

Pope to Bishops: Prayer the Heart of Religious Life

Castelgandolfo, Italy (NC) -- Prayer is the essence of religious life, Pope John Paul II told U.S. bishops Sept. 19.

The quality of a religious person's consecration is more important than the activity he or she performs, he added.

He also warned against Religious working outside the Church or against its teachings, saying this would be "the greatest offense to their dignity and their persons."

In a 35-minute talk in English to 23 U.S. bishops who were making their official five-year "ad limina" visits to Rome, the pope urged the bishops to help Religious deepen their lives of prayer and conversion. The bishops met with the pope at his summer residence

in Castelgandolfo, 15 miles south of Rome.

He told the Americans that it was part of their collegial responsibility for the Church to help Religious to serve as models themselves of continuing conversion to Christ.

The pope noted that the new Code of Canon Law proclaims prayer as the first duty of Religious. "The question of Religious being united with God in prayer precedes the question of what activity they will perform," he said.

"In speaking of Religious, we must say that their dignity consists in this: that they are persons individually called by God and consecrated by God through the mediation of the Church," said the pope. "The value of their activity is

great, but the value of their being Religious is greater still."

Reminding the bishops that he had appointed a three-person commission last June to guide the bishops in assisting men and women Religious in living their vocations, the pope said: "In the case of the Religious, as in the case of the faithful, the process is the same: In the very moment in which we bishops recognize our own need for conversion, the Lord asks us to go out to others -- humble and repentant, yet courageous and without fear -- to communicate with our brothers and sisters."

The pope said that the commission, chaired by Archbishop John Quinn of

San Francisco, was appointed with a special view to the responsibility of the entire Church to deepen its attachment to Christ during the current Holy Year of Redemption.

"The greatest misunderstanding of the charism of Religious, indeed the greatest offense to their dignity and their persons, would come from those who might try to situate their life or mission outside its ecclesial context," said the pope. "Religious are betrayed by anyone who would attempt to have them embrace teaching against the magisterium (teaching authority) of the Church, who conceived them by her love and gave them birth in her liberating truth."

DEATHS

Thomas J. Grosodonia Dies, Known for K. of C. Activity

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Sept. 12 for Thomas J. Grosodonia, widely known in the diocesan community for both his Church and civic activities. Mr. Grosodonia died unexpectedly at the age of 71, Sept. 10, 1983.

A highly respected mason and contractor, Mr. Grosodonia was also known for his work for the Irondequoit Knights of Columbus, of which he was past grand knight and past faithful navigator.

He was well known also to the staff of this newspaper, for whom he regularly provided information on K. of C. activities.

Mr. Grosodonia was eulogized by his pastor, Father James Callan, as an exemplary Catholic gentleman, whose gentleness and

unselfish work on behalf of the Church was well known and appreciated throughout the entire community.

Concelebrating the Mass were Msgr. Richard K. Burns, Father John Gagnier, and Father John Morgan.

Mr. Grosodonia grew up in St. Francis Xavier Parish and attended East High School.

On the occasion of the centennial celebration of the City of Rochester, he designed and created a model of a governmental plaza on the banks of the Genesee River, startlingly like the present plans, and was awarded a medal for his efforts.

During World War II he saw service with the Seabees in the South Pacific and was discharged with the rank of Chief Petty Officer. He attended Mechanics Institute, a student of architecture, his

first love, but turned to construction to earn the money required by a growing family.

According to his friend and fellow knight, William Schmitz, Mr. Grosodonia was responsible for the inauguration of the perennial Nativity Scene at the intersection of Titus Avenue and Cooper Road, the start-up of the N.Y. State Council Charitable and Benevolent Program, the area-wide K. of C. Oratorical Contests, the distribution of K. of C. bookcovers to area Catholic schools and scholarship fund support for Bishop Kearney High School.

Mr. Grosodonia is survived by his wife, Josephine Bonfiglio Grosodonia; two children, Michael and Joanne; and eight grandchildren.

Sister Louise Leinberger, SSJ

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Sister Louise Leinberger of the Sisters of St. Joseph Friday, Sept. 16. Sister Louise died at St. Joseph Convent Infirmary, Sept. 14, 1983.

The principal celebrant of the Mass was Father Walter Carron, assisted by Msgr. William Shannon and Father Brian Murphy, OCD.

