



Anniversaries Celebrated

Fathers Joseph McDonnell, left, and Leonard Kelly, celebrating their 50th anniversaries in the priesthood, present Bishop Matthew H. Clark with the offertory gifts during the annual anniversary Mass last Thursday honoring priests for 25 and 50 years of service. More than 140 clergy attended the Mass at St. Salome's Church that saluted Fathers McDonnell and Kelly along with 10 members of the Class of 1955: Msgr. William Roche, and Fathers Conrad Sundholm, Joseph Brennan, Edwin Metzger, Thomas Erdle, John Phillips, Daniel Tormey, James Wolfe, Richard Hart and Daniel Wheeland.

Pope Reaffirms Infallibility

Vatican City (RNS) — In a letter highly critical of liberal theologian Hans Kung, Pope John Paul II strongly reaffirmed the dogma of papal infallibility. He described it as "a gift from Christ" to His Church, and said the gift must be cherished.

"Precisely because man is fallible, Christ, wanting to preserve the church in truth, could not leave His pastors, bishops and, most of all, Peter and his successors, without that particular gift — the assurance of infallibility in the teaching of the truth of the faith and the

principles of morality," the pope said.

The papal reaffirmation of the teachings of Vatican I and Vatican II on the infallibility of the Church and of the Roman pontiff came in a letter to the German Episcopal Conference, dated May 15 but released by the Vatican May 22.

In the letter, written in German, Pope John Paul explained the justification for the Vatican's censure of Father Kung, a professor at West Germany's Tuebingen University, who has seriously questioned in his writings and lectures a number of church doctrines, including that of infallibility.

Last December, with the approval of the pope, the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith declared that Father Kung no longer could be considered a "Catholic theologian." Subsequently, the Swiss-born theologian was stripped of his ecclesiastical mandate to teach on the Catholic faculty at Tuebingen. He remains a member of the university teaching staff, however.

"In regard to the teaching mission of Professor Kung," the pope wrote, "one must ask the following question:

"Has a theologian who does not accept the integral doctrine of the church the right to teach in the name of the church and on the basis of a special mission received from the church?"

Singling out Father Kung's questioning of the infallibility doctrine, the pope stated:

"Infallibility has the

character of gift and service. If someone sees it differently, he is removing himself from the authentic vision of the faith."

Pope John Paul said he had written the letter at the "dictation of love for this brother of ours," and he hoped to find a "meeting point" with Father Kung.

Ukrainian Parish Has New Pastor

Elmira Heights — Father Philip Bumbar has been named pastor of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Church, Elmira Heights, replacing Father Stefan Chomko.

The appointment was made by Bishop Basil H. Losten, bishop of the Ukrainian diocese of Stamford, Conn., of which St. Nicholas is a part.

Father Bumbar, a native of Buffalo, received his seminary training at his diocese's minor seminary in Stamford, and at Catholic University in Washington, DC. Before joining the Elmira Heights parish, he served for four and a half years as the pastor of Sacred Heart Church, Johnson City.

Father Chomko has assumed a pastorate in Hartford, Conn.

Parish Sets Dinner

Elmira — St. Anthony's Parish will be conducting a spaghetti supper Saturday, June 14 from 4 to 9 p.m. in the parish center. Tickets are \$2.75 for adults, \$1.50 for children, with pre-schoolers free.

OBM Sets Klan Conference

The diocesan Office of Black Ministries will present a major day-long conference on the Ku Klux Klan Friday, June 6, at Immaculate Conception Church School, 205 Edinburgh St. which is open to the public free of charge, begins at 8:30 a.m. The day concludes at 5 p.m.

The conference, "The Ku Klux Klan: Past History and Present Menace," will feature keynote addresses by two prominent figures in national anti-Klan mobilization: Dr. Lucius Walker and Patsy Sims.

Dr. Walker, executive director of the Interreligious Foundations for Community Organizations of New York City, will present the morning address. Ms. Sims, historian, lecturer and author of the 1978 documentary, "The Klan," will speak in the afternoon.

According to John Walker, executive secretary of OBM, more than 40 religious, civic and social organizations are sponsoring the conference. Registration for the event,

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Archbishop O'Meara, left, congratulates Msgr. McCormack on his appointment as head of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith

Mission Society Has Banner Year

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith has revealed that in 1979 a total of \$29,938,876 had been given by the society for basic aid to the 883 mission diocese of the world.

"This is the largest amount realized by in the history of the society in this country," said the newly-appointed national director, Msgr. William J. McCormack.

The new director praised the work of his predecessor, Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara, who was recently appointed Archbishop of Indianapolis.

Of the figures, Msgr. McCormack called the sum "a beautiful manifestation of our people's cooperation with the Lord's mandate to share His healing love with all mankind."

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