

Vatican Lists Religious Elements

Washington (NC) — The Vatican Congregation for Religious and Secular Institutes June 24 issued what it called a "clarification and restatement" of "essential elements" applying to Religious life.

The directives, among other points, underscore the Church's emphasis on living in community (as opposed to a Religious living alone to carry out his or her apostolate), strong prayer life, wearing of religious garb, and adherence to the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience — including obedience in a special way to the

pope and disapproval of Religious holding civil power.

Compiled in the document "Essential Elements in the Church's Teaching on Religious Life As Applied to Institutes Dedicated to Works of the Apostolate," the directives are drawn from the new Code of Canon Law, statements from recent popes and Second Vatican Council documents. The document, dated May 31, was released June 24, the same time as Pope John Paul II's letter to the American bishops on renewal of religious life. Both the document and papal letter express concern over a

decline in the numbers of Religious.

The pope, calling on the U.S. bishops to aid religious communities in the renewal begun after Vatican II, set up a commission to assist the bishops' work. It consists of Archbishop John R. Quinn of San Francisco, the chairman, Archbishop Thomas C. Kelly of Louisville, Ky., and Bishop Raymond W. Lessard of Savannah, Ga.

Among the "fundamental norms" of religious life cited in the Vatican congregation's document are:

Community
"Community life, which is one of the marks of a religious institute (Can. 607 — 2) is proper to each religious family. It gathers all the members together in Christ..."

"Religious should live in their own religious house, observing a common life. They should not live alone without serious reason..."

Obedience (regarding authority)
"By their vow of obedience, Religious undertake to submit their will to legitimate superiors (Can. 601) according to the constitutions..."

"Religious are subject to the supreme authority of the Church in a particular manner (Can. 509-1). All Religious are obliged to obey the Holy Father as their highest superior in virtue of the vow of obedience (Can. 590 — 2)."

Obedience (regarding holding of civil power)
"Religious may not accept duties and offices outside their own institute without the permission of a lawful superior (Can. 671). Like clerics, they may not accept public offices which involve

the exercise of civil power. (Can. 285 — 3; cf. also Can. 672 with the additional canons to which it refers)."

Poverty
"The evangelical counsel of poverty in imitation of Christ calls for a life poor in fact and in spirit..."

Apostolate
"The essential mission of those Religious undertaking apostolic works is the proclaiming of the word of God to those whom he places along their path, so as to lead them toward faith..."

"They have the special obligation of being attentive to the magisterium of the hierarchy and of facilitating for the bishops the exercise of the ministry of teaching and witnessing authentically to divine truth (cf. 'Mutuae Relationes' 33; cf. 'Lumen Gentium' 25)."

Witness (religious garb)
"The witness of Religious is public. This public witness to Christ and to the Church implies separation from the world according to the character and purpose of each institute..."

"Religious should wear the religious garb of the institute, described in their proper law, as a sign of consecration and a witness of poverty (Can. 669 — 1)

According to Archbishop Quinn, publication of the norms in such a document "is fairly common and useful procedure" in such an undertaking as renewal of religious life. "It simply summarizes past documentation on the nature of religious life and makes it available to the Religious and bishop and the Church in general," he said.



Oktoberfest

Making final plans for the liturgical opening of this year's city celebration of Oktoberfest are (left to right) Father Winfried Kellner, recently named chaplain to Monroe Community Hospital; Killian Schmitt, Mrs. Maria Bors, and Leo Saeum. The Oktoberfest will open with a Mass at 3 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 21 at Old St. Mary's Church. Father Benedict Ehmann will preside. Father George Heyman will preach.

Aide Resigns

Washington (NC) -- Frances L. Neason has resigned as executive director of the secretariat for Latin America of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. The resignation was announced July 21 by Msgr. Daniel F. Hoye, NCCB general

secretary. Father Ronald C. Anderson, NCCB associate general secretary, will direct the secretariat pending the appointment of a successor. A native of Washington, Ms. Neason was appointed as the first woman to head an NCCB secretariat in 1974.

Fr. Paul J. Cuddy



On the Right Side

A Puzzling Attraction

A month ago Kevin Doran, manager of radio station WLEA, Hornell, phoned. "I just did a radio talk by phone with an ex-Moonie from Rochester. It's interesting and I will send you a tape of the interview."

I have met many Moonies in airports, but I have never met an ex-Moonie. This "ex" is Steve Kemperman, now 28 years old. He was graduated from McQuaid Jesuit High School in Rochester around 1972; comes from a beautiful Catholic family. The father is a professor at the University of Rochester. Steve went from McQuaid to Berkeley University, and got sucked into the cult during his first year in college.

