

PASTORAL PERSPECTIVE

Tribute to the K. of C.

By Bishop Joseph L. Hogan

This written expression of gratitude to the Knights of Columbus is long overdue. I have been a member of the fraternity since 1942 and for almost eight years as bishop of the diocese I have been especially blessed by their strong support.



The story of this great organization begins in St. Mary's Parish in New Haven, Connecticut. On February 2, 1882, Father Michael McGivney organized the first Council with a membership of eleven and dedicated the group to the Holy Saviour. In the 95 years that have followed, the body has grown into an international society with almost a million and a half members.

But more important than the phenomenal growth in membership is the historical record of great generosity in the promotion of a variety of apostolic works which are at the very heart of the mission of the Church. Let me cite some of the accomplishments that I am aware of:

- 1. A distinguished record of relief service during World War I and II
2. Eight million dollars for the education of Veterans of World War I and an educational

trust fund of a million dollars for the children of members disabled or killed in World War II

3. Sponsorship of an advertising program to promote an understanding of our Catholic faith. In the first three years of the program which began in 1948, there were more than a million inquiries and some 80,000 who enrolled in courses of instruction.

4. The endowment of a Chair of History at Catholic University for \$50,000 and the establishment of a scholarship fund at the same school for one half million dollars

5. Sponsoring the microfilming of rare historic documents in the Vatican Library - some 42,000 manuscripts have been preserved.

6. Disaster relief provided in various parts of the world damaged by quakes and floods.

7. The special apostolate to the handicapped

Let me make a special comment on this annual gift with which I am best acquainted. For the past seven years, I have received from the Knights a gift of between 12 and 15 thousand dollars to be used for the education of the exceptional children in our diocese. The same gift is given to the Ordinaries of every diocese in New York State. I distribute these monies in various areas of the diocese requesting support for

educational programs sponsored by the Church or by the community.

The educational program probably best known locally is the School of the Holy Childhood. Society calls these precious young people 'handicapped' because of physical, emotional and mental deficiencies which they have suffered from birth. I love these special friends who have a wisdom all their own and who possess the qualities of those of whom the Lord once remarked, 'Of such is the Kingdom of Heaven.' When I thank the Knights each year on the occasion of the reception of the gift, I can offer the assurance of the gratified prayers of very special people close to the Lord.

Whenever I have occasion to address an Assembly of the K. of C., and I do often in the course of a year, my remarks are always on the theme of gratitude, and I am most sincere in that I am always indebted to them for the support they give to their bishop for causes that are close to my heart and for their annual bourse which allows me to give some response to the many worthy requests for help that come to my attention almost daily

I pray, too, that their Knighthood will continue to remain vital. And it will as long as it maintains its standards and spirit of fraternity, unity and charity and its vital contact with Christ and His Church who alone offers the guarantee of permanency

vatican news

Synod Should Strengthen Catechesis

Cardinal Sebastiano Baggio opened the Fifth Synod of Bishops Sept. 30 with an address of homage, gratitude and good wishes to Pope Paul VI on the occasion of his 80th birthday. The pope's response follows.

We were very pleased to listen to what our Venerable Brother Cardinal Sebastiano Baggio, in the name of all the members of this Synodal Assembly, has just said.



We wish to thank you all from the depths of our heart for these affectionate and respectful expressions, above all for what was said with regard to our recent 80th birthday.

From this event in our life, for all the time that God may wish to allow us, we have the firm resolution to dedicate all our strength for the good of the Church, so that amid the 'vagaries of this world', the divine life can shine forth and the salvation of mankind can be achieved.

This morning in the Sistine Chapel we invoked the Holy Spirit, imploring that he might send down his gifts on all the members of this Synod. Now we have the opportunity to greet joyfully each and every one of you. We wish in a particular way to greet those who are taking part for the first time.

On our part, we are happy to open this fifth Synod of Bishops, drawing your attention to the fact that this ecclesial structure is now happily consolidated and has become an instrument of communion between the Roman Pontiff and the Bishops throughout the world.

Already, in fact, 10 years have passed since the first Synod was celebrated in 1976. We are therefore happy to affirm that the goals have been achieved which we set out in our motu proprio letter Apostolica Sollicitudo Sept. 15, 1965.

