

Churchmen in the News

Cardinal Pignedoli Dies



CARDINAL PIGNEDOLI

Rome (RNS) — Cardinal Sergio Pignedoli, a veteran church diplomat who headed the Vatican's Secretariat for Non-Christians, died in his sleep June 15 while visiting his brother in the family's home province of Reggio Emilia.

He was 70 and reportedly suffered from a blood clot in the lungs.

Cardinal Pignedoli served in a variety of overseas posts in his long career at the Vatican, including the papal nunci slot in Bolivia and

Venezuela and as apostolic delegate in Lagos, Nigeria, and Canada. In 1966, he also served as papal representative at an extraordinary assembly of the Catholic bishops of Vietnam in Saigon.

In 1941, he ran afoul of Benito Mussolini, publicly criticizing the Fascist dictator's call for a campaign of "hatred" against Britain. In an appeal to Italian servicemen published in an official student newspaper in Rome, Father Pignedoli urged that "those who speak words of

hatred" be "silenced." Such persons, he said, "bring dishonor to a country."

Mussolini's government seized the newspaper and suspended its publication for a month.

A close associate of Pope Paul, Cardinal Pignedoli was reported to be Paul's choice as his successor. He was considered as a possible pope during the conclave in 1978 that elected Paul's short-lived successor, John Paul I.



Vital Concerns

Cardinal George Basil Hume, Roman Catholic primate of England, told an audience in Cleveland recently that the Church in the West is in danger of being trapped in the pleasure-seeking of its culture. He declared, "The consumer society to which we have become accustomed in the West has not resulted in happiness for most persons. I am seldom questioned about God, the meaning of life, and what will happen to us after we die." A Benedictine, the cardinal was in Cleveland to ordain a new priest of the order. (RNS Photo).

worked to assure orderly implementation of the plan and instructed Catholic school officials not to enroll children attempting to escape desegregation.

He also supported gun control legislation, established an office to serve the growing Hispanic

community, continued diocesan support to the mission staffed by Cleveland priests and religious in El Salvador.

One of his appointees is Bishop James P. Lyke, as auxiliary, who became the first black to become a bishop in the Midwest.

New Archbishop for Washington

Cleveland (RNS) — Bishop James A. Hickey, a theological moderate widely known for his progressive social views, is the Vatican's choice to head the Archdiocese of Washington, one of the Church's most prestigious posts.

The Cleveland prelate's voice quivered and tears glistened in his eyes as he revealed the news at press conference here. He said he accepted the post in the

spirit of reverence and obedience that he promised when he was ordained a priest 34 years ago. He is 59.

Washington has 397,000 Catholics, Cleveland nearly a million. Bishop Hickey's immediate predecessors both became cardinals — William W. Baum, who became president of the Vatican Congregation for Education in January, and Cardinal Patrick O'Boyle.

Bishop Hickey has been

described as the prelate recommended by Archbishop Jodot for top positions in the U.S. church. The Saginaw, Mich., native is considered a middle-of-the-roader on Church issues but a progressive on social questions.

He came to Cleveland in 1974 from Rome where for five years he had been the rector of the North American College. Fluent in Spanish, Bishop Hickey

recently accompanied Archbishop John Quinn of San Francisco, president of the bishops conference, to San Salvador for the funeral of Archbishop Oscar Romero.

His soft-spoken but firm stands on race questions have provoked the ire of Catholics and others as well. He gave full support to the desegregation of Cleveland's public schools through court-ordered busing. He



Co-chairpersons Leonard Bossert and Ruth Martindale, center, front row, are hard at work with their committee on the convention.

St. John Knights Plan Convention Here

An international organization which traces its founding to Rochester more than a century ago will be returning to its birthplace for its annual convention in July.

Shortly after the Civil War, several Roman Catholic parishes in Rochester had affiliated with the uniformed marching units which participated in church functions, civic affairs and parades.

In the 1870s, many of these groups banded together to form the Roman Catholic Uniformed Union. Seeking a purpose and cause, this group decided to call themselves the Knights of St. John and to adopt some of the principles of the Ancient and Illustrious Order of the Knights of St. John Hospitaliers, founded in 1049 in the Kingdom of

Amalfi to assist in the Crusades and to care for the wounded and widows and orphans of those killed in battle.

Thus was born the modern semimilitary and fraternal organization of the Knights of St. John and its ladies' auxiliaries which have become international in scope with commanderies and auxiliaries throughout the United States, the Canal Zone, the British West Indies and Africa.

Rochesterians have held many prominent offices in the supreme commandery. The late Frank H. Biel was supreme president, and the current supreme knight is Gen. John T. Schneider of Rochester.

Rochester women have held supreme offices in the auxiliary. The late Mrs.

Teresa Ganster was supreme president for many years. She was followed by her niece, Mrs. Camilla Hazslauer, who is serving as a member of the committee, planning the upcoming convention. Betty Shea is supreme corresponding and recording secretary.

A large delegation from Africa is expected among the international conventioners returning to the "cradle of knighthood."

The site will be the Genesee Plaza Holiday Inn. Outstanding events will be competitive drills, a street parade and open house, Saturday, July 12. The opening convention Mass will be Sunday, July 13, at St. Michael's, North Clinton Ave., followed by sightseeing trips and a grand banquet and ball in the evening.

'Heart Retreat' Set at Cenacle

Sister Ellen Frawley, a Religious of the Cenacle and editor of the periodical Encounter, will lead a summer "Retreat of the Heart," August 15-20 at the Cenacle Center for Spiritual Renewal. The program will offer daily presentations on the work of Father Jean LaPlace,

SJ, as orientation to prayer, and liturgies and opportunities for individual guidance.

The event is open to men and women, lay and religious. Further information is obtained by contacting the Cenacle Ministry Office, 693 East Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14607; (716) 271-8755.

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