After listening to the Kemperman-Doran radio dialogue, I phoned the Kemperman home. The mother answered. I said, "This is Father Cuddy of Webster. I've just listened to a cassette of Steve's program and would like to meet him." He was out of town, but I discovered that I could get his book, "Lord of the Second Advent."

I spent the whole of July 13 reading the book, and am still puzzled, not at the original attraction, but at the continuing grip of the Moonie cult. I am wondering how Steve existed on four hours of sleep each night over a period of three and a half years.

I wonder at an intelligent young man spending three and a half precious years selling flowers and candy without rebellion or exploding. I am wondering that nothing at McQuaid Jesuit High School seemed to confirm Steve in the Catholic Faith. His only reference to McQuaid was an affectionate memory he had of Jesuit Father McDonald.

I wonder what would have happened to Steve if his folks had not kidnapped him and had him de-programmed. I wonder, though am grateful, that the great influence in the de-programming was a great-hearted Baptist minister, Dr. Swopes. I wonder how many families in our own area have

been hurt by youngsters abandoning them for Moonies.

So I wrote to Mrs. Kemperman:

"Thank you for sending me 'Lord of the Second Advent.' I spent the whole day reading it, and am still puzzled at the attraction and retaining attraction for the cult. I quite appreciate the original attraction through idealism as it is presented by the cult. What idealistic youth does not want to change the world? But that it should continue is a mystery to me.

"I have never met an ex-Moonie, though I have met some dedicated ones in airports. And shocking to my Hibernian roots, I remember a meek, simple Moonie girl in Limerick, Ireland, selling flowers to help the sick and underprivileged in the world."

"I stopped to talk with her. She was a nice girl about 20, with that spacey look in her eye, common with Moonies. She had been a Catholic and had thought to enter the convent, but met 'these nice people while in Europe, and joined them.' I was sad in leaving her.

"Enclosed is a check for the book you sent, and for another which I wish to send to Father Al Hauser of Ogdensburg. He was graduated from McQuaid around the same time as your Steve. He is greatly involved in the charismatic movement, and is interested in the book.

"I should like to meet Steve and talk with him to clarify some of my puzzlements. I heard he has just returned from six months with Mother Teresa in Calcutta, and that Mother Teresa told him to return to the States 'where there is greatest poverty in the lack of love among people,' complete his education and work for the poor."

"Lord of the Second Advent" is an important book to understand the techniques and life of the Moonies, and their founder, Reverend Moon, who seems convinced he is the Messiah for the transformation of the world. The book is published by Regal Books, Ventura, Calif. You can get a copy for \$5.95, postage paid, from Kemperman, 65 Parkwood Ave., Rochester, 14620.

St. Maximilian Feast Aug. 14

Vatican City (NC) -- The feast day of St. Maximilian Kolbe will be celebrated throughout the world on Aug. 14, the anniversary of the Polish Conventual Franciscan's death in a Nazi concentration camp, the Vatican announced.

The decision was made public July 9 in a decree from the Vatican Congregation for Sacraments and Divine Worship published in the Acta Apostolicae Sedis (Acts of the Apostolic See), the official publication of Vatican actions.

The decree placed the feast in the church's universal calendar as one of obligatory memorial, meaning that it is to be celebrated everywhere except when it is superseded by a higher feast, such as when it falls on Sunday.

St. Maximilian died in the Auschwitz concentration camp on Aug. 14, 1941, when he volunteered to take the place of another prisoner, a man with a family who had been condemned to death by starvation.

Pope John Paul II canonized St. Maximilian and proclaimed him a martyr on Oct. 10, 1982.

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Word for Sun

Love of Is the R Of All

Sunday's Rk. 12/13-21. (2/21-23. (R2) C A good hor begins with a getter. So one began his ho sentence he ho rest everyone's began thus: everyone in th die." A man in simply smiled.

The priest thought he heard. So again voice, he repe day, everyone will die." Still from the man pew. A third t boomed, "everyone in th die." It elic broader smile.

Afterward, frustrated, as what he was "Father," he don't belong to

Some people paradise, as were not for th

The first readings of Su the inevitability help us live Qoheleth, th wisdom, says what we may h wealth, one leave it all to a not even labor still greater w counsels us no riches that we others, but riches.

In 1923 a big ing was held in Beach Hot Among those nine of the successful m the president independent s the president utility; the pr New York Sto member of t cabinet; the g on Wall Stres the world monopoly; th the Bank of Settlements. Here is wh these wealthy