It is our conviction that the relationships and the collaboration between the Roman Pontiff and the Bishops of the entire world have become closer. We are convinced that the conditions of life of the various particular Churches are better known and more deeply understood. Further, it seems to us that 'at least in the essential matters of doctrine and of ways of proceeding in the life of the Church' there is greater concord of opinions.

heart for the noteworthy benefits which have been derived for the Church from this new 'stable Assembly of the Bishops'

When we announced the institution of this body, during the last session of the Second Vatican Council, on Sept. 14, 1965, we stated that 'this new institution' 'filled with hope'

That hope did not fall short, since the Synod has shown itself to be a most apt instrument to know the various situations of the particular Churches and to further a closer collaboration and a more solid union with the Roman Church which 'presides in charity over the universal assembly' of believers

The Roman Pontiff himself, although he has received from Christ the fullness of power, is assisted in the Synod in many important questions, as was the case of those matters discussed in the previous four Synods from 1967 until present, through the collaboration of the Bishops who represent the world episcopate.

And in this fifth Synod which we now open, we wish to respect greatly and recognize the experiences that each of you will offer. For we are dealing with the experience of eminent pastors, who have direct knowledge of the varied problems which today concern the best and most effective work of Catechesis in the Church, especially with regard to children and young people

The previous Synod in 1974, discussed the topic of Evangelization in the contemporary world. Now we call you together to deepen further this theme of Catechesis, which - as the Second Vatican Council teaches us - should 'illumine and strengthen faith, nourish our life according to the spirit of Christ, and lead to a conscious and active participation in the liturgical mystery'

In order that Catechesis in the Church be strengthened, we have already approved and publicly promulgated the General Catechetical Directory prepared by the Sacred Congregation for Clergy and published on Easter Sunday 1971. Doing this the Holy See has not only fulfilled a desire expressed by the Second Vatican Council, but has also offered useful theological and pastoral principles by which catechetical activity in the Church can be properly directed and rightly coordinated.

Yet, aware of the importance of this topic for the formation of the future generation, we have called you to this Synod so that the matter can be further discussed.

There are therefore reasons to thank God from our hearts for the fact that the Synodal Assembly, which is a matter of such importance as regards the

life of the Church in today's world, and which directly touches her mission to teach youth, the Synod will propose to set out unity of action, as is requested of all, and which, without a doubt, will offer copious fruits for the future generation

We have given the task of presiding in our name over this assembly, to our Venerable Brothers, Cardinals Sebastiano Baggio, Antonio Ribeiro and Hyacinthe Thiaudoux. We do not doubt that because of the experience they possess, they will see to it that the activity of the Synod proceeds in a fruitful and ordered way

Courier-Calendar

- Divorced Catholics - St Charles group, meeting at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 16, school library, Maiden Lane at Dewey, Mark Tierman, lawyer, on pertinent legal questions
Mothers of Twins - Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20, Messiah Lutheran Church, English Road and Mt. Read, Ray Trout on family relationships, business meeting, monthly clothing exchange. All mothers of 'multiples' invited. Information Mrs. Paul Marvin, 392-7534
Child Health Advisory Group - Fall membership meeting, 8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 19, Helen Wood Hall, U of R Medical Center, Dr. William J. Wall, director of Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at Strong, speaker. Open to public
Novels at Noon - Thursday brown bag lectures sponsored by RIT Continuing Education at 50 West Main. Tomorrow's offering James Dickey's novel, Deliverance
Art Show - At Bevier Gallery, RIT campus, 'Some People Who Draw,' through Oct. 21
Teen Dance - Sponsored by Mother Cabrini Circle at Triangle Community Center, 380 Andrews, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 15, \$1.25 at door
Children's Book Fair - At Wilson Arts Center, Harley School, 1981 Clover, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 15-16, no admission charge
Postcard Show - Saturday, Oct. 20, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22, at Knights of Columbus Center, 82 E. Main, Webster, sponsored by Western NY Postcard Club of Rochester
Garage Sale - Sponsored by Monroe County Learning Disabilities Association, Saturday, Oct. 15, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at 973 East Ave.
Cancer Clinic - Two sessions on breast self-examination, at Pentfield Wesleyan Church, 1586 Five Mile Line Road, Oct. 13 from 1 until 2:30 p.m. and 7-8:30, sponsored by United Cancer Council
BPW Breakfast - Combined area Business and Professional Women's Clubs, 8 a.m. Monday, Holiday Inn Downtown. Prof. Rosemary S. Nesbitt, teacher of theatre at SUC Oswego, speaker
Classic Films - Roman Holiday, 1953 production, 2 and 8 p.m. tomorrow, Eisenhart Auditorium, Rochester Museum
GeVa Theatre - The Front Page tonight at 8, Luncetime Theatre opens Oct. 18 with The Weak Spot, by George Kelly, 168 S. Clinton. Box office 232-1363
Nazareth Arts Center - The Hoofers, seven virtuoso tap dancers with jazz combo, 8:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14.