



Pope John Paul I in a photograph taken in 1973.

# Holy Spirit's Choice, Two Auxiliaries Say

Bishop Hogan's two auxiliaries emphasized the role of the Holy Spirit in the election of Pope John Paul I.

Bishop John E. McCafferty saw this in the speed with which the choice was made, "much to the surprise of the news analysts."

Bishop Dennis W. Hickey envisioned "hundreds of billions of people all over the world praying" that the Holy Spirit would guide the car-

dinals.

"There is good reason to believe," Bishop McCafferty declared, "that our new Holy Father will be a pastoral leader, not a man of rhetoric."

"His experience is balanced among parish, seminary and diocesan work, which would indicate that he will bring a balanced perspective to the pontificate."

In a separate conversation,

Bishop Hickey expressed particular interest in the Venetian angle. Of the seven popes elected in this century, three have been Patriarchs of Venice.

"His double name tells me a lot," Bishop Hickey continued.

"He will be open, as John was, and he will try to follow the direction that Paul had taken, in the work that both initiated."

# Able to Change His Mind

At least twice in his priestly life, Pope John Paul has changed his mind, both times to bring his thinking into harmony with the mind of the Church.

During the course of the Second Vatican Council, the then Bishop Luciani said that it was difficult for him to alter his attitudes from those dominant in pre-conciliar days.

But change those attitudes he did.

At that time he told a reporter that the Council's document on religious

freedom was the one he "found hardest to live with."

"For years," he said, "I had taught the public law theses of Cardinal Ottaviani, according to which only the truth had rights. In the end, I convinced myself we had been wrong."

Cardinal Alfredo Ottaviani, who had once been the new pope's mentor, has been described as the "Vatican's No. 1 conservative."

The view Pope John

Paul finally had to accept was the one that all religions are entitled to liberty, rather than the one which held that Roman Catholicism had rights others did not.

In another instance, the new pontiff had once confessed his doubts about the church's teaching on birth control. However, once Pope Paul issued his famous encyclical "Humanae Vitae," Pope John Paul accepted the teaching that artificial methods of birth control are wrong.

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