



FATHER DREXEL

## Missioner

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Gospel a few years back and sent him for further study in France, an experience he relates frequently during the interview time. In France, he was exposed to the work of a number of artists as well as to participation in psychodrama, and Zen Buddhism.

He now uses Zen discipline in his Christian prayer, is working to incorporate the ideas of European artists in his work, and describes himself as a freer man because of his experience in psychodrama.

Then the conversation turns again to the children. He has taken under his wing only the truly abandoned. There are now two houses to shelter them, the beginnings of an apostolate he sees growing daily.

The other day, Father Drexel was challenged by the attendant at a local private parking lot. The priest, according to the attendant, had no business parking his car in the area. Father Drexel marched into the office of the owner of the lot, demanded a parking authorization ticket. Got it

Returned to his car and scrawled in the space left for his name "President of Brazil."

In better days for Brazil, it might be plausible.

## Holiday

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because the religious go on retreat. It will also take the February and April recesses.

Our Lady of Mercy and McQuaid are also cutting down Easter recess and taking the February and April vacations.

Both Leahy and Sister Roberta Tierney agreed that the new vacations are a better break up of the school year. Sister pointed out that with Easter coming in March it would mean another long vacation close to the scheduled February recess and would not allow time for study unit completion. She also said "We're building cooperation," in regards to the adopting of a more uniform school schedule.



## Drought Help for Chad

Hungry mother and child wait with others to receive shipment of food and medicine provided through the ongoing efforts of CARE. The international organization has also initiated self-help Food-for-Work projects in Chad to help increase agricultural production. (RNS)

# Vatican Prayers for China No 'Diplomatic Balloon'

**Vatican City (RNS)** — A Vatican office which declared the Church's "mission intention" for August was to pray for announcement of Christ in China, denied that it was sending up a "diplomatic balloon" for the new regime of Chinese Communist Party Chairman Hua Kuo-feng.

The Secretariat for Propagation of the Faith, a department of the Vatican's Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, recently reported the Church's August intention: "That the Holy Spirit may suggest new ways and methods of announcing the Kingdom of Christ in China."

According to a spokesman for the Propaganda of the Faith, the choice of the intention had no diplomatic significance.

The mission agency declares a missionary intention each month, said Father Roland Quesnel, CSSp, English language editor of the Fides news agency, and it was simply thought to be China's turn. The last time the monthly mission intention related to China was two years ago, he said.

"We are not sending up a trial balloon to Hua Kuo-feng," Father Quesnel said. He noted that any diplomatic initiative would be the responsibility of the Vatican's Secretariat of State.

The priest, a member of the Holy Ghost Fathers, said the Vatican secretary of state "every once in a while tries to make contact with China," but that the attempts are kept secret on the theory that "with difficult governments it is better to do things with a measure of diplomacy."

In declaring its August mission intention, the Vatican mission agency explained that its hope was that the new government in China would continue the policy of the late Chairman Mao Tse-tung and the late Premier Chou En-lai of developing China's "links with the rest of the world."

"One can still hope," said the agency, that the day will come when the open practice of religion in China will at least be tolerated, as it is in (some) other Communist countries."

Pope Paul VI indicated a similar hope when he traveled to Hong Kong in December, 1970, and said, "Christ is a teacher, a shepherd and a loving redeemer for China too."

## HOME VISITORS

The Eastside Community Center will provide some social life for elderly housebound residents of Monroe County through the Home Visitor program funded by the county Office for the Aging. The trained, supervised visitors will help clients with crafts, games and community projects and take them out for shopping or medical appointments. They will not perform any household chores or personal care, the community center announcement said. Referrals may be made to Mary Corcoran or Marge Wilson at 288-002.

More recently, in an address to the College of Cardinals in June 1976, the Pope expressed "the sorrow in our heart at the fact that some vast portions of the world ruled by Marxist regimes continue to remain closed, not just to agreements, but even to contact with this Apostolic See. May these sentiments of ours find an echo which at the right moment will open new ways for meetings."

In 1947, two years before the Communist takeover, there were 3,251,347 Catholics in China and over 17,000 priests, Brothers, nuns and seminarians. The Church also maintained universities in Peking, Tientsin and Shanghai.

A Fides correspondent in Hong Kong, in November 1973, reported that several Chinese priests and Sisters in Hong Kong who had been given permission to visit relatives on the mainland had returned with the impression "that the Catholic Church is no longer visible in Communist China."

"Faced with the fact that one-fifth of the human race in China, is cut off from Christ's message," said the Vatican missions agency in announcing the mission's intention for August, "the Church must fall back first of all on the value of prayer and sacrifice, and the doctrine of the communion of saints."

The Vatican does try to

make some contact with mainland China through daily radio broadcasts. Vatican Radio transmits a 15-minute shortwave program in Chinese every day to China and Southeast Asia.

The station plans to increase the broadcasts to a half-hour every day and to double the kilowatt power of its antenna soon.

## Bishop Kelly Ordination Set

**Washington, D.C. (RNS)** — The episcopal ordination of Bishop-designate Thomas Kelly, O.P., General Secretary of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops and U.S. Catholic Conference, will take place Aug. 15 at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception here.

The new bishop, who will be canonically attached to the Washington archdiocese as auxiliary to Cardinal William Baum, has headed the bishops' conferences since last February and will

continue in the post full time.

Archbishop Joseph L. Bernardin of Cincinnati, president of the NCCB-USCC, will be the main ordaining prelate. Co-consecrators will be Bishop James Rausch of Phoenix, Ariz., Bishop-elect Kelly's predecessor, and Auxiliary Bishop Eugene Marino of Washington. Cardinal Baum will preside and priests of the archdiocese and the Dominican order will concelebrate the ordination Mass.



## Ulster Dialogue Advocated

Scenes like the one above in Belfast, Northern Ireland, are commonplace, with signs of war and suffering everywhere. The tragedy continues. Meanwhile, in London, the Church of England, in a report published July 27, suggested that the British contribution to shaping the future of the strife-torn country, should be marked by a spirit of cooperation and not one of resignation. "It should be unguarded by a sufficient understanding of the problems facing one part of Britain and thus help in the working out of creative and just arrangements for our own less diverse society on this side of the Irish Sea," the report said. (RNS)



## Bible School

A sea of hands raised in praise signals the close of the Owasco Bible School on Friday evening, July 29. The school was a combined effort of St. Ann's Parish, Owasco and the Owasco Reformed Church.