



African workers are comforted by Father Dunstan Myerscough, right, after viewing the bodies of seven slain Roman Catholic missionaries at Musami, Rhodesia. Father Myerscough survived the massacre when he dropped to the ground as the killers machine-gunned the missionaries.

Mission Undeterred by Killings

Pretoria, South Africa (RNS) — Grief at the massacre of seven Roman Catholic missionaries in Rhodesia by black nationalist guerrillas and concern for escalation of violence there was expressed by the Catholic bishops of southern Africa here.

Even as the bishops were meeting, the Rhodesian

government said that another mission station — near the Mozambique border — was attacked by black guerrillas. The attackers apparently limited themselves to burning down some buildings and stealing money.

Pope Paul denounced the machinegun slaughter of two Jesuit priests, a Jesuit brother, and four

Dominican nuns as detestable. United Nations Secretary Kurt Waldheim branded the killings as senseless and a spokesman for the British Foreign Office said the government was "appalled" by the incident.

Meanwhile, Britain's Catholic bishops said in a statement that "People of goodwill everywhere will be deeply shocked by this killing. The Catholic Church is committed to the achievement of true freedom and human rights through nonviolent means. These killings will not deter the Church from supporting peaceful and legitimate methods of achieving human rights."

There was a special irony in the attack on the mission. The Roman Catholic Church has been at the forefront of moves to improve the lives of Rhodesia's 6.2 million blacks. It has more members among blacks than has any other Christian body. Within the Catholic Church, blacks outnumber whites by a far greater proportion than in any other church in Rhodesia.

For years, prominent Catholic Church leaders have been among the most consistent and outspoken critics of the white minority

government's policy of subordinating blacks.

The murders took place at St. Paul's Mission station in Musami, 36 miles northeast of Salisbury, the Rhodesian capital.

Three of the 10 white missionaries survived the attack and black nuns and workers were ignored by the 12 attackers, identified by authorities as members of the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU), one of the four nationalist groups vying for control of the white-ruled former British colony.

The South African Catholic bishops expressed grief to the Church of Rhodesia, to the Society of Jesus and to the Dominican Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Three of the nuns killed were West Germans, and the fourth was English. One priest killed was from England, the other from Kenya, and the brother was Irish.

The mission provides schooling for 400 black students and operates a 100-bed hospital.

Jesuit headquarters in London said the mission will carry on and a replacement staff will be sent to Rhodesia.

Melkite Pastor

Brother Most of His Life, Now He's Father Faddoul

The new pastor of St. Nicholas Church, Father Salim Faddoul, is a latecomer to the priesthood and to the Melkite Rite. For 34 years he was Brother Germain, CSC.

Like most Melkite Catholics, as he said, Father Faddoul is of Lebanese stock. His religious background, however, was Roman until a few years ago. He has a PhD in English and a philosophy degree from the University of Notre Dame, and he has taught in Holy Cross schools and colleges from Brooklyn to Austin, Tex.

This personal history was elicited last week when Father Faddoul called the Courier-Journal with a social item: his parish is putting on a hafli Saturday night, Feb. 19. Hafli means party, and party means food, drink and dancing, he noted.

Father Faddoul's parents were born in Lebanon and reared in Egypt. They came to the United States in 1893. The son was born at Niagara Falls, grew up in Ohio and became a Holy Cross brother in 1939.

Friends outside the order tried for many years to persuade the brother to become a priest. A Jesuit he met in Baghdad, a Maronite in Cleveland, a former pupil of European background who, as a priest, had moved from the Roman to the Melkite Rite — they pestered him constantly, he said, in person and by long-distance telephone, and finally he agreed with them. He was ordained in 1973, at the age of 61, in the Byzantine rite of his ancestors.

"Then all my doubts disappeared," he said.

Father Faddoul came to St. Nicholas in December,

Traveling Partner

New York (RNS)—Redemptorist Father Joseph F Scannell gave a homily on a recent Sunday at a church he was visiting on the theme: "Give Blessed John Neumann a chance. He'll give you a surprise."

Following the Mass, he flew to Boston and was en route from the airport in an automobile when a tractor-trailer jack-knifed passing him and turned over. His auto was demolished but Father Scannell was unscathed.

A policeman who came on the scene commented on the priest's "miraculous" escape.

"It is not Blessed Neumann's first miracle," Father Scannell smiled. "Redemptorists work together."

Blessed Neumann will be canonized June 19.

Catholic Women Help At Sibley's Exhibit

Members of the Catholic Women's Club will continue a long tradition this month when they serve as hostesses for the annual Scholastic Art Awards Exhibit at the Ward Gallery, Sibley's Downtown through March 5.

Each hostess volunteers for a two-hour shift and handles a variety of responsibilities from answering questions to helping parents locate their youngsters' work of art.