Sister Louise was a native of Rochester and entered the congregation from Holy Redeemer Parish in 1939. She was a graduate of Our Lady of Mercy High School and earned her baccalaureate degree from Nazareth College.

She taught in the diocesan parochial schools for 21 years, and for 20 years

worked in the business office of Nazareth Academy.

Among the schools in which she taught are St. Lucy, St. Ambrose, St. Monica, St. Theodore, Nazareth Hall, all in Rochester; and St. Paul, Oswego.

Sister Louise is survived by several cousins.

Father Nilus Hubble, CP

Funeral rites were celebrated in Jamaica Sept. 20 for Father Nilus Hubble, CP, a native of the Diocese of Rochester who died Sept. 17, 1983 after a long illness.

Father Hubble joined the Passionists after high school and was ordained a priest in 1950.

In 1954, he joined the Navy to serve as chaplain, retiring in 1974 with the rank of commander. During his chaplaincy he served two years in Vietnam, ministering to the U.S. Marines.

After leaving the Navy, he earned a masters degree in religious education from Fordham University and joined the campus ministry office at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. He resigned his post there two

months ago. Father Hubble is survived by a sister, Mrs. Rosemary Foster of Hilton.

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Father Hans Kueng To Speak at Cornell

Ithaca -- Father Hans Kueng, internationally famous theologian, will be the key speaker at the "Martin Luther (1483-1546) Quincentenary Symposium" Friday and Saturday, Sept. 30, Oct. 1, at Cornell University.

Dr. Kueng will speak on at 3:30 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 1, at the Hollis E. Cornell Auditorium, Goldwin-Smith Hall. He also will preach at 11 a.m., Sunday, in Sage Chapel.

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A First On Friday

Nazareth Academy parents and alumnae will sponsor the first annual Chicken Barbecue and Octoberfest from 5:30 to 11 p.m., Friday, Sept. 30 at the school. A chicken dinner will be served from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and the Edelweiss Band will play German music for listening and dancing from 6 to 11 p.m.

Beer, pop and pizza will be available. Dinners are \$3.50 for adults; \$3 for senior citizens over 65, and \$2.50 for children under 12. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the school office, or at the door the night of the dinner.

Rochester Cenacle Programs

- September**
 30 Introductory Weekend for Nineteenth Annotation Retreat
 Oct. 2 Fr. Vincent McNally, SJ, and Cenacle Sisters
- October**
 14-16 Effective Living Seminar - Sr. Arline Brent, rc
 21-23 Retreat for Women: "Haste Is Your Enemy: Come to Stillness" Fr. John Walchars, SJ
 28-30 Scripture Retreat: "Jesus' Core Message: Then and Now" Fr. Sebastian A. Falcone
- November**
 4-6 Nazareth and Fisher College Students - College Chaplains
 10-13 Women's Cursillo
 18-20 Retreat: "Failures Mature Our Characters" - Fr. John Walchars, SJ
- December**
 2-4 Marriage Returno - James Dombeck, Mary Dombeck, Sr. Margaret M. Mattle, RSM, Sr. Mary Lynch, SSJ, Fr. Charles Mulligan
 31-Jan 7 Year End Renewal - Fr. David Mura
- January**
 13-14 Women of St Rita's Parish - Fr. Thomas Mull
 20-22 Women of St. Lawrence and Assumption Parishes - Fr. Timothy Keating, C.S.S.R.
 27-29 Nazareth & Fisher College Students - College Chaplains
- February**
 3-5 Communication Weekend for Couples - Joseph FitzGibbons, Mary FitzGibbons, Sr. Margaret Mary Mattle, RSM, Sr. Ellen Fr. Frawley, rc, Fr. Charles Mulligan
 10-12 Effective Living Seminar - Sr. Arline Brent, rc
 17-19 Women of St. James Parish - Srs. Helen Harber, rc, Margaret M. Mattle, RSM, Barbara Moore, RSM, Fr. Charles Mulligan
 24-26 Fisher College Alumni - Fr. Joseph Trovato, CSB
- March**
 2-4 General
 9-11 Serenity Weekend in Effective Living Dynamic - Sr. Arline Brent, rc
 16-18 Praying Scripture Today - Fr. John J. Conway, CM
 23-25 Women of Resurrection Parish - Fr. James Schwartz
- For information on one-day programs, call the Cenacle Ministry Office: 271-8755 To arrange a one-to-one program, call Sr. Winifred Corrigan at the same number.

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