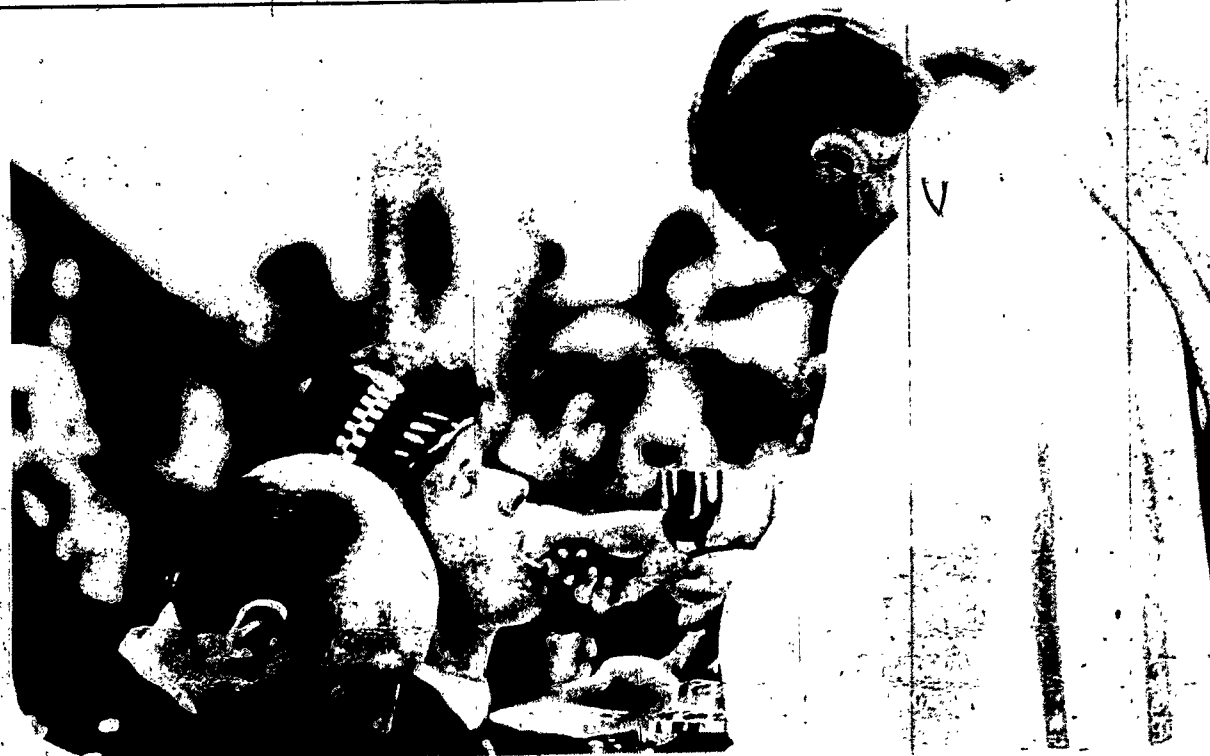
development is between urban/suburban parishes and rural parishes.

This may be due to the fact that urban/suburban parishes average 780 families, while rural parishes average 215 families. The smaller parishes, with fewer Sunday Masses can plan their liturgies without formally established teams.

The leadership of the liturgy committees is nearly evenly divided between priests and laity.

Another surprising discovery was that nearly every liturgy team has a designated music director, even when the post of liturgy director has not been formalized. Music is the area where the most options are available and, therefore, the most planning is necessary.

"Also, it may be that many music directors function autonomously rather than in the framework of a liturgy team," says AIM.



'Cop' Becomes Priest

Uniformed policemen receive Communion from Father John Chaloner, an ex-detective who became a priest, during a Mass he celebrated in Manchester, England, for his former colleagues in the Manchester and Salford police forces. Father Chaloner, 33, turned in his sergeant's stripes for a clerical robe five years ago when he began studying for the Roman Catholic priesthood. [RNS]

Fr. P. Berrigan Criticizes Those Who Accepted Vietnam War

Chicago [RNS] — Father Philip Berrigan, SJ, said in a news conference here that Americans who have not resisted the Vietnam War are worse than the Germans who did not resist Hitler.

German resisters faced death or long-term imprisonment, he said, but Americans have faced only two or three years in prison.

Father Berrigan was released last Dec. 20 on parole after serving 39 months of a six-year prison term imposed for burning draft records. His brother, Father Daniel Berrigan, S.J., was paroled in February 1972.

Later, addressing students at the Catholic Theological Union, Father Berrigan said the Church has "most of the fundamental answers to the problems of human life today," but that this would be seen only in the lives of individual Christians.

"Let's forget about the right kind of policy coming out of the Archdiocese of Chicago or the Vatican," he said.

When a young woman said the best way to "turn government around" was to work "through the system," Father Berrigan replied that "this is to lend credibility to a death-dealing bureaucracy."

"That's what Drinan does in Congress," he said, referring to Father Robert Drinan, SJ, a member of the House of Representatives from Massachusetts.

"I'm asking you to take an evangelical approach to politics," Father Berrigan said, "using the politics of resistance, which has nothing to do with parliamentary politics."

Vatican Official Visiting Hungary

Vatican City [RNS] — The Vatican's "foreign minister without official portfolio" — Archbishop Agostino Casaroli — is in Budapest for what a member of his office staff described as a private visit.

The spokesman said the prelate planned no formal talks with Hungarian officials. It is felt that even on this "private visit," he would meet, informally at least, with some Hungarian leaders.

"Many times these informal visits are the ones during which the real spadework for future agreements is done," one observer noted here.



ON THE LINE Bob Considine

One of the inevitable conclusions that will be reached by the public, when and if Watergate is ever fully unraveled, is whether it is really worthwhile to spend so much of the public's hard-won money on certain government operations which were exposed as hopelessly corrupt or inefficient.

J. Edgar Hoover longed to live until the colossal new FBI headquarters was completed in Washington. He didn't make it. But now that it is about complete at a cost of tens of millions of dollars, a lot of people who put up the dough will tend to wonder whether it is worth a tinker's dam. Hoover's sacrosanct strong-box was rifled of highly classified documents while he was still living, and his temporary successor was stupid enough to destroy, unread, files that might have further pinpointed Watergate guilt.

Then there's the CIA, which always has been a bit retarded. It has a new home outside of Washington which Washington (George, that is, who had three spies at most) could never have understood. It cost many millions, is regarded as more security-conscious than Ft. Knox, is loaded with thousands of well-paid spies, programmers and oracles who divine what the clandestinely-gathered information really means, and many society fellows who are too proud to work for a living.

CIA fouled up the Bay of Pigs invasion, as a result of which we were nearly thrust into a thermonuclear war. It fouled up the overthrow of South Vietnam's President Diem. Now it is revealed that it violated its charter, went into the domestic spying business, and had its nutty hawkshaws searching through the files of Dr. Ellsberg's head shrinker.

Did a piece years ago about the CIA — around the time Castro was demanding U.S. tractors as ransom for the poor Cuban slob he had rounded up in the Bay of Pigs fiasco. The CIA public relations fellow accidentally ushered me too early into the office of the then director, pipe-smoking party-going Allen Dulles, brother of the Secretary of State (who was surprised that the world was stunned by Russia's Sputnik I. John Foster Dulles asked, "Why is everybody getting so excited over a piece of iron in the sky?").

But, getting back to Allen Dulles, I was shown into his office prematurely. He was on the phone and plaintively asking somebody on the other end of the line, "But how much does a tractor cost?" He spoke in the voice of a man who had never seen a tractor.

Allen Dulles' pipe sputtered volcanic sparks at a reception he attended in Washington for Nikita Khrushchev, when the Russian official paid a visit to President Eisenhower. Khrushchev, who probably knew more about Dulles than Dulles himself did, cornered him at the reception and suggested to him jovially that each big power fire half of its spies. "They're all double agents," Khrushchev said with a merry twinkle. "Why don't we just exchange such secrets as we've got, and save all that money?" Dulles was not amused.

Now it comes out that the No. 2 man in the CIA okayed crazy red-wigged disguises and other cloak and dagger accessories to a couple of dumb operatives who had previously mangled other illegal acts. In addition, looking back 13 years, the CIA gave Francis Gary Powers the go-go-go signal to make a high altitude spy flight across the heart of the Soviet Union just days before Eisenhower was to go to the sensitive summit with Khrushchev, De Gaulle and Macmillan in Paris. Powers was shot down, Khrushchev bawled the hell out of Eisenhower, the summit collapsed, and Eisenhower's invitation to visit the USSR and cajole its 200,000,000 people was abruptly withdrawn.

So why should we spend so much on an organization threaded so liberally with Keystone Komedey Kops?

Also, let's take another look at the decayed office of the attorney general. And at the expensive digs of the President's — any President's — chief counsel. And the cost of maintaining (and wining and dining and jetting) the stiffs that just about every President insists upon having around him, telling him how great he is — as we've seen with Truman's Gen. Harry Vaughan; Eisenhower's Sherman Adams; Johnson's Bobby Baker, and Nixon's covey.

Just think of the dough that could be saved and funneled into decent, humanitarian and sorely-needed pursuits!



SURPRISINGLY GOD NEEDS YOU

THE HOLY FATHER'S MISSION AID TO THE ORIENTAL CHURCH

DO
SOMETHING
MEANINGFUL
WHILE
YOU'RE
STILL
ALIVE

This column's happiest readers are the men, women and children who know they're needed. The days we're busiest helping others are the happiest days of our lives. . . . Who needs you most? Surprisingly, God needs you — for instance, to help an abandoned orphan become a God-loving, responsible adult. Lepers need you (there are still 15-million lepers in the world), blind children need you, and so do we. . . . Here in New York we are your agents, telling you where the Holy Father says your help is needed, and channeling your help promptly and safely to the people in need. . . . Want to feel good right now? Do without something you want but do not need, and send the money instead for one of the needs below. You'll feel good, especially if your gift is big enough to mean a sacrifice to you. This is your chance to do something meaningful for the world—it's God's world—while you're still alive.

LEPERS

Only \$8.50 gives our priests and Sisters in Shertalloy, south India, enough Dapsone 'miracle' tablets for 43 lepers for a year!

BABIES
NEED
YOU

For only \$3.50 a week (\$14 a month, \$168 a year) you can make sure that an abandoned baby has food, clothing, a blanket and love. We'll send you a photo of the baby you 'adopt', tell you something about him (or her), and ask the Sister-in-charge to keep you informed.

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MISSION
EMERGENCIES

Your stringless gifts in any amount (\$5,000, \$1,000, \$500, \$100, \$50, \$25, \$10, \$5, \$2) will help the neediest wherever they are — in India and the Holy Land, for instance.

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OF
YOURSELF,
TOO

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