"We appreciate this community service," said Mrs. Doris Thayer, Sibley's

Scholastic Art Awards director. "I'm sure that everyone who visits the Ward Gallery this year will be fascinated by the new ways that young people find to express themselves through varied media."

Members of the Catholic Women's Club participating are Mrs. C. Nelson Cooke, Mrs. Charles Crayton, Miss Emily Dugan, Miss Regina Kennedy, Miss Geraldine Moylan, Mrs. Sylvester Murphy, Miss Helen O'Harrigan, Mrs. Melbourne Porter and Miss Helen Tobin.

Extend Hand of Christ, Legion of Mary Message

The Legion of Mary at Auburn Correctional Facility has issued a message "to all our sisters and brothers" that calls attention to the unlimited gifts Christ offers and "our limited capacity to extend the hand of Christ."

"It takes courage and dedication to assume Christ's challenge," the message states, "Especially when so many open hands have closed into clenched fists, or simply fallen limp with all energy of expectation stilled. They had reached for Christ's nourishment; they were

given a gtt empty of self and humanity, an uninvolved gesture which mimicked that of Christ but failed to imitate his self-offering."

The message continues with some questions:

"How much of ourselves can we afford to give? How far can we go without the risk of personal dissolution? Dear sisters and brothers, how far did Christ go?"

Carlo E. Vallarino-Cejas, president of the prison Legion, said authorities had approved publication.

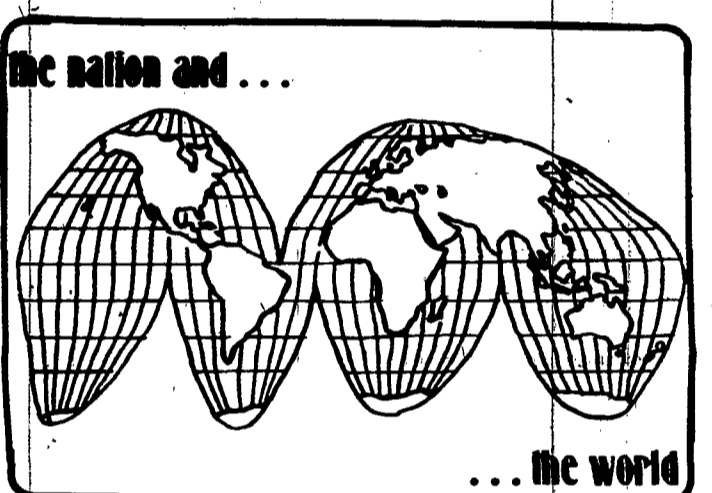
Bona Friars Vote Fund for Needy

St. Bonaventure, N.Y. — Members of the Franciscan order who teach and administer at St. Bonaventure University have voted to contribute about \$400,000 from the money they receive for "contributed services" to a program for needy students during the 1977-78 academic year.

Programs which will be funded by the friars' donations include Bonaventure Educational Opportunity Grants, grants-in-aid and senior citizen programs.

EMERGENCY FOOD

The Area 1 office of Catholic Family Center has set up an emergency food distribution center at Immaculate Conception school. Gifts of canned and packaged foods may be left at the office, 187 Edinburg, between 9 and 5. Pickups can be arranged by calling John Geter at 546-5440.



From Courier-Journal Services

The continuing dispute over whether Cardinal Joseph Slipyi should be recognized as patriarch of the worldwide Ukrainian Catholic Church flared again when Bishop Augustine Hornyak, spiritual head of Britain's Ukrainian Catholics, suspended three priests sent to London by the Rome-based cardinal. Bishop Hornyak charged that the priests "bypassed the authority and jurisdiction" of the Ukrainian Church, claiming they had the authorization of Cardinal Slipyi who has the title major-archbishop but who claims the title patriarch. Pope Paul thus far refused this recognition. In Sydney, Australia, Roman Catholic bishops have declared that the 1968 papal encyclical on birth control, Humanae Vitae, which restated the Church's traditional ban on contraception, binds the consciences of all without ambiguity. The statement by the bishops conference reverses the thrust of its pastoral letter issued two years ago which suggested that Catholics who, in good faith, cannot accept the official teaching of the encyclical might not — in certain circumstances — be committing sin. The apparent reversal follows a lingering disagreement about the earlier letter which was criticized by conservatives as "too ambiguous" and a watering down of Catholic teaching.



BROTHER ROGER

MOTHER TERESA

Despite vigorous objections by the Orthodox bloc, the Israeli Parliament (Knesset) passed a law legalizing abortions. The new law permits termination of a pregnancy after approval by a committee of two physicians — one a gynecologist — and a social worker. . . . Mother Teresa of Calcutta and Brother Roger, prior of the ecumenical Taize Community in France, have issued a joint appeal for Christian reconciliation. . . . At the Vatican, Pope Paul received the 250 students of the North American College in Rome in an audience and advised them to seek "an intimate knowledge of Jesus